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Each year, the American Counseling Association's National Awards program recognizes and celebrates the achievements of ACA members who have distinguished themselves through their work and have, in doing so, enhanced the credibility and professionalism of counseling. ACA National Awards salute outstanding achievements by counselors in a number of different categories. Detailed information about each award is included in this packet.

Nominations for a National Award may be made by any ACA member, as well as any ACA Division/Organizational Affiliate, branch, region, or committee.

For the ACA 2015 National Awards, all nominations must be submitted electronically by November 3, 2014 to clum@counseling.org. Some awards require supporting material; please submit electronically (PDF) and ensure that all material relevant to your nomination is legible and clearly identified. The chair of the Awards Committee will notify all nominees and nominators of the outcome in January, 2015.

The National Awards will be presented at a gala ceremony during the 2015 ACA Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida in March 2015. Award recipients and their nominators will receive invitations to attend the awards reception at the Conference.

The National Awards Committee hopes to seek diversity in cultural identities for the potential award winners and to expand this recognition process to represent professional counselors everywhere.
STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Verify that both you and the individual you want to nominate are eligible.

Both you and the individual you nominate for an award must be current members of ACA.

Three exceptions exist:

1. Nominees for Legislative Service Award, awarded to a legislator or other public official, need not be ACA members.
2. To encourage interdisciplinary collaboration, only the lead author of a nomination for the ACA Research Award must be an ACA member.
3. Nominees for the Don Dinkmeyer Social Interest Award do not need to be ACA members.

Note: Self nomination is not allowed except for the Glen E. Hubele National Graduate Student Award; the ACA State Branch Advocacy Award; the ACA Counselor Educator Advocacy Award; and the Samuel T. Gladding Unsung Heroes Award

2. Prepare your nomination submission.

The nomination process has been simplified.

You need submit only:

1. A letter outlining who you are nominating and your explanation of why you believe this person is deserving of the specific award, and
2. Completed copies of the “ACA National Awards Nomination Form” and the “Nominee Biographical Information Form”

- **The Nominating Letter (required)** - In the nominating letter, identify the nominee and the specific award for which you are nominating this person. Explain why you believe the nominee merits the award by responding to the specific questions outlined in the nomination guidelines for each award. Please keep in mind that the awards reviewers are relying on the information you provide, as well as any supporting information, to choose the most deserving recipient. Therefore, please address each nomination guideline and ensure your nominee meets the award criteria and requirements. Brevity, clarity, and specificity are most important here.

- **Supporting Material (optional for most, required for some awards)** - If there are materials (news reports, journal articles, etc.) that you feel help support the nominee’s achievements, please include a copy of them. You may also include a copy of the nominee’s curriculum vitae (c.v.) or resume of no more than four pages highlighting the nominee’s relevant accomplishments, if available. Your total submission cannot exceed 12 pages in length. (Note: If a c.v. is enclosed it does not count against this 12 page total.) Please note that the following awards require supporting material to be submitted. The nomination packages for these awards may exceed 12 pages due to the inclusion of the required supporting materials:
  - ACA Research Award - must include copy of published research article related to nominated research (see award criteria below for full details)
  - ACA Extended Research Award - must include annotated bibliography of published related to research and a copy of a published research article (see award criteria below for full details)
  - Glen E. Hubele National Graduate Student Award - must include a two-page summary of the thesis, dissertation, or original manuscript that demonstrates the scholarship of the nominee.

- **Supporting Letters (optional)** - a maximum of 3 supporting letters from others familiar with the nominee and his or her accomplishments may also be submitted and included in the 12 page total.

- **ACA National Awards Nomination Form and Nominee Biographical Information (required)**. This form must be filled out completely for all award nominees except the Legislative Service Award. The information on this form will be used for press releases and for inclusion in the Awards Ceremony program. This information will not to be sent to the Awards Committee.

3. Submit your nomination by November 3, 2014!

All nominations must be submitted electronically to clum@counseling.org. Supporting materials may be submitted as a PDF.

Nomination Checklist

Before you submit your nomination, did you …

- Verify that both you and the nominee are current members of ACA (except for the Don Dinkmeyer Award)?
- In your cover letter, address why you believe the individual meets the specific requirements and criteria outlined for the award, and why s/he merits the award?
- Complete the ACA National Awards Nomination Form and Nominee Biographical Information Form?
- Include no more than three (3) letters of support (optional) for the nomination?
Include one (1) copy of nominee’s resume or curriculum vitae (no more than four pages highlighting the nominee’s relevant accomplishments)?

Stay within the 12-page limit (unless otherwise noted)?

Include supplementary materials for these awards:
- Research article for the ACA Research Award?
- Annotated bibliography and sample article for the ACA Extended Research Award?
- Two-page summary of dissertation/thesis/article for the Hubele National Graduate Student Award?

ACA National Awards Summary

**ACA Counselor Educator Advocacy Award** recognizes a counselor educator for work in fostering an awareness of and expertise in advocacy among counseling students. Nominations for this award are assessed by members of the Public Policy & Legislative Committee of ACA.

**ACA Extended Research Award** recognizes an ACA member who has conducted high-quality research on issues of significance to the counseling profession over the course of at least 10 years.

**ACA Federal Legislative Service Award** recognizes a public official or public agency staff member who has made a significant contribution to the counseling profession or recipients of the profession’s services by influencing public policy at the national level. Nominations for this award are assessed by members of the Public Policy & Legislative Committee of ACA.

