

C457 CROP SCIENCE GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

- A. Status: Special committee
- B. Composition: The committee shall be composed of up to seven active CSSA members, including the Chair.
- C. Tenure: The term of service is two years for committee members. 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 members of the 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 Crop Science Graduate Student Scholarship is to honor deserving graduate students. 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) Academic achievement and research/teaching contributions, (2) Personal qualities: commitment to excellence, integrity, critical and questioning mind, and demonstrated skills in communication, (3) Demonstrated leadership qualities: participation and leadership in student organizations, committees, scientific and professional groups, and similar organizations. The committee need not recommend an award recipient if no nominees meet the award criteria.
 - 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: Nominations for this award are accepted only from individual members of the Crop Science Society of America. Members of the CSSA Executive Committee and members of this committee are not eligible to make nominations or to write supporting letters for nominees. A CSSA member may nominate only one person for the award in any one year.
5. ELIGIBILITY OF NOMINEES: This award allows self-nominations. Nominees must have completed at least one year of graduate work leading to a Master of Science or Doctor of Philosophy degree in a field of emphasis within crop science and who have outstanding potential for leadership. Nominees must have a career interest in one or more areas of crop science as listed for each of the CSSA Divisions. Nominees are required to be CSSA or ASA members.

Nominees must hold a B.S. degree in agronomy, crop science, or a closely related plant science, be graduate students at U.S. institutions of higher learning, and studying in the U.S. at the time the scholarship is presented.

6. 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.
7. 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 Gerald O. Mott Scholarship for Meritorious Graduate Students in Crop Science.