



## 5.4.1: Awards Program Policy

Purpose: This policy details the MRS awards program

Applies to: Volunteers, Members, Staff

### **Awards:**

The MRS Awards Program strives to acknowledge outstanding contributors to the progress of materials research, and to recognize their exciting and profound accomplishments. It seeks to honor those whose work has already had a major impact in the field, those who have defined the frontiers of the field, those who are outstanding exponents of their science, and those early-career researchers whose work already leads to great expectations for future leadership.

By highlighting leaders in the field and their creative work, MRS will enrich the awareness of the progress and diversity of materials research, both within the materials community and the wider community at large.

In addition to this document which enunciates the Awards Policies of the MRS Board of Directors, additional rules, restrictions, and selection criteria for the respective Awards are set out in an Awards Committee Procedures document, Appendix A. Relevant excerpts from all of these documents are stated in the official Awards announcement, which is reviewed annually by the Awards Committee.

In introducing awards other than Society awards, such as the Poster Awards at the Meetings, the Awards Committee should be consulted and the Board informed, although such awards need not be administered or regulated by the Awards Committee or Board.

### **Restrictions:**

Previous recipients of a major award are not eligible for the same award. Previous recipients of a GSA Gold Award are not eligible for another GSA competition, but previous recipients of a GSA Silver Awards are eligible.

The Awards Committee and subcommittees will make every effort to ensure that an individual is not recognized with more than one MRS award for the same or very similar body of work. This does not prevent an individual from receiving multiple MRS Awards, especially “late career” awards such as the Von Hippel and MRS Fellow Awards, or from receiving the Arthur Nowick GSA in addition to the MRS Graduate Student Award.

Before the evaluation process begins, HQ shall inform each subcommittee of any of its nominees who have received previous MRS awards, providing the citation to help guard against duplicate awards for the same work.

- If the work is deemed to be different than that previously recognized (e.g., building upon in a significant manner or a significant enhancement of it) the nomination shall be evaluated along with all nominations. If the nominee is ultimately recommended to the Board, the subcommittee will include a brief summary of their rationale.
- If it's not clear that the achievement is different from one previously recognized, the subcommittee shall notify the nominator and remove the nomination from consideration.

Current MRS Officers, members of the Board of Directors, and the Chair of the Awards Committee are not eligible for MRS awards. Members of an awards subcommittee are not eligible for that award. Current nominees for MRS awards should not be appointed to the corresponding awards subcommittee; nor should they be nominated for elective office, unless they agree to become ineligible upon taking office. Award nominations for ineligible individuals will normally not be actively considered, even if the person would be eligible at the time the award is normally given. If an ineligible individual other than an Officer is nominated for an award, that person has the option to resign the disqualifying position. Otherwise, or in the case that a nominated individual becomes ineligible, the nomination is considered inactive until the person becomes eligible. The inactive time of the nomination does not count toward the three-year period over which the nomination is active.

MRS Awardees are expected to make every effort to receive the award at the Meeting at which the award is regularly given. If, upon or soon after notification of having been selected for a major award, the recipient informs MRS of an unavoidable conflict with the normal presentation schedule of the award, the recipient may request to delay the presentation of the award to the subsequent Meeting (e.g. the Spring Meeting following the normally-scheduled Fall Meeting). All such requests will be decided by the President, in consultation with the Executive Committee, the Meeting Chairs and the Awards Committee Subcommittee Chair. MRS Awards will not be deferred longer than this, or awarded in absentia, except in extraordinary circumstances.

#### **Posthumous Awards**

An MRS award can be made to a nominated individual after his or her death only if:

- The MRS Board has approved the recommendation of the nominee by the appropriate Awards Committee subcommittee, and
- The nominee has been informed officially by a representative of MRS after Board approval, and
- The nominee accepts the award.

At this point, the award is considered to be conferred, and the awardee need not be present for the appropriate induction ceremony. Without completion of this full procedure, the award is considered to be posthumous and cannot be conferred.

This policy is intended to allow the award presentation, when applicable, to be given in absentia by a colleague. It is also intended that the monetary award, if any, should go to the estate or heirs of the awardee. The choice of how the prize is used is left to the estate or heirs.

#### **Selection Procedures:**

Each MRS Award is managed by a corresponding subcommittee of the Awards Committee, according to the established schedule. Each award subcommittee evaluates nominations. For the major awards, the subcommittee determines a recipient (or recipients, where applicable) or recommends that no award be made. The decision of each subcommittee, along with the proposed citation (and optionally any other information the subcommittee considers appropriate), are transmitted via the MRS Secretary to the Board for ratification.