**Fellow Awards** are given to an ACA member of professional distinction who has been recognized for significant and unique contributions in professional practice, scientific achievement and governance, or teaching and training.

**ACA Local, Branch and Regional Award** recognizes local, branch and regional counseling associations celebrating their 25th, 50th or 75th anniversaries.

**ACA Professional Development Award** recognizes an ACA member who has developed techniques and systems that have strengthened, expanded, enhanced or improved the counseling profession and benefited counseling consumers ($300 honorarium).

**ACA Research Award** honors an ACA member for an outstanding research project that was published between September 1, 2013 and August 31, 2014.

**ACA State Branch Advocacy Award** recognizes a state counseling organization for excellence in legislative advocacy efforts. Nominations for this award are assessed by members of the Public Policy & Legislative Committee of ACA.

**Arthur A. Hitchcock Distinguished Professional Service Award** honors service by an ACA member at the local, state, or national level to promote or enhance the well-being of the counseling profession.

**Best Practices Award** recognize Best Practice research projects in three categories – those conducted by a student, a practicing counselor, and a faculty counselor trainer. Nominations for this award will be assessed by members of the Research and Knowledge Committee of ACA.

**Carl D. Perkins Government Relations Award** honors an ACA member who has made a significant contribution to the counseling profession by influencing public policy at the state or national level. Nominations for this award are assessed by the Public Policy & Legislative Committee of ACA.

**Courtland C. Lee Multicultural Excellence Scholarship Award** is presented to a graduate student in counselor education whose dedication and academic work demonstrate excellence in the theory and practice of multicultural counseling ($2,500 honorarium).

**David K. Brooks, Jr. Distinguished Mentor Award**, presented by the ACA Foundation, recognizes the invaluable influence of a professional mentor and salutes the ACA member whose actions adhere to this special type of teaching which David Brooks supported throughout his career ($500 honorarium).

**Don Dinkmeyer Award** recognizes an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution to families ($1,000 honorarium).

**Gilbert and Kathleen Wrenn Award** for a Humanitarian and Caring Person honors an ACA member who gives to others without fanfare or expectation of reward other than the personal satisfaction of seeing other people made happier ($1,000 honorarium).

**Glen E. Hubele National Graduate Student Award** recognizes outstanding scholarship by an ACA student member ($450 honorarium).

**Kitty Cole Human Rights Award** honors an ACA member who has made significant contributions to promoting human rights. Nominations for this award will be assessed by members of the ACA Human Rights Committee.

**Ralph F. Berdie Memorial Research Award** supports research in the area of college student affairs or related areas of counseling and education ($300 honorarium).

**Robert Rencken Emerging Professional Leader Award** is presented to a former ACA state branch or state division president, who has demonstrated the potential to become a dedicated leader of the counseling profession in future years.
**Samuel T. Gladding Unsung Heroes Award** recognizes an ACA member and professional counselor who has made a significant contribution providing direct services to students or clients ($1,000 honorarium).

**Thomas J. Sweeney Award for Visionary Leadership and Advocacy** is given in honor of the lifetime contributions of Dr. Sweeney to the counseling profession. This award is presented to a professional counselor or counselor educator in recognition of career contributions to the counseling profession through leadership and advocacy ($500 honorarium).

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**ACA Counselor Educator Advocacy Award**

**Background and Purpose**
The ACA Counselor Educator Advocacy Award recognizes a counselor educator for work in fostering an awareness of and expertise in advocacy among counseling students. It is vital to the continued health and wellbeing of the counseling profession that its members become interested and engaged in the policymaking process, and feel comfortable and effective in doing so. Nominations for this award will be assessed by members of the Public Policy & Legislation Committee of ACA.

**Criteria and Requirements**
- Nominations must come from an ACA member.
- The awardee must be an ACA member.
- Self-nominations are welcome.
- Nominations will be evaluated on the basis of the nominee's documented activities in fostering the development of legislative advocacy awareness, interest, knowledge, and skills among counseling graduate students.

**Nomination Guidelines**
Submit a nomination of not more than three pages in length (additional appendices and exhibits are welcome). In it, briefly:
- Describe the programs or activities or accomplishments which you feel qualify the nominee for this award.
- Describe the influences the nominee's efforts have had on her or his students or graduate program.
- Identify whether the nominee is an ACA member.
- Provide appropriate biographical information about the nominee, including how to contact the nominee.

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**ACA Extended Research Award**

**Background and Purpose**
The Extended Research Award recognizes an ACA member who has conducted and published high-quality basic or applied research over an extended period of time (not less than 10 years) on issues of significance and interest to the counseling profession. For the purpose of this award, research involves systematic inquiry or investigation using quantitative or qualitative techniques, which result in usable findings and recommendations for the field.

**Criteria and Requirements**
**The research, which may be either basic or applied, must:**
- Have been carried out over the course of at least ten (10) years prior to the year the award will be presented. You must document the approximate date the research began.
- Answer questions and investigate ideas that are concerned with problems of interest and significance to the counseling profession and have findings that can be applied beyond the immediate research setting. Please do not nominate projects that are not original research (i.e. reviews of research).
- Address issues that relate to areas of interest to one or more of ACA's divisions and/or organizational affiliates.
- Have been carried out using research procedures of the highest quality, including clear definitions of populations, selection of appropriate sampling techniques and controls, use of appropriate research design, appropriate and accurate statistical treatment of data, and use of valid, reliable instruments.
- Show a careful interpretation of the results and conclusions that do not go beyond the data.

