

## NCA Distinguished Scholar Award

### A. Nomination and Selection Process

A distinguished research career is operationally defined as a person who has at least 20 complete years of scholarly contributions since their Ph.D. was awarded. Breadth and quantity should be considered in the selection process, but it should not in any way override considerations of depth and quality. The Distinguished Scholar selection process should reflect NCA's mission statement with regard to those honored: "NCA supports inclusiveness and diversity among our faculties, within our membership, in the workplace, and in the classroom; NCA supports and promotes policies that fairly encourage this diversity and inclusion." No more than five Distinguished Scholars will be named each year; one award each year may be posthumous. Moreover, those selected by the committee should reflect the breadth of the Communication discipline with regard to areas of inquiry and paradigms.

The Executive Director of NCA will send out an open call for nominations each year. In alignment with NCA's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, the Executive Director will distribute the annual call to the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of all six NCA caucuses. Nominations can be made by any current NCA member. Self-nominations will not be considered.

Nominations of living scholars must include the following:

- A cover letter indicating who is making the nomination;
- *CV* of the person being nominated;
- Separate from the cover letter, a brief statement, not to exceed one page, in which the nominator contextualizes the nominee's record as presented in the *CV*. The brief statement should be unsigned and should not reveal the identity of the nominator. The purpose is to provide guidance to the selection committee whose specialty areas may be removed from the nominee's and who may appreciate assistance interpreting the *CV*. The statements will be distributed to the selection committee along with the nominee's *CV*. If the same person is nominated by multiple members, only one statement will be distributed to the selection committee. In such a case, the chair of the selection committee will select the single statement to be distributed. Statements that exceed one page will be returned for editing.

A persuasive letter of nomination can be substituted for a *CV* in cases of posthumous nominations.

No letters of reference or third-party endorsements of nominations will be accepted.

Nominations must be received at [nominations@natcom.org](mailto:nominations@natcom.org) by May 15.

After nominations have been submitted, the statements and *CVs* of nominees will be sent to the members of the Distinguished Scholar Selection Committee (see attached LDC call).

### Reporting

The selections from the Distinguished Scholar Selection Committee will be forwarded to the NCA Executive Committee for endorsement.

## NCA Distinguished Scholar Selection Committee

*Three positions to serve staggered terms starting immediately*

*Person A: 2019-2020 term (Chair in 2019, 2020)*

*Person B: 2019-2021 term (Chair in 2021)*

*Person C: 2019-2022 term (Chair in 2022)*

The NCA Distinguished Scholar Award was created in 1991 to recognize NCA members for a lifetime of scholarly achievement in the study of communication. Recipients are selected to reflect excellence within the communication profession.

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Expectations: Committee members are responsible for disseminating the award nomination call to help ensure full dissemination beyond the open call circulated by NCA's Executive Director. In alignment with NCA's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, the Executive Director will disseminate the annual call to the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of all six NCA caucuses. Additionally, Committee members are required to review, evaluate, deliberate, and select the recipients as prescribed by the award guidelines. Committee Chairs are responsible for coordinating the work of the Selection Committee and ensuring all deadlines are met.

Initially, one member will be selected for a term starting immediately and continuing through 2020, and will serve as chair for that term. One member will be selected for a term starting immediately and continuing through 2021, and will serve as chair during their second year (2021). One member will be selected for a term starting immediately and continuing through 2022, and will serve as chair during their third year (2022).

Qualifications: Nominees should be at senior stages in their professional careers with an established record of service to NCA.

*(In future years, one position will be open to serve a three-year term with the third year as chair)*

Selection Process: Nominations for the committee are first reviewed by the NCA Leadership Development Committee. The recommendations of the Leadership Development Committee are then considered by the Legislative Assembly, which formally approves appointments.

Selection Committee Nomination Materials:

- A one-page cover letter summarizing interest and qualifications for the position. Please include a statement indicating that, if appointed, the nominee agrees to serve on the relevant committee and maintain NCA membership while serving.
- An abbreviated *curriculum vitae* of no more than five pages highlighting professional qualifications.