2020 CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Awards

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nomination Packages due: July 2, 2020

Sponsored jointly by Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) and ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, these dissertation awards are made annually to individuals who, in the opinion of the award committee, have completed dissertations representing original work that makes an unusually significant contribution to their disciplines.

2020 Fields of Competition

There are two broad fields of competition for the 2020 dissertation awards. Under each broad field, we provide a non-inclusive list of fine fields that are considered to belong to the broader fields under consideration. If you have questions about whether a dissertation qualifies for consideration, please contact Anna M. Naranjo.

- **Mathematics, Physical Sciences and Engineering:** Mathematics, statistics, computer sciences, data processing, systems analysis, chemistry, earth sciences, physics, geology, meteorology, astronomy, metallurgy, geophysics, pharmaceutical chemistry; aeronautical, architectural, biomedical, ceramic, chemical, civil, and electrical engineering sciences; environmental health engineering; geological, mechanical, mining, nuclear, and petroleum engineering.

- **Social Sciences:** agricultural economics, geography, anthropology, archaeology, economics, education, sociology, government (political science), demography, and psychology. Please note that for purposes of this competition, history is classed within the humanities and is not a field of competition in 2020.

If a dissertation is multi- or interdisciplinary in nature, a significant portion of the work must be comprised by at least one of the 2020 fields of competition.

**Eligibility**

- “Regular” institutional members of CGS may submit nominations.
- Each eligible member may nominate one dissertation in the field of mathematics, physical sciences and engineering and one dissertation in the field of social sciences (for a total of two nominations maximum, per institution). A separate nomination form and package must be submitted for each institutional nominee.
- The effective date of the degree awarded, or the completion of doctoral degree requirements and dissertation, must lie in the period of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020, inclusive, for each nominee selected. Such degree award or completion is to
be confirmed by the institution's graduate dean or other administrative officer responsible for doctoral degree programs.

- If the nominee is selected as a finalist the dissertation will need to be in or added to the ProQuest depository.

**How to Submit a Nomination Package**

A complete nomination package includes the following four components in the order of:

1. A completed nomination form.
2. An abstract of the nominee’s dissertation (not to exceed 10 double-spaced pages). Appendices containing nontextual material, such as charts or tables, may be included as additional pages. All pages should be numbered, and each should bear the name of the nominee.
3. Three letters of recommendation evaluating the significance and quality of the nominee’s dissertation work. One of these letters is to be from the nominee’s dissertation supervisor, another from a member of the nominee's dissertation committee, and the third from a person of the nominee's choice.
4. The nominee’s curriculum vitae (not to exceed five pages).

**Note:** The nomination package must be sent as a single pdf document with the file saved as: last name of the nominee and institution (i.e. Naranjo _ GWU) to Anna M. Naranjo at anaranjo@cgs.nche.edu. Please indicate the field of competition in the subject line, all nominations should be sent by 5 p.m. on July 2, 2020 (local time). Mailed or faxed paper submissions will not be accepted.

**Award Information**

Two CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Awards, each consisting of an award of $2,000 and a certificate of recognition, will be presented at the CGS Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon on December 3, 2020, in Washington, D.C. Reasonable travel expenses of award recipients will be covered.

**Selection Process:** The Council of Graduate Schools will name an Award Committee whose members have established records in the disciplinary areas under consideration. Additional consultation may be sought, at the discretion of the committee members. The nominated dissertations should represent original work making an unusually significant contribution to the disciplines. Both methodological and substantive quality will be judged.

**Please Note:** The CGS/ProQuest Award operates on a two-year cycle in regard to fields of competition. The fields of competition for 2021 will be Biological/Life Sciences, and Humanities.

**Questions?**

For questions about the CGS/ProQuest Dissertation Award, please contact Anna M. Naranjo at anaranjo@cgs.nche.edu.