Exception: The MRS Woody White Service Award is administered by the Board's Executive Committee, which shall receive and evaluate nominations. The final selection shall be determined by a majority vote of the committee.

MRS Headquarters will make a copy of the full nomination package available to the Board. If ratification fails, the subcommittee may submit another name for ratification as recipient, if it can do so promptly.

After an award is ratified, the President (or a representative designated by the Executive Committee) notifies the award recipient, and HQ handles any award payments, certificates, medals, and travel reimbursements for award recipients.

For each MRS Meeting where Graduate Student Awards are presented, the GSA Subcommittee chooses Finalists from among the applications in advance of the meeting with the help of the symposium organizers or others appointed by the subcommittee, based on the application packages. The GSA Subcommittee determines the awards during the meeting, based on the recommendations of a panel of judges that it appoints to judge the Finalists' oral presentations, according to procedures established by the subcommittee. All Finalists who make oral presentations shall receive a GSA Gold Award or a GSA Silver Award, the Gold Award having the greater value. One recipient of the Arthur Nowick Graduate Student Award shall also be determined by the panel of judges, based on the finalists' oral presentations and presented during the Fall MRS Meeting.

**Committee activities:**

*(Committee structure and membership are articulated in Policy 4.2 – Awards Committee Charter.)*

In addition to evaluating nominations, the Awards Committee, and each subcommittee, is responsible for reviewing and updating the awards announcement; actively soliciting award nominations; advising HQ on improving the process of advertising awards and soliciting a pool of strong nominations; and recruiting new committee members.

**Awards Schedule:**

The awards deadlines and processing schedule are decided by the Awards Committee, in consultation with the Executive Committee, Headquarters, and the Meeting Chairs of meetings at which awards are presented.

**Purpose of each Award:**

**Von Hippel Award:** The Materials Research Society's highest honor is to recognize those qualities most prized by materials scientists and engineers — brilliance and originality of intellect, combined with vision that transcends the boundaries of conventional scientific disciplines.

**David Turnbull Award:** To recognize the career contribution of a scientist to fundamental understanding of the science of materials through experimental and/or theoretical research. In the spirit of the life work of David Turnbull, writing and lecturing also can be factors in the selection process.

**MRS Medal:** To recognize an exceptional achievement in materials research in the past ten years. A Medal will be awarded for a major advance or cluster of closely related advances, in any materials-related field of research. The impact of this research on the progress of the relevant materials field will be a primary consideration in making the award.

**Outstanding Early-Career Investigator:** To recognize outstanding, interdisciplinary scientific work in materials research by an early-career scientist or engineer who has contributed to the progress of materials research over a period of no more than 15 years. Exceptions may be made for an interruption in career progression due to family/medical leave or military service. Final determination on any exceptions will be at the discretion of the Outstanding Early-Career Award Subcommittee. The award recipient must also show exceptional promise as a developing leader in the materials area.

**MRS Fellow:** The MRS Fellow program recognizes outstanding contributions to the field, including research, leadership, and service that have advanced the mission of the materials community world-wide. It is intended to be a lifetime recognition of distinction in the field, rather than an award for a specific achievement. In any given year, the maximum number of new Fellows should be capped at 0.2% of the current total professional MRS membership.

**Innovation in Materials Characterization:** To honor an outstanding advance in materials characterization that notably increases knowledge of the structure, composition, in situ behavior under outside stimulus, electronic, mechanical, or chemical behavior, or other characterization feature, of materials. It is not limited to the method of characterization or the class of materials observed. Impact of the advance on materials research will be the primary consideration in making the award. Nominations for this award may be made for scientists and engineers in all areas of materials research.

**Materials Theory Award:** Recognizes exceptional advances made by materials theory to the fundamental understanding of the structure and behavior of materials. This award is intended to honor both those who have pioneered the development of a new theoretical approach and those who have used existing approaches to provide significant new insight into materials behavior.

**Mid-Career Researcher Award:** Recognizes exceptional achievements in materials research made by mid-career professionals. It is intended to honor an individual who has made exceptional advances in their career over a period of 15 to 27 years at the time of nomination. Exceptions may be made for an interruption in career progression due to family/medical leave or military. Final determination on any exception will be at the discretion of the Mid-Career Researcher Award Subcommittee. The award recipient must also demonstrate notable leadership in the materials area.