**Nomination Guidelines**
In your nomination submission, briefly:
- State the purpose of the research or area of inquiry, which must be a systematic inquiry to discover facts or principles.
- Identify one or more ACA divisions or organizational affiliates to which the research is relevant.
- Describe how these findings are important to the counseling profession.
- Indicate the period during which the research was conducted.
- Include an annotated bibliography of published research of all ACA publications and those in counseling, psychology, sociology, measurement and educational research.
- Include a sample of published research demonstrating the importance of the line of inquiry.
**ACA FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE SERVICE AWARD**

**Background and Purpose**

The ACA Federal Legislative Service Award recognizes a federal public official or public agency staff member who has made a significant contribution to the counseling profession or recipients of the profession’s services by influencing public policy at the national level. Nominations for this award will be assessed by members of the Public Policy & Legislation Committee of ACA.

**Criteria and Requirements**

**The efforts of the individual:**

- Must have resulted in public policy changes at the national level (through either legislative or administrative action) that have had a significant, positive impact on the counseling profession or individuals served by the profession, such as by expanding the breadth of services professional counselors may provide or broadening the base of potential consumers of counseling services to include new populations; creating greater opportunity for the professional development of the counseling profession; or improving the coordination of existing or new services with other professionals to benefit individuals served by the counseling profession.
- Be consistent with the mission of the counseling profession.
- Have included one or more of the following activities: taking primary responsibility for introducing and advancing a bill through Congress; offering an amendment to legislation or a regulation; gathering information leading to the introduction and passage of legislation or a regulation; presenting testimony that influenced the introduction or amendment of legislation or a regulation; exposing conditions or issues in hearings; gathering information leading to the introduction and passage of legislation or a regulation; presenting testimony that influenced the introduction or amendment of legislation or a regulation; exposing conditions or issues in hearings; gathering information that resulted in administrative or legislative changes or legislative amendments; and/or developing a program for constituents to communicate with their representatives in support of passage of a significant legislative bill.

**Nomination Guidelines**

**In your nomination submission, briefly:**

- Identify the national legislative or regulatory action that the individual has helped to influence through his or her efforts and explain and describe the realized or anticipated effects of the passage of this legislation or regulation.
- Explain how the members of ACA and its divisions or organizational affiliates most likely will benefit from this legislation or regulation.
- Identify and describe the activities the individual undertook in one or more of the following areas: taking primary responsibility for introducing and advancing a bill through Congress; offering an amendment to legislation or a regulation; gathering information leading to the introduction and passage of legislation or a regulation; presenting testimony that influenced the introduction or amendment of legislation or a regulation; exposing conditions or issues in hearings that result in administrative or legislative changes or legislative amendments; and/or developing a program for constituents to communicate with their representatives in support of passage of a significant legislative bill.

**ACA FELLOWS AWARDS**

**Background and Purpose**

These awards are given to ACA members of professional distinction who have been recognized for significant and unique contributions in professional practice, scientific achievement and governance, or teaching and training. The focus will be on individuals who have made a significant, distinctive, and/or unique contribution to the counseling profession.

**Criteria and Requirements**

**Candidates must:**

- Have a minimum of a master’s degree in counseling or a related field;
- Be a member of ACA for no less than two years, and be a member in the year the Fellow status is conferred;
- Have at least five years of professional experience subsequent to the master’s degree in counseling;
- Meet the following professional criteria. They must have made a significant, distinctive, and unique contribution to that profession in one or more of the following areas:
  - **professional practice**: development of innovations to practice, advancing counseling as a field of practice; development of a reputation as a recognized authority in an area of intervention; documented evidence of sustained and distinguished service delivery in the practice of counseling and development; should be licensed or certified appropriately for practice and have spent a majority of professional time in service delivery over an extended period of time;
  - **scientific achievement**: major and significant impact on counseling practice or theory as demonstrated by national and/or international recognition; work in a sustained program of professional contributions within the field of counseling such as 1) technique, instrument, or intervention; 2) theoretical model or concept; or 3) significant synthesis of theory and practice; programmatic research and/or theory development that makes a substantial and distinctive contribution to counseling;
  - **leadership and governance**: provide strong and sustained leadership in the counseling profession at the national or international level; demonstrated leadership and governance contributions that have an impact beyond the local level; leadership in advocacy
for and advancement of counseling as a field of practice; participation and leadership in activities supportive of goals of ACA, such as outstanding participation and leadership in associations relevant to ACA (e.g. service on committees relating to the practice of counseling in general);

- Teaching and training: development of innovative curricula and teaching/supervision practices; development of instructional materials for special populations; leadership in professional organizations directly related to the teaching, training, and supervision function; special awards and recognitions by regional and national groups for sustained and significant contribution to the preparation of professional counselors or other development professionals;

- The significant, distinctive, and unique contributions involve evidence of having received national or international recognition from one's colleagues for contribution to counseling as a profession; examples might include recognition of their practice by a national or international counseling organization that is based on peer-review or other examination process, serving as an editor for a scholarly journal that is widely respected in counseling, and selection as an officer in a national or international counseling group or organization, beyond what is typically expected of ACA members;

- Age and stage of career are not major criteria, but is assumed that the nominee has a sustained commitment to counseling through practice, research, theory, leadership, or teaching.

