

Call for Submissions

RSS Award Programs

The RSS Awards Committee is seeking submissions for the following awards

Deadline for all Nominations: February 17, 2012

Distinguished Service to Rural Life

Purpose: To recognize a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the enhancement of rural life and rural people.

Comments: An individual whose activities exemplify the goals of the RSS, but is not a member, can be nominated.

Submit:

- A cover letter from the principal nominator outlining the major contributions of the nominee.
- A biographic sketch of the candidate.
- Two to four letters of support.

Distinguished Rural Sociologist

Purpose: To honor one or more RSS members who have made superior career contributions to the field of rural sociology through research, teaching, extension, public service, and/or public policy.

Comments: Based on overall professional accomplishments in rural sociology.

Submit:

- A cover letter from the principal nominator detailing the member's qualifications for the award.
- An updated version of the nominee's current vita.
- Two to four letters of support.
- Additional Optional Materials: Selected publications, student or peer evaluations, and other professionally relevant materials.

Excellence in Research

Purpose: To recognize a RSS member who has made outstanding contributions to rural-oriented research and/or theory.

Comments: Contribution of nominee to substantive area of research and/or theory should be emphasized.

Submit:

- A cover letter from the principal nominator detailing the member's qualifications for the award.
- An updated version of the nominee's current vita.
- Two to four letters of support.
- Additional Optional Materials: No more than three examples of the nominee's research.

Excellence in Instruction

Purpose: To recognize outstanding rural-oriented teaching by a RSS member at the graduate and/or undergraduate level.

Comments: Innovation surrounding teaching and learning should be emphasized. Innovation may relate to a particular course, thematic area, population of students or pedagogical approach or technique. Evidence of impact should be provided.

Submit:

- A cover letter from the principal nominator detailing the member's qualifications for the award.
- An updated version of the nominee's current vita.
- Two to four letters of support (at least one letter from another faculty member and one from a student).
- Selected evidence (e.g., syllabus, website, teaching evaluations, learning assessments, assignment) that supports the case for instructional excellence.

Excellence in Extension and Public Outreach

Purpose: To honor a RSS member, working at a university or college, who has made significant contributions to extension and public outreach.

Comments: This award is intended to recognize public service excellence in academic settings. Excellence centers on having made a significant impact on rural residents, rural life and/or rural policy. A specific program or area of outreach or extension should be highlighted.

Submit:

- A cover letter from the principal nominator detailing the member's significant contributions as they apply to this award.
- An updated version of the nominee's current vita.
- Two to four letters of support.
- Brief materials (e.g., brochure, 1-2 page summary) describing the project or program.

Excellence in Practice and Application

Purpose: To honor a RSS member, working in a non-academic setting, who has made significant contributions in the area of practice and application.

Comments: This award is intended to recognize excellence in non-academic settings, such as a government agency, a non-governmental organization or private firm. Excellence centers on having made a significant impact on rural residents, rural life and/or rural policy. A specific program or area of practice and application should be highlighted.

Submit:

- A cover letter from the principal nominator detailing the member's significant contributions as they apply to this award.
- An updated version of the nominee's current vita.
- Two to four letters of support.
- Brief materials (e.g., brochure, 1-2 page summary) describing the project or program.

Certificate of Appreciation

Purpose: To honor RSS members providing outstanding service to the Society beyond the call of duty in a singular area of effort.

Comments: The specific effort that is highlighted should not be associated with career accomplishments or as an officer or committee chair in the Society.

Submit:

- A cover letter from the principal nominator outlining the specific services provided by the member.
- One letter of support. .

The Olaf Larson Graduate Student Paper Award

Purpose: To enhance the involvement of graduate students in the RSS annual meeting, and to support their professional development.

Comments: The nominee must be a current RSS member. The **paper must be accepted for presentation at the RSS annual meeting** in the year the award is made. The paper may be co-authored with another graduate student who is a RSS member, but not with a faculty member. Papers should be of normal journal article length and format (12 pt font, double-spaced, 20-30 pages inclusive). Masters theses and dissertations will not be considered. **This award includes a \$300 prize, 3 nights lodging at the 2012 RSS conference, and one year membership in RSS.**

Submit:

- One electronic copy of the completed paper.
- An updated version of the author's current vita.
- A letter from the faculty advisor or department chair of the paper author(s) certifying graduate student status.

Please send all inquiries and nomination packets to:

Wynne Wright, RSS Awards Committee Chair, 2011-2012
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Awards Committee Members:

Carmen Bain (2011-13)

Dara Bloom (2011-12)

Joan Brehm, Chair Elect (2011-13)

Greg Fulkerson (2011-13)

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