**MRS Impact Award:** Honors outstanding individuals who have displayed excellence in areas of science communication, education, advancing diversity, mentoring, or community engagement, which reflect the Society's pursuit to advance materials science and technology to improve the quality of life.

**MRS Postdoctoral Award:** The MRS Postdoctoral Award recognizes postdoctoral scholars who are showing exceptional promise that may include, for example, excellence in scientific research, leadership, advocacy, outreach, or teaching, during their postdoc assignment.

**MRS Graduate Student Awards:** To honor and encourage graduate students whose academic achievements and current materials research display a high level of excellence and distinction and who show promise for significant future achievement in materials research. The Arthur Nowick Graduate Student Award recognizes one of the GSA finalists who shows particular promise as a future teacher and mentor.

**The Kavli Foundation Early Career Lectureship in Materials Science:** This award, sponsored by The Kavli Foundation, honors an early career scientist who has made a significant contribution to the science of materials through experimental and/or theoretical research. Exceptions may be made for an interruption in career progression due to family/medical leave or military service. Final determination on any exceptions will be at the discretion of the Outstanding Early-Career Award Subcommittee.

**MRS Woody White Service Award:** The MRS Woody White Service Award honors outstanding individuals who have embodied MRS's Mission, Vision and Values for an egalitarian interdisciplinary community advancing materials science and technology to improve the quality of life. It may be given in recognition of long-term, impactful service to the Society, as well as for special projects/programs that significantly impacted the Society.

**Changes to this award are expected in 2020 MRS Nelson “Buck” Robinson Science And Technology Award For Renewable Energy:** Recognizes a student (bachelor’s, master’s or PhD), postdoc, or other early-career professional through five years following the highest degree attained, at the discretion of the subcommittee, for the development of novel sustainable solutions for the realization of renewable sources of energy. Exceptions may be made for an interruption in career progression due to family/medical leave or military service. Final determination on any exception will be at the discretion of the Nelson “Buck” Robinson Science and Technology Award Subcommittee.

**Substance of Awards:**

HQ in consultation with the Awards committee determines the substance of the awards. (Some minor items are current practice but are not specifically mentioned in the published awards announcement.) Major changes to the content of the award package requires Board approval. Award recipients currently receive the following:

**Von Hippel Award**

- Cash Prize: \$10,000
- Ruby laser crystal trophy
- Certificate
- Honorary lifetime MRS membership
- Complimentary meeting registration for the Meeting at which Award is presented
- Expenses to attend meeting where Award is presented
- Award recipient presents lecture at MRS Awards Ceremony

**David Turnbull Lectureship**

- Honorarium: \$5,000
- Citation plaque
- Award recipient will be required to present a lecture at the MRS Meeting at a technically appropriate session. This lecture will be recorded for a subsequent, interactive, online session with MRS University Chapters, and the recipient will participate in a Q/A session at the time the lectures is broadcasted. Additionally the recipient will be asked to publish an appropriate article in the MRS Bulletin
- Complimentary meeting registration for the Meeting at which Award is presented
- One year complimentary MRS membership
- Expenses to attend meeting where Award is presented

**MRS Medal**

- Cash Prize: \$5,000
- Medal: engraved and mounted medal
- Citation Certificate
- Award recipient presents talk at MRS Meeting at technically appropriate session
- Complimentary meeting registration for the Meeting at which Award is presented
- Expenses to attend meeting where Award is presented
- One year complimentary MRS membership

**Outstanding Early-Career Investigator**

- Cash Prize: \$5,000
- Trophy
- Citation certificate
- Award recipient presents talk at MRS Meeting at technically appropriate session
- Complimentary meeting registration for the Meeting at which Award is presented

- Expenses to attend meeting where Award is presented
- One year complimentary MRS membership

#### **MRS Fellow**

- Fellow Pin
- Certificate
- Invitation to special recognition event at the Meeting at which the award is announced.
- Names of MRS Fellows shall be listed on the MRS website, including (with permission) photo, citation, brief biography, affiliation, and contact information.
- From time to time, MRS Fellows may be invited to participate in special events or in projects that call upon their advisory input on important issues of concern for the Society.