**Nomination Guidelines**

Applications for the Fellow Award should include the following:

- A statement by the nominee about how they meet the specific criteria;
- At least three supporting letters of recommendation that address the specific criteria; and
- A curriculum vita of no more than four pages highlighting the nominee's relevant accomplishments.

**ACA LOCAL, BRANCH, AND REGIONAL AWARD**

**Background and Purpose**

The ACA Local, Branch and Regional Award recognizes local, branch and regional counseling associations celebrating their 25th, 50th, or 75th anniversaries.

**Criteria and Requirements**

- The association is currently active as a unit in ACA;
- The association possesses an official ACA charter; and
- The association shows evidence of continuous professional service to ACA members for 25 or 50 years.

**Nomination Guidelines**

- The president or chairperson of the local, branch or regional association must submit a supporting evidence statement of continuous professional service to the membership (no more than 300 words).
- An official charter from ACA headquarters also must be submitted.

**ACA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

**Background and Purpose**

The Professional Development Award recognizes an ACA member who has developed techniques and systems that have strengthened, expanded, enhanced, improved, and/or otherwise had demonstrable benefits to clients. The award includes an honorarium of $300.

**Criteria and Requirements**

The individual must have engaged in a history of professional development efforts that:

- Have been concerned primarily with the profession in general, while recognizing that a discrete component of the profession may be a focus.
- Have strengthened, expanded, enhanced, improved or extended the horizons of the profession, such as by broadening applications of and opportunities for the profession; influenced other professions; identifying needs of the public and providing services to meet these needs; or enlarging the potential clientele for the delivery of services by the profession.
- Have included substantive work beyond the call of duty to improve professional practices and demonstrate diligence, skill, and effectiveness in applying principles and concepts to achieve professional goals. These efforts may include the following:
  - the development of methods, techniques, materials, books and/or models; exceptional efforts to obtain support for the profession;
  - Sustained efforts in professional education, through providing training, workshops, providing supervision to or teaching counselors or counselors in training;
  - have included efforts to create and improve opportunities for all individuals to realize their full potential, as evidenced by work performed in professional organizations, work that has affected the lives and careers of many, or other activities that demonstrate sensitivity to the problem in general of human growth and development and relate to improving the interaction of people with their environment.
Nomination Guidelines

In your nomination submission, briefly:

- Describe the nominee’s contributions to the intentional strengthening, expansion, improvement, enhancement, or extension of the profession.
- Describe the nominee’s history of substantive, sustained work beyond the call of duty to improve professional practices or achieve professional growth.
- Describe the nominee’s history of extensive effort to create and improve opportunities for all individuals to realize their full potential.

ACA RESEARCH AWARD

Background and Purpose

The ACA Research Award honors and recognizes high-quality, original research conducted by an ACA member (or an ACA member and other colleagues working in collaboration) in areas of interest to the counseling profession and the divisions or organizational affiliates of ACA. For the purpose of this award, research involves systematic inquiry or investigation using quantitative or qualitative techniques, which result in usable findings and recommendations for the field.

Criteria and Requirements

The research must:

- Be published between September 1, 2013 and August 31, 2014 in a research journal specializing in counseling, psychology, measurement, or education.
- Involve systematic inquiry or investigation using quantitative or qualitative techniques, which result in usable findings and recommendations for the field. Please restrict nominations to projects that are original research.
- Be concerned with problems of interest and significance to the counseling profession, with findings that are applicable beyond the immediate setting.
- Be in an area of interest to one or more of ACA’s divisions or organizational affiliates.
- Utilize research procedures that are of the highest quality, including a clear definition of population, selection of appropriate sampling techniques and controls, use of appropriate research design, adequate and correct quantitative or qualitative analysis of data, and use of valid, reliable instruments.
- Show careful interpretation of results and conclusions that do not go beyond the data.
- Be scholarly in organization and presentation.

Nomination Guidelines

In your nomination submission, briefly:

- Clearly state the purpose of the study, which must be an original, systematic inquiry to discover facts or principles.
- Briefly describe how the findings of the research are important for the counseling profession and identify one or more ACA divisions or affiliates to which this research is relevant.
- Include one copy of the research article, including the publication date.

ACA STATE BRANCH ADVOCACY AWARD

Background and Purpose

The ACA State Branch Advocacy Award recognizes a state counseling organization for excellence in legislative advocacy efforts. While in some cases, legislative accomplishments of importance to the counseling profession at the state and local level are primarily the work of one or more individual counselors; a coordinated effort on the part of the state counseling organization is more likely to lead to success. Effective state counseling organization legislative efforts require collaboration, energy, and cooperation of the organization’s leaders and members. The ACA State Branch Advocacy Award was established to help recognize and encourage such collective efforts on the part of a state organization. Nominations for this award will be assessed by members of the Public Policy & Legislation Committee of ACA.

Criteria and Requirements

- Nominations must come from an ACA member.
- The awardee must be a state counseling organization.
- Self-nominations are welcome.
- Award recipients must have engaged in a concerted activity aimed at achieving a specific legislative, regulatory, or organizational goal. Although actual legislative accomplishments are particularly worthy of recognition, an even greater emphasis will be placed on the effective, collaborative, and productive efforts of a state organization’s team of leaders and members working on specific task or objective.

