

C454 CSSA EARLY CAREER AWARD COMMITTEE

- A. Status: Special committee
- B. Composition: The committee shall be composed of the CSSA members of the ACS530 Early Career Award Committee with the chair selected as the individual who has served the longest or by consensus.
- C. Tenure: The term of service is three years to coincide with their ACS530 appointment. The Chair serves a one-year term.
- D. Functions:
 - 1. With the aid of the Headquarters staff, solicits nominations for the award.
 - 2. Manages the committee voting to select the best qualified nominee in accordance with the Award Guidelines, available on the CSSA awards website at: www.crops.org/awards.

The procedures followed are focused through the committee Chair, whose duties are as follows:

- a. Advises all committee members of the scoring or ranking procedure to be followed, as well as any other special instructions.
 - b. Conducts the voting and informs committee members of the results.
 - c. Activates and works with the committee on any special charges sent to the committee by the CSSA Board of Directors or the CSSA Executive Committee.
 - d. Submits an annual summary report of the committee activities to the CSSA Board via the Headquarters Office.
- 3. May recommend changes or revisions relative to criteria, description, selection process of recipients, etc., for this award. All recommendations must be approved by the CSSA Executive Committee or CSSA Board of Directors before said recommendations may be implemented.
- E. President's Responsibilities to the Committee:
The president shall nominate the CSSA members of the ACS530 Committee, which make up this award committee. The president shall present the award to the recipient at the annual award ceremony. The president shall advise, in writing, all nominators of unsuccessful nominees.

- F. Award Guidelines:
- 1. **DESCRIPTION OF AWARD**: The CSSA Early Career Award is designed to recognize early career crop scientists who have made an outstanding contribution in any area of crop science within seven years of their terminal degree. The award consists of a certificate, a complimentary ticket to the awards ceremony, and a monetary award amount as directed by the CSSA Board of Directors. Further description of the award and nomination information are available on the CSSA awards website at: www.crops.org/awards.
 - 2. **AWARD CRITERIA**: The principal criteria are (1) Quality of teaching at undergraduate and/or graduate levels; (2) Effectiveness in extension and service type activities; (3) Significance and originality of basic and applied research; (4) Effectiveness in administrative activities.
 - 3. **FORMAT FOR NOMINATIONS**: A format guide, approved by the CSSA Board of Directors, is issued each year. The Chair and committee members may review it on the CSSA awards website at: www.crops.org/awards.
 - 4. **ELIGIBILITY OF NOMINATIONS**: CSSA membership is not a requirement for submitting nominations for the CSSA Early Career Award. Members of the CSSA Executive Committee and members of this committee are not eligible to make nominations or write supporting letters for nominees.

5. **ELIGIBILITY OF NOMINEES:** Nominees for the CSSA Early Career Award must be active members of the Crop Science Society of America who are within seven years of their terminal degree as of 31 December of the year the award is presented. Members of the CSSA Executive Committee and this committee are not eligible for this award.
6. **TEAM NOMINATIONS:** Nominations of teams are not accepted for the CSSA Early Career Award.
7. **SCORING OR RANKING PROCEDURE:** Nominations are ranked by all committee members in order of preference, with "1" being first. All rankings and recommendations of the committee shall be kept confidential by the committee members. The award need not be presented in a given year if it is judged that the nominees do not meet the criteria.
8. **TIES AND A DEADLOCKED COMMITTEE:**
The chair shall cast the deciding vote to break a tie between individuals nominated for this award.

Prior to 2017, this committee and award was known as the C454 Young Crop Scientist Award Committee.