#### **Materials Theory Award**

- Cash Prize: \$5,000
- Trophy
- Citation Certificate
- Award recipient presents talk at MRS Meeting at technically appropriate session
- Complimentary meeting registration for the Meeting at which award is presented
- Expenses to attend meeting where award is presented
- One year complimentary MRS membership

#### **Mid-Career Researcher Award**

- Cash Prize: \$5,000
- Trophy
- Citation Certificate
- No requirement to present talk at MRS Meeting at technically appropriate session, but may be asked to do so at the discretion of the Meeting Chairs
- Complimentary meeting registration for the Meeting at which award is presented
- Expenses to attend meeting where award is presented
- One year complimentary MRS membership

#### **Innovation in Materials Characterization Award**

- Cash Prize: \$5,000
- Trophy
- Citation Certificate
- Award recipient presents talk at MRS Meeting at technically appropriate session
- Complimentary meeting registration for the Meeting at which Award is presented
- Expenses to attend meeting where Award is presented (MRS in-kind contribution)
- One year complimentary MRS membership

#### **MRS Postdoctoral Award**

- Cash Prize: \$2,000
- Citation Certificate
- Meeting registration to attend the meeting where award is presented
- One-year complimentary MRS membership

#### **MRS Impact Award:**

- Cash Prize: \$5,000
- Trophy
- Citation Certificate

- Complimentary meeting registration for the Meeting at which award is presented
- Expenses to attend meeting where award is presented
- One year complimentary MRS membership

### **Graduate Student Awards**

#### **Gold**

- Cash Prize: \$400
- Plaque
- Complimentary meeting registration for meeting at which award is presented
- One year complimentary MRS membership
- Public presentation of award during Awards ceremony

#### **Silver**

- Cash Prize: \$200
- Certificate
- Complimentary meeting registration for meeting at which award is presented
- One year complimentary MRS membership
- Public presentation of award during Awards ceremony

### **Arthur Nowick GSA**

- Cash prize: \$500
- Plaque
- Complimentary meeting registration for meeting at which award is presented
- One year complimentary MRS membership
- Public presentation of award during Awards ceremony

### **The Kavli Foundation Early Career Lectureship in Materials Science**

- \$1,000 Cash award
- Trophy
- Award recipient presents talk at MRS Meeting at special session during Fall Meeting
- Complimentary meeting registration for the Meeting at which Award is presented
- Hotel accommodations (at least two nights) for the meeting where Award is presented
- One year complimentary MRS membership

### **MRS Woody White Service Award**

- Citation certificate
- Life-time MRS membership
- Complimentary meeting registration for the Meeting at which award is presented
- Travel support to attend the Meeting at which the award is presented

### **MRS Nelson "Buck" Robinson Science And Technology Award For Renewable Energy**

- \$5,000 cash award
- Citation Certificate
- Meeting registration (which includes an annual MRS membership) for the Meeting at which the award is presented
- Reasonable travel and hotel expenses to attend the MRS Fall Meeting at which the award is presented will be reimbursed.

### **Revocation of awards:**

MRS reserves the right to revoke an Award if it is subsequently established that a claim or claims having material significance for the success of the nomination were fraudulent, or attributable to

scientific misconduct by the recipient.

Investigation of any case of alleged fraud in the contents and presentation of a successful nomination for an MRS Award will normally be carried out by the MRS Awards Committee, at the request of the MRS President, and their recommendations will be reported to the MRS President. Formal action on the recommendations shall be the responsibility of the President and the Governing Board (by analogy with the MRS procedure for identifying Award recipients). In the event of conflict of interest for the Selection Subcommittee, the investigation shall instead be carried out by a special Task Force appointed by the President.

Before recommending revocation, the investigating committee will provide a reasonable opportunity for the recipient and the nominator to present defensive arguments.

Consequences of Award revocation will include:

1. The Recipient and the Nominator will be notified of the award revocation.
2. The rescission of the award and the date of rescission will be recorded in the official MRS archive.
3. The recipient's name and award will be omitted from future published MRS lists of previous recipients of the Award.
4. The Recipient will be advised that, in the future, MRS will respond to institutional requests for authentication of his/her Award by stating that the Award was revoked, and the date of revocation.

In some circumstances, e.g. willful fraud, MRS may seek financial restitution, either informally or by legal action. A decision to pursue such a course may be made by the President or Governing Board on a case-by-case basis.

### **New Awards**

The following is a brief set of guidelines for MRS Awards. They are intended to provide guidance to those considering proposals for new awards, rather than a set of rigid rules or prescriptions. All award proposals must be brought before the MRS Awards Committee, which will consider proposals on a case-by-case basis, and make a recommendation to the Board.