Nomination Guidelines

Submit a nomination of not more than three pages in length (additional appendices and exhibits are welcome). In it briefly describe the legislative program(s), activities, or accomplishments which you feel qualify the organization for this award, and the effects that these had on counselors and their clients in the state. The nomination should describe the various state organization office-members and other leaders and members involved in the effort. Please identify a contact person and contact information for the organization.
Arthur A. Hitchcock Distinguished Professional Service Award

Background and Purpose
The Arthur A. Hitchcock Distinguished Professional Service Award honors outstanding service by an ACA member at the local, state, or national level in addressing the issues of the counseling profession and in stimulating future service to promote the well-being of the counseling profession.

Criteria and Requirements
Service is defined as work done or duties performed primarily with the intent of benefiting or giving assistance to the profession without need for personal gain. The individual’s service must:

- Be of a nature that promotes the profession.
- Have widespread and general effects, rather than being limited in scope.
- Be concerned primarily with the counseling profession.
- Relate to the areas of interest of one or more of ACA’s divisions or organizational affiliates.

Nomination Guidelines
In your nomination submission, briefly:

- Describe some examples of the nominee’s service at local, state, or national levels to promote the counseling profession and the effects of this service.
- Explain how these actions relate to areas of interest to the counseling profession in general or one or more of ACA’s division or organizational affiliates.

Best Practices Award

Background and Purpose
These awards will recognize the 5 “Best Practice” Research projects conducted by a student, a practicing counselor, and a faculty counselor trainer. Completed research projects that further the evidence-base for counseling practice will be considered for this award. Eligible projects may include original research or a synthesis of the research literature supporting a particular practice or approach. Nominations for this award will be assessed by members of the ACA Research and Knowledge Committee of ACA.

Criteria and Requirements
Candidates must be members of ACA and will be expected to attend the 2015 Conference to present their research and receive their award.

Nomination Guidelines
All applications must include:

- The individual’s name and the award for which they are applying.
- Current contact information including professional and employment associations.
- A description of the project using a standard Abstract form: Background, Research Question, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. Specific word limits differ across awards.
- 300 word justification of why this research should be given a “Best Practice” Research Award.
- Recommendation letters from individuals with knowledge about the contribution of the research (no more than 2 pages).
- Acknowledgment from the publisher of any work accepted for publication.

Student Award -- Students interested in applying for the award must be graduate level students currently matriculating in a counselor education program. Postdoctoral students are also eligible for this award. Word limits for Master’s students’ project descriptions should be 300 words or less and for Doctoral students, 500 words or less. Master’s students should also submit 1 letter of recommendation from a faculty member who is familiar with the research and can certify student status. Doctoral students should submit 2 letters of recommendation, one from the program/department chair who can certify student status, and one from a faculty member familiar with their research. If this research has been accepted for publication, a copy of the acceptance letter from the publication should be included.

Counseling Practitioner Award -- Any ACA member whose primary professional activity involves counseling practice is eligible for this award. The detailed abstract should be no more than 1,000 words. Two letters of recommendation should be included, one verifying that the individual is a professional counselor and another from someone familiar with the work. Research topics can include areas of counseling practice, assessment, consultation, or advocacy.

Faculty Award -- Any ACA member whose primary professional activity involves an academic appointment in a department of counselor education or counseling psychology is eligible for this award. The abstract should be not more than 1,000 words. Two letters of recommendation should be included, one from the individual’s department chairperson and another from an individual familiar with the research project.
CARL D. PERKINS GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AWARD

Background and Purpose

Named in memory of the late Kentucky Member of Congress who chaired the House Education and Labor Committee, the Carl D. Perkins Government Relations Award honors an ACA member who has made a significant contribution to the counseling profession or individuals served by the profession by influencing public policy at the state or national level. Nominations for this award will be assessed by members of the Public Policy & Legislation Committee of ACA.

Criteria and Requirements

The efforts of the individual must:

 ■ Have resulted in public policy changes at the national or state level (through either legislative or administrative action) that have a significant, positive impact on the counseling profession or individuals served by the profession, such as by expanding the breadth of services professional counselors may provide or broadening the base of potential consumers of counseling services to include new populations; creating greater opportunity for the professional development of the counseling profession; or improving the coordination of existing or new services with other professionals to benefit individuals served by the counseling profession.

 ■ Be consistent with the mission of the counseling profession.

 ■ Have included one or more of the following activities: organizing and taking direct responsibility for a program or project to promote and facilitate greater communication between professional counselors (and/or individuals they serve) and legislators or other policy-makers concerning a significant legislative or administrative action; developing language for legislation or an agency regulatory action; performing research and gathering information to support or oppose legislation or agency regulatory action; or presenting or developing testimony that influenced the enactment of legislation or the implementation of regulations.

Nomination Guidelines

In your nomination submission, briefly:

 ■ Describe the realized or anticipated effects of the passage of this legislation or regulation.

 ■ Explain how the passage of this legislation or regulation relates to the ACA government relations program of ACA and how ACA and its divisions or organizational affiliates most likely will benefit. In the case of state-level legislation or regulation, explain why and how it may be of interest and importance to professional counselors in other states.

