



midwest political science association

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### **MPSA Policy on Naming Awards (Approved 4/6/2017)**

MPSA awards should be named after highly distinguished scholars who have made significant contributions. It is also in the interest of the MPSA, and the profession, to consider the diversity of profiles represented in the MPSA's set of awards. Those considered for a naming honor have sound reputations with respect to their character and research. With the exception of the Flagship Awards, the funding level for the "Best Paper" awards is \$250 and includes a plaque. The funding for the Conference Travel Awards is \$500.

**AWARD CATEGORIES.** The MPSA currently has almost twenty awards in the following categories:

- **Flagship Awards.** The best paper in the AJPS, and the best paper presented at the MPSA Conference.
- **Field Awards.** The best paper presented at the MPSA conference in the major fields of political science.
- **Subfield Awards.** The best paper presented at the MPSA conference in a more specialized subfield.
- **Career Status Awards.** Recognizing excellent research by undergraduate students, graduate students, and recent PhDs, as well as a career contribution award.
- **Conference Travel Awards** for individuals to attend the MPSA.

**PROCESS TO CREATE A NEW AWARD.** Several current awards are not named, and new awards are also a possibility. It is also possible to create new Conference Travel Awards. Nominations to name or create an award can be made by MPSA members. The nomination should be sent to [executiveoffice@mpsanet.org](mailto:executiveoffice@mpsanet.org) and they should include:

- **Category of Award:** (e.g. Field Award or Conference Travel Award);
- **Name of Award:** (e.g. J. Jones Award for the Best Paper on American Politics);
- **Brief statement** about the person for whom the award is to be named;
- **Current funding** status (there should be \$5,000 currently raised, and a commitment to raise another \$5000);
- **Contact information** for the person/group who is making the nomination.
- **CV** of the person for whom the award is to be named;

**COMMITTEE ON AWARDS.** The MPSA President will appoint a five-person *ad hoc* Committee on Awards to review the nomination(s) and make a recommendation to the Council that takes note of all relevant factors. This committee will evaluate recommendations to name current awards, as well create new awards. The President-elect may also ask this committee to assist in locating people to serve on the various current award committees.

### **CURRENT AWARDS & TRAVEL GRANTS**

- **Awards for Research:** <https://www.mpsanet.org/professional-resources/awards/mpsa-research-awards/>
- **Travel Grants:** <https://www.mpsanet.org/about/scholarships/graduate-student-travel-scholarships/>