Overall criteria: The purpose of each award should be clearly articulated. The award must represent excellence and carry prestige. It must not overlap with existing awards, but should address a constituency that is not served by the existing award family. The award should not confuse the scope of existing awards or diminish their prestige. New Award proposals should suggest specific criteria by which the Award might be identified and nominations be judged. When a new Award proposal is brought to the Board for consideration, proponents should be prepared to discuss a (confidential) list of examples of specific individuals who would be appropriate candidates for the Award.

Naming: Awards may be named after individuals, whether alive or deceased. Naming awards after a living person is possible, but the individual must have achieved a high level of visibility and distinction and above all, must compare favorably with individuals identified by existing named awards. In this case, the Board will obtain permission from the named individual as part of the approval process.

Awards proposed in the name of a company are not acceptable. Appropriate recognition of the source of an endowment in the award description may be acceptable.

Promotion of an award to be named after oneself is discouraged.

Financial support of the award: Awards should ideally be endowed by either a lump sum contribution or a payment contract over time that also provides for the annual cost of the award including related expenses, e.g., travel and registration expenses for the award winner.



Breadth: Awards should not be limited to specific sub-fields of materials research, but rather, should be inclusive of the breadth of disciplines represented in the Society.

Administration: All new award proposals should be brought before the Awards Committee for discussion and recommendation to the Board.

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Discussion regarding the Breadth requirement, to be recorded for future reference, though not part of formal policy:

MRS has built its structure, since its inception, on the principle of fostering breadth and scope across the disciplines -- and MRS is recognized for this unique feature, which was intentionally different from the policies of other Societies. On this basis it is appropriate for our Policy to exclude awards dedicated to specific single disciplines or topics. If the MRS adopts a Division structure, it might be appropriate to revisit this exclusion. Note that the MRS Medal is specifically expected to recognize a discovery "in any single field" of materials -- it is intended to recognize "starburst" discoveries, which by nature are likely to belong to a single field. However, the Medal is seldom awarded in successive years in the same field and, over time, the Medal is expected to cover the range of Materials fields

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APPENDICES Follow

- Rules and eligibility, nomination package requirements, submission deadlines, etc. for each award
- Nomination Solicitation Process

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Deliverables: N/A; Review every three years or as needed

Who: Secretary/OpsCom

When: At least 8 weeks before the Board meeting at which amendments should be considered.

To: President

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Policy first adopted: November 11, 2005

Last modified: February 2020; Jan 2021; April 2021; Jan 2022; April 2023; November 2023

Last reviewed: March 2019; December 2019; Dec 2020; April 2021; Dec 2021; Nov 2022; April 2023; August 2023

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Enacting Legislation: Board Motion B:2005:38, B:2009:5;B:2009:20;B:2010:43;B:2011:03; B:2013:45; B:2014:42;B:2016:12: B:2018:11: B2019:09; B:2019:38; B2020:07; B:2020:30; B:2021:08; B:2021:22 (F20 Consent Agenda); B:2022:22 (F22 Consent Agenda); B:2023:08 (S23 Consent Agenda); B:2023:16 (Consent Agenda)

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Policy created by: Beth Stadler, MRS Secretary Party responsible for this policy: GovCom

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## APPENDIX A – Awards Committee Procedures

### **AWARD: VON HIPPEL AWARD**

**Purpose:** To recognize those qualities most prized by materials scientists and engineers - brilliance and originality of intellect, combined with vision that transcends the boundaries of conventional scientific disciplines.

**Award:** The Von Hippel Award includes a \$10,000 cash prize, honorary membership in MRS, and a unique trophy - a mounted ruby laser crystal symbolizing the many-faceted nature of materials research. The award is presented annually at the MRS Fall Meeting where the recipient is invited to speak at the Awards Ceremony. The recipient will have registration fees and reasonable travel expenses paid in order to attend the meeting.

**Administration:** The Von Hippel Award is managed by the Von Hippel Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. This subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating nominations annually and for recommending a nominee to MRS Board for final approval or recommending that no award be made.

**Rules and Eligibility:** Nominees for the Von Hippel Award must have outstanding credentials, their scientific work must have had a significant impact on materials research, and it must have exemplified an interdisciplinary approach. The scientific discipline of the nominee is of no concern except that the work must have been in areas commonly associated with materials research. The nominee does not need to be a member of the Materials Research Society and nominees of any nationality are eligible. It is not necessary for the nominee to have previously won other major awards. The Von Hippel is presented at the MRS Fall Meeting. The Award will not be bestowed in absentia except in extraordinary circumstances. Current members of the Von Hippel Subcommittee, members of the MRS Board of Directors, and former recipients of the Von Hippel Award are not eligible.