 ■ Identify and describe the activities the individual undertook in one or more of the following areas:

COURTLAND C. LEE MULTICULTURAL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Background and Purpose

Awarded by Courtland C. Lee, Professor in the Department of Counseling at the University of Malta, from the royalties donated from the sale of his edited book, Multicultural Issues in Counseling: New Approaches to Diversity (Fourth Edition). This award of $2500 is presented to a graduate student in counselor education whose dedication and academic work demonstrate excellence in the theory and practice of multicultural counseling. This award is given to help defray the cost of the awardee’s graduate education.

Criteria and Requirements

To be eligible, the nominee must:

 ■ Be a student pursuing a graduate degree in counseling at any time during the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014;

 ■ Have compiled an outstanding academic record in his or her graduate studies, particularly in the area of multicultural counseling; and

 ■ Have demonstrated through independent work a commitment to issues of multiculturalism and diversity in counseling (e.g., published or engaged in other scholarly activities related to issues of multiculturalism and diversity, developed innovative programs in the area of multiculturalism and diversity, demonstrated leadership in the areas of multiculturalism and diversity at the local, state, regional, national, or international level, participated actively in community service and/or advocacy initiatives).

Students may submit nominations on their own behalf or be nominated by a professor or colleague. Nominations will be evaluated on the basis of demonstrated academic excellence and commitment to the advancement of multiculturalism and diversity in the profession of counseling.
Nomination Guidelines
In your nomination submission:

- Clearly indicate that the nominee is an enrolled candidate for a graduate degree in counseling at any time during the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.
- Include a one-page summary that provides documentation of the nominees academic excellence, particularly in the areas of multiculturalism or diversity.
- Include a two-page summary of the nominee’s independent work that demonstrates his or her commitment to issues of multiculturalism and diversity in counseling (e.g., published or engaged in other scholarly activities related to issues of multiculturalism and diversity, developed innovative programs, demonstrated leadership in this area at the local, state, regional, national, or international level, participated actively in community service and/or advocacy initiatives).

DAVID K. BROOKS, JR. DISTINGUISHED MENTOR AWARD

Background and Purpose
This award was created by the American Counseling Association Foundation (ACAF) and first presented in 1999 to honor David K. Brooks, Jr., a beloved colleague, teacher and friend to many in counseling. Mentoring was an integral facet of David’s professional life and his personal philosophy; he believed that he had advanced in his career as a result of wise and caring mentors, and so, as an educator, he actively reached out to help others in their professional work. The award recipient of the David K. Brooks, Jr. Distinguished Mentor Award will have demonstrated an enthusiasm and support for the unique educational experience of mentoring which David Brooks both enjoyed and created through his own career and friendships.

The ACA Foundation presents an honorarium of $500 with this award.

Criteria and Requirements
The award should recognize someone who has:

- A demonstrated record of supporting and strengthening the counseling profession;
- A demonstrated record as a role model and mentor; and
- An established history of professional excellence whereby the individual has freely given of himself or herself to help others within our profession.

Nomination Guidelines
The ACA Foundation Selection Committee is especially interested in recognizing individuals who exemplify the broadest definition of mentoring. Examples can include sharing expertise with new members of the profession, providing academic, professional, personal, or organizational support. The Foundation is emphatic in the desire to honor people representing the wide and rich diversity of the American Counseling Association membership.

In your nomination submission, briefly:

- Describe the nominee’s experience(s) in support of the counseling profession; and
- Describe how mentoring has played a significant role in this person’s career and personal philosophy.

DON DINKMEYER SOCIAL INTEREST AWARD

Background and Purpose
The ACA award honoring Don Dinkmeyer recognizes an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution in the counseling field in support of families and family members through:

- The creation of materials which benefit families or counselors working with families, including contributions through publishing, development of psychological education programs, editorial work, video or the media.
- OR,
- Establishing or maintaining a program that makes a positive impact on families at the local, regional, or national level. The award may recognize new programs or long-standing programs OR,
- Having followed a career that has shown clear evidence of dedication to the issue of families and of working with and supporting families.

Don Dinkmeyer was the founding Editor of the Elementary School Guidance and Counseling journal. His professional career as a counselor, counselor educator, and author was devoted to helping families. His published materials include widely recognized works in parent education, elementary school curriculums, marriage enrichment and therapy materials, and counseling programs.

Dr. Dinkmeyer believed that empowerment and encouragement occurs through education and skill training. He encouraged efforts to help families and family members through actions and deeds.

This award has been created to further social interest, the process of helping others for the common good. It is intended to recognize individuals or organizations whose actions and publications have been vehicles of social interest, having had a meaningful and positive influence on families and family life. The award includes an honorarium of $1,000.
Criteria and Requirements
- Nominations must come from an ACA member.
- The awardee need not be an ACA member
- Nominations for school and community programs, as well as outstanding individuals, are encouraged

Nomination Guidelines
Submit a nomination of not more than three pages in length (additional appendices and exhibits are welcome). In it, briefly:
- Describe the programs or activities or accomplishments which you feel qualify the nominee for this award
- Describe the influences the nominee’s efforts have had on the population(s) it seeks to serve, consistent with the award criteria and the concept of social interest
- Identify whether the nominee is an ACA member.
- Provide appropriate biographical information about the nominee, including how to contact the nominee. If the nominee is an organization, identify a contact person and contact information.

