

Department of Psychology
Distinguished Professional Service Award

revised 2/28/12

Description:

The Distinguished Professional Service Award recognizes that student in the Department of Psychology who is considered by the Psychology faculty to exemplify in an outstanding fashion the service-oriented feature of professional behavior to which we are called. Professional service here is intended in a broad sense in that its focus is not only on activities inherent to the Psychology Department directly but also germane to concerns beyond the department per se.

Rationale:

The essential justification for this award is the view that Psychology represents a discipline/profession concerned with explaining, predicting, and controlling behavior in the context of a value orientation that reflects an on-going concern for the well-being of others. Part of this human value orientation entails the necessity for Psychologists to use their knowledge and skills in the service of others. This tradition in our profession is long-standing and perhaps has been promulgated best by Alfred Adler's discussions of Gemeinschaft and all that it implies regarding service to community and one's fellow human beings. It is in this tradition and context that the Department of Psychology affirms the need for recognizing exceptional displays of service among its Psychology majors.

Eligibility and Criterion:

Any Psychology major is eligible to be nominated for this award. Possible nominees may include Psychology majors who have already graduated in December of the academic year. The principal criterion for being nominated for this award is that of professional service engaged in by a Psychology major relative to Department of Psychology functions and/or settings external to the department that provide an alternate forum for service (e.g., LUCAP, Campus Ministry, etc.).

Students may be nominated by faculty, another student, or may self-nominate. It is the responsibility of the nominator to supply the department with a current resume of the student nominee.

Determination of Recipient:

In the Spring semester of each academic year, the Chair of the Psychology Department shall invite from the Psychology faculty and Psychology students, nominations in accordance with the eligibility and criterion statements above. Once nominations are completed, deliberation and voting will take place in the context of a regularly scheduled faculty meeting. This award requires a formal vote of full-time faculty; a quorum consists of three-fourths of those holding the franchise (Psychology Protocol, 1987 rev., p4). The nominee receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared the recipient of the award for that academic year. If circumstances warrant, a recipient need not be named. Furthermore, the department may identify more than one recipient of this award for any given academic year if such is deemed to be appropriate.

Form of Recognition:

engraved on a permanent plaque kept on display in the Psychology Department's main office (MO 444).