**Nomination Package:** The following is required for nomination for the Von Hippel Award:

1. Completed Nomination Summary Form  
Download Form as a Word or PDF document at [www.mrs.org/awards/vonhip.html](http://www.mrs.org/awards/vonhip.html)
2. Proposed Citation (< 60 words). Summarize the achievements upon which the nomination is based, avoiding flowery descriptors such as seminal, world-class.
3. A statement by the nominator supporting the candidate's suitability for the award with respect to: Interdisciplinary character of the candidate's work; Manner in which the candidate's work spans basic and applied science, and impact of the candidate's work within and outside his/her immediate professional field. Wherever possible, this statement should cite evidence rather than opinion or intuition. Further pertinent information may be added.
4. Supporting documentation, e.g.: Lists of the candidate's professional appointments held, honors, awards, patents, and, Separate list of the most important publications, papers and books.
5. Names of three distinguished scientists who have agreed to send letters supporting the nomination with explicit reference to the three criteria of item 3 above. Letters should be included in the nomination package, or, if necessary, letters may be sent directly to <mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org>.
6. The full nomination package as a Word or PDF document, no more than 15 pages exclusive of the supporting letters, must be in the following order: Nomination Form including Proposed Citation; Statement by Nominator; Supporting documentation and lists; three letters of support submitted by distinguished scientists (or list of those being sent directly to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org))

In preparing nominations, the nominator should bear in mind that the nominees for this award should have made outstanding contributions to our profession. Further, since a poorly prepared nomination for an outstanding individual would constitute a disservice to that person, it is important that the nomination package truly reflect the accomplishments and stature of the nominee.

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** All materials comprising a nomination package, with the exception of

support letters, which may be sent separately, should be sent as a single file document preferably in PDF format, or Word. Incomplete and late nominations will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the nominators to ensure legibility of the PDF or Word Document. Please send the file via e-mail to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org) by **April 1** or a date set by and publicized by the Awards Committee.

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#### **AWARD: DAVID TURNBULL LECTURESHIP**

**Purpose:** To recognize the career of a scientist whose research has made outstanding contributions to fundamental understanding of the science of materials, as exemplified by the life work of David Turnbull.

**Award:** The Turnbull Lecturer will receive a \$5,000 honorarium and a citation plaque. The recipient will give a technical lecture of broad appeal at a designated session of the MRS Fall Meeting, and will work with the MRS Bulletin staff in preparing an appropriate article for the Bulletin. Additionally, the lecture presented at the MRS Meeting shall be recorded for a future broadcast to University Chapters, and the Turnbull Lecturer will be asked to participate in an interactive, online Q/A session following that broadcast. The registration fee and reasonable travel expenses to the MRS meeting at which the Turnbull Lecture is given will be reimbursed.

**Administration:** The Lectureship is managed by the Turnbull Lectureship Award Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. This subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating nominations annually and recommending a nominee to the MRS Board for final approval or recommending to the Board that no award be made.

**Rules and Eligibility:** Nominations for the Turnbull Lectureship may be made for scientists and engineers in all areas of materials science. The primary consideration in making the award is the nominee's career contribution to the fundamental understanding of materials and properties, through his/her research. In the spirit of the life work of David Turnbull, writing and lecturing also can be factors in the selection process. Nominees need not be members of the Materials Research Society, and nominees of any nationality are eligible. Current members of the MRS Turnbull Lectureship Award Subcommittee, MRS Board of Directors members, and previous Turnbull Lecturers are not eligible.

**Nomination Package Requirements:** The following is required for nomination for the Lectureship:

- 1) Completed Nomination Summary Form. Download form as a Word or PDF document at [www.mrs.org/awards/turnbull.html](http://www.mrs.org/awards/turnbull.html);
- 2) Proposed Citation (< 60 words). Summarize the achievements upon which the nomination is based, avoiding flowery descriptors such as seminal, world-class;
- 3) A statement by the nominator supporting the candidate's suitability to be designated the Turnbull Lecturer with respect to: a) The importance of the candidate's research contributions to the fundamental understanding of materials; b) The quality of the candidate's writing and lectures, and, c) The candidate's role in education and graduate training in materials research.
- 4) Supporting documentation: professional appointments held, honors, awards, patents, and separate list of the most important publications, papers and books.
- 5) Brief CV, including lists of Names of three distinguished scientists who have agreed to send letters supporting the nomination with explicit reference to the three criteria of item 3 above. Letters should be included in the nomination package, or, if necessary, letters may be sent directly to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org).
- 6) The full nomination package as a Word or PDF document, no more than 13 pages exclusive of the supporting letters, must be in the following order: a) Completed Nomination Form, including Proposed Citation; b) Statement by Nominator; c) Supporting Documentation (4 pages maximum); and d) Letters of Support from three Scientists