GILBERT AND KATHLEEN WRENN AWARD
FOR A HUMANITARIAN AND CARING PERSON

Background and Purpose
The Gilbert and Kathleen Wrenn Award for a Humanitarian and Caring Person honors an ACA member who gives to others without fanfare or expectation of reward other than the personal satisfaction of seeing other people made happier. The award includes an honorarium of $1,000.

Dr. and Mrs. Wrenn provided the initial funding for this award as personal witness to their love and admiration for those who truly care for the welfare of others and who care about social issues and problems.

Criteria and Requirements
The thoughts and intentions of Dr. and Mrs. Wrenn in establishing the award are the principal guide in evaluating award nominations:

“Caring is the action of the verb care—action, involvement, doing something about another’s or society’s troubles or problems. A humane and caring person becomes involved in what is happening to others for their sake. ‘To have concern for,’ and ‘to be solicitous about’ are synonyms for ‘caring’ and in a sense caring means ‘the absence of indifference’ and implies ‘involuntary involvement’ in the welfare of someone else.

“Caring is communicating that you care by saying so, giving time, and listening completely. It is rejoicing with another who is happy as well as being fully with another who is troubled and, accordingly, fitting to the other’s mood.

Caring is reinforcing another person. Being available fully, keeping promises, and giving of one’s self without expectation of return. Caring is also empathizing with another while effecting a change in the other’s feelings or behavior, not merely expressing concern.

“A humane and caring person expresses concern for social injustices or a sordid situation in our society or the world’s society by throwing one’s self into the situation—time, thoughtful effort, money, exemplary behavior and true concern for change that will improve the lot of those who are starving, abused, imprisoned, discriminated against or powerless.

“The person selected should have evidenced concern about human beings in special ways through caring behavior, documented and generally recognized by peers. The award should typically, but not invariably, be for a person concerned with all humans and their joint welfare, as well as caring for another or others in a personal way. The person selected will have been observed in unselfish involvement over time in a cause or situation that benefits others, not self. The person selected will have been effective in communicating their caring.”

Nomination Guidelines
In your nomination submission, take into account the Wrenns’ description of the criteria for the award and briefly:
- Describe the actions, incident(s) or behavior that illustrates the nominee’s caring in a personal way.
- Describe the actions or incident(s) that illustrate the nominee’s caring through social action.
- Describe how the nominee has been unselfishly involved in efforts that benefit others rather than self.
- Describe how the nominee effectively communicates his/her caring for others.

GLEN E. HUBELE NATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD

Background and Purpose
The Glen E. Hubele National Graduate Student Award recognizes outstanding scholarship by an ACA student member. Initial funding for the award was donated by Mrs. Cicely D. Hubele in honor of her son, Glen E. Hubele, who was a professor of educational psychology and guidance at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois. The award includes an honorarium of $450.

Criteria and Requirements
To be eligible, the nominee must:
- Be a student pursuing a graduate degree in counseling at any time during the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.
Is nearing completion of an accepted thesis, dissertation, or original manuscript on issues related to the counseling profession.

Include a two-page summary of the thesis, dissertation, or original manuscript.

Include a letter from the advisor of the thesis, dissertation, or manuscript indicating the timeline for completion, quality of the research, status of project, and degree of contribution to the counseling profession.

Students may submit nominations on their own behalf or have their work submitted by a colleague or professor. Nomination submissions will be evaluated on the basis of the relevance and importance of the issue studied to the counseling profession, quality of scholarship, originality, applicability of findings or results, and adherence to proper style and source citation requirements.

Nomination Guidelines

In your nomination submission, briefly:

- Clearly indicate that the nominee is an enrolled candidate for a graduate degree in counseling at any time during the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.

- Explain why the research is of interest and importance to the counseling profession.

- Include a two-page summary of the thesis, dissertation, or original manuscript that demonstrates the scholarship of the nominee. Please indicate if the manuscript has been submitted and/or accepted for publication.

KITTY COLE HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Background and Purpose

The Kitty Cole Human Rights Award honors an ACA member who has made significant contributions in one or more areas of the broad spectrum of human rights. The award is named in honor of Kitty Cole, who devoted her life to looking for opportunities to serve all populations who needed her talents. Her interests were broad based, and included being a helper, counselor, teacher, community and church worker, as well as an active leader in the counseling and human development profession. It is the warm manner in which she pursued these many endeavors for which Kitty is also remembered. Nominations for this award will be assessed by members of the Human Rights Committee of ACA.

Criteria and Requirements

Nominees should have contributed to the field of human rights either through a special project, direct services, or their life’s work and role. Nominees should have contributed a significant amount of time and effort to the area or project for which they were nominated, thus demonstrating a long-term commitment to the field of human rights.

Human rights contributions include, but are not limited to, services to people with special needs or disabilities, victims of abuse and neglect, minorities, the economically disadvantaged, or other underserved populations.

Human rights, far from being an abstract subject for the intellectual or philosopher, affect the daily lives of every person. Human rights are those rights that guarantee each individual the opportunity to live and participate fully and freely in society without fear or threat. Human rights are based on increasing demands in societies all over the World, for lives in which the inherent dignity and beauty of each human being will receive respect and protection.

Nomination Guidelines

In your nomination submission, briefly:

- Describe the incident(s) or behavior(s) that illustrate the nominee’s contribution to human rights and explain why you believe the nominee merits this award.