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** All materials comprising a nomination package, with the exception of support letters, which may be sent separately, should be sent as a single file document preferably in PDF format, or Word. Incomplete and late nominations will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the nominators to ensure legibility of the PDF or Word Document. Please send the file via e-mail to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org) by **April 1** or a date set by and publicized by the Awards Committee.

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**AWARD: MRS MEDAL**

*(Per the Awards Committee Charter, more than one Medal can be given, but no more than two citations in a year.)*

**Purpose:** The MRS Medal is intended to offer public and professional recognition of an exceptional achievement in materials research in the past ten years. A Medal will be awarded for a major advance or series of closely related advances that is expected to have a major impact on the progress of the relevant materials field.

**The Award:** Each Medal will consist of a \$5,000 cash prize, an engraved and mounted Medal, and a citation certificate. The registration fee and reasonable travel expenses to the MRS Meeting where the award presentation is made will be reimbursed.

**Administration:** The MRS Medal program is managed by the Medal Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. The subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating nominations annually and recommending nominees to the MRS Board for final approval.

**Rules and Eligibility:** Nomination for the MRS Medal is open to scientists and engineers who have, within the past ten years, been responsible for a major advance, or series of closely related advance, in any materials-related field of research. The impact of their materials research upon the relevant materials field will be a primary consideration in making the awards. The Medal may recognize such impact within a larger traditional field or in a more specialized or developing field. Preference will generally be given to nominations for work which has not previously received appropriate award recognition. Please note that the MRS Medal is intended to highlight a specific, high-impact achievement or a series of closely related achievements in contrast to other awards whose criteria may often be based on accumulated lifetime achievements.

A nominee need not be a member of the Materials Research Society, and nominees of any nationality are eligible. Current members of the MRS Medal Award Subcommittee, MRS Board of Directors members and previous MRS Medal recipients are not eligible. The selection of the Medal winners must be approved by the MRS Board based upon recommendation from the Awards Committee; the decision of the Board is final. A Medal winner must receive his/her Medal in person at an MRS meeting within 12 months of selection; Medals will not be awarded in absentia except in extraordinary circumstances. A Medal will normally be awarded to one individual for a cited achievement. However, the Medal may be awarded for a cited achievement attributable to two or three individuals. In that case, each recipient will receive a personal medal trophy, registration, and travel, and the cash award will be divided equally.

**Nomination Package Requirements:** The following is required for nomination for an MRS Medal:

1. Completed Nomination Summary Form. Download form as a Word or PDF document at [www.mrs.org/awards/medal.html](http://www.mrs.org/awards/medal.html)
2. Proposed Citation (<60 words). Summarize the achievements upon which the nomination is based, avoiding flowery descriptors.
3. Nominator Statement (2-pages maximum), supporting the candidate's suitability for the award with particular reference to: the specific, crisply defined, recent research achievement which is proposed for recognition; the impact of the achievement within the relevant materials field, and its effect on other sciences, and, the innovative and perceptive quality of the candidate's work

4. Curriculum Vitae of the Nominee (2-pages maximum)
5. List of candidate's 10 most relevant publications with proper citation, titles and including a citation analysis (1-page maximum).
6. Letters of support from two established scientists familiar with the nominee's qualifications and area of research. Each letter must be two-pages or less and should make specific reference to the three criteria in item 3 above. The letters must be on letterhead and include the signature of the supporter.

The entire nomination package must not exceed 10 pages. The final complete nomination package as a Word or PDF document must be in the following order: a) Completed Nomination Form, including Proposed Citation; b) Statement by Nominator (2-pages maximum), c) Curriculum Vitae (2-pages maximum), d) List of publications and citation analysis (1-page maximum), and e) Two Letters of Support (each letter 2-pages maximum)

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** The full nomination must be compiled as a **single file document** in Word or PDF format with a maximum of 10 pages. Incomplete nominations will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the nominator to ensure legibility of the PDF or Word document. Please send the file via e-mail to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org) by **April 1** or a date set by and publicized by the Awards Committee.