- Describe the unusual effort and impact that illustrates the nominee’s sustained commitment to human rights.

RALPH F. BERDIE MEMORIAL RESEARCH AWARD

Background and Purpose

Dr. and Mrs. E.G. Williamson established the Ralph F. Berdie Memorial Research Award as a memorial to their daughter, Janice Marie. The award is named for Dr. Berdie in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the profession of student affairs through leadership and sound research. The purpose of the award, which includes a grant of up to $300, is to encourage and provide support for research in the area of college student affairs or related areas of counseling and education. Research projects are not limited to statistical and experimental projects, and may include conceptual, historical, and philosophical explorations and comparative appraisals.

Innovative and creative ideas potentially affecting directional changes in the field of counseling and college student personnel work shall receive primary consideration. Projects that relate to populations that might be served by college services may be considered.

Criteria and Requirements

The research project must:

- Answer questions and investigate ideas that are concerned with problems of interest and significance to college student affairs work and related phases of educational counseling.

- Address areas of interest to one or more of the ACA divisions and organizational affiliates.

- Be designed to generate findings applicable beyond the immediate setting.
Nomination Guidelines

In your nomination submission, briefly:

- Make efficient and effective use of available funds.
- Have the potential to gain additional funding for longer-term research, if warranted.

Nomination Guidelines

In your nomination submission, briefly:

- Describe the nature of the research and clearly state the hypothesis(es) to be examined.
- Explain why the research is of interest and importance to the counseling profession.
- Describe the procedure and general design of the proposed study.
- Itemize the funds that are needed to conduct the research.
- Describe how additional funds will be obtained to support further exploration of the hypothesis(es), if warranted.

ROBERT RENCKEN EMERGING LEADER AWARD

Background and Purpose

Created in 2006, the Robert Rencken Emerging Professional Leader award recognizes an ACA member who has demonstrated the experience and dedication to become a dedicated leader of the counseling profession in future years.

Criteria and Requirements

Nominees must:

- Have been an ACA state branch or state division president;
- Held at least one, but no more than three national ACA, division or region offices, board or committee chair positions;
- Have been a member of ACA for at least three years;
- Have shown ability as a new leader in the counseling profession;
- Have a Master's degree in counseling or closely related profession.

Nomination Guidelines

In your nomination submission, briefly:

- Describe some examples of the nominee's association leadership at local, state, or national levels.
- Explain how this leadership relates to the advancement of the counseling profession in general or to one or more of ACA's division or organizational affiliates.

SAMUEL T. GLADDING UNSUNG HEROES AWARD

Background and Purpose

Sam Gladding, former ACA President and past Trustee of the ACA Foundation, has always advocated for professional counselors who provide direct services to students and clients. He believes their work is often overlooked and seldom recognized. Dr. Gladding refers to these dedicated individuals as Unsung Heroes.

Dr. Gladding and his wife, Claire, donated the initial funding that would recognize those professional counselors providing direct services. In 2014, the ACA Foundation Board of Trustees approved a new award and voted to establish the Samuel T. Gladding Unsung Heroes Award. The awardee will be acknowledged annually at the ACA Conference. The award includes a $1,000 honorarium.

Criteria and Requirements

To be eligible, a nominee must:

- Be a current ACA member.
- Work as a full-time practitioner (school, mental health, rehabilitation, etc.).
- Provide direct services to clients or students.

Nomination Guidelines

In the nomination submission:

- Be sure to include the nominee's valid ACA membership number.
- Include a one-page summary explaining why the nominee would be a good choice to receive the Samuel T. Gladding Unsung Heroes Award. Include examples that distinguish this individual in regard to their direct service work.
- A nominee may be self-nominated.
THOMAS J. SWEENEY AWARD FOR VISIONARY LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

Background and Purpose
The Thomas J. Sweeney Award for Visionary Leadership and Advocacy is given in honor of the lifetime contributions of Dr. Sweeney to the counseling profession. This award of $500 is presented to a professional counselor or counselor educator in recognition of career contributions to the counseling profession through leadership and advocacy.

Thomas J. Sweeney was a visionary leader who served as ACA President and President of two divisions (ACES and IAMFC, for which he served as founding president); he served on the Executive Board of two additional divisions. He served as Chair of the CACREP Board of Directors, and established Chi Sigma Iota (CSI), the Counseling Honor Society International. He was also a branch officer and Southern Region Chair. His professional career as a counselor, counselor educator, and CSI Executive Director was dedicated to promoting excellence within the counseling profession.

Criteria and Requirements
To be eligible, the nominee must:
- Be a professional member of the American Counseling Association at the time of the nomination;
- Be a member of at least one ACA Division at the time of the nomination;
- Be an active member of Chi Sigma Iota at the time of the nomination;
- Demonstrate a strong identity as a profession counselor, as evidence by a terminal degree in counseling, preferably from a CACREP accredited program and appropriate credentials (e.g., LPC, NCC); and
- Have demonstrated through independent work a career commitment of at least 20 years to issues of professional leadership and advocacy to promote the profession of counseling. Such advocacy work may occur at the national, regional, and/or state/local level.

Nominees will be evaluated on the basis of their overall body of work in support of the counseling profession.

Nomination Guidelines
In your nomination submission:
- Include a 2 page summary that provides documentation of the nominee’s sustained leadership and advocacy work; describe the impact these activities have had on the counseling profession.