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#### **AWARD: OUTSTANDING EARLY-CAREER INVESTIGATOR**

**Purpose:** To recognize outstanding, interdisciplinary scientific work in materials research by an early-career scientist or engineer. The award recipient must also show exceptional promise as a developing leader in the materials area.

**The Award:** The annual award consists of a \$5,000 cash prize, a presentation trophy, and a certificate. Meeting registration fee and reasonable travel expenses to the MRS Meeting at which the award is presented will be reimbursed.

**Rules and Eligibility:** A nominee must be an early-career scientist or engineer who has contributed in an outstanding and innovative way to the progress of materials research; the work should have a significant interdisciplinary aspect. The nominee **shall have contributed to the progress of materials research over a period of no more than 15 years in the year in** the year in which the award recipient is announced and the award is presented. Exceptions may be made for an interruption in career progression due to family/medical leave or military service. Final determination on any exceptions will be at the discretion of the Outstanding Early-Career Award Subcommittee. The award is normally presented at the MRS Spring Meeting. A nominee need not be a member of the Materials Research Society, and nominees of any nationality are eligible. Current members of the MRS Outstanding Early-Career Investigator Subcommittee, MRS Board members and previous recipients of the Outstanding Early-Career Investigator Award are not eligible.

The selection of the award winner must be approved by the MRS Board based upon recommendation of the Awards Committee; the decision of the Board is final. The award must be received by the winner in person at an MRS meeting; no award will be made in absentia, except under extraordinary circumstances and at the discretion of the MRS Board. One award may be presented each year.

**Nomination Package Requirements:** The following is required for nomination for an OYI Award:

1. Completed Nomination Summary Form. Download form as a Word or PDF document at <http://www.mrs.org/awards/OYI.html>
2. Proposed Citation (<60 words). Summarize the achievements upon which the nomination is based, avoiding flowery descriptors.
3. Nominator statement (2-pages maximum) supporting the candidate's suitability for the award with respect to:  
innovative and creative nature of the candidate's work; interdisciplinary character of the candidate's

work, and, potential shown by the candidate as a future leader in materials research.

4. Curriculum Vitae including birth date.
5. List of key publications and any additional supporting information relevant to the awards contribution may also be included.
6. Letters of support from two established scientists familiar with the nominee's qualifications and area of research. Each letter must be two-pages or less and should make specific reference to the three criteria in item 3 above. The letters must be on letterhead and include the signature of supporter.

The entire nomination package must not exceed 10 pages. The final completed nomination file as a complete Word document or PDF must be in the following order: a) completed Nomination Form, including Proposed Citation; b) Statement by Nominator (2-pages maximum); c) Curriculum Vitae (2-pages maximum); d) List of publications (1-page maximum), and e) Letters of support (each letter 2-pages maximum.)

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** The full nomination must be compiled as a single file document in Word or PDF format with a maximum of 10 pages. Incomplete nominations will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the nominator to ensure legibility of the PDF or Word document. Send the file via e-mail to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org) by **October 1**.

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### **AWARD: MRS FELLOW**

**Purpose:** The MRS Fellow program recognizes outstanding contributions to the field, including research, leadership, and service that have advanced the mission of the materials community world-wide. It is intended to be a lifetime recognition of distinction in the field, rather than an award for a specific achievement. In any given year, the maximum number of new Fellows should be capped at 0.2% of the current total professional MRS membership.

This pool of Fellows is a resource of thought-leaders--qualified to offer ideas, advice, actions, and external contact channels to benefit MRS. It is anticipated that all sectors of the Society will utilize the community of Fellows as a valued intellectual asset and conversely that Fellows will recognize the value of such engagement. The Fellows will be given the opportunity to become fully integrated into Society activities, in accordance with the established principles for Society governance. The Society shall maintain contact with the group of Fellows, identify which Fellows are interested and able to provide a sounding board for ideas, and utilize the resource in an intentional way.

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#### **MRS Fellow Program:**

- The number of new Fellows admitted each year will be capped at up to a maximum of 0.2% of the current professional MRS membership on or after January 1 of the new selection year, although less than 0.2% may be selected in order to preserve the prestige of the award.
- MRS Fellow is a lifetime appointment. It is hoped that Fellows will choose to maintain their continuing membership in good standing.
- MRS Fellows may be invited to participate, from time to time, in projects that call upon their advisory input on important issues of concern for the Society.
- The names of MRS Fellows will be listed on the MRS website at [www.mrs.org/mrsfellows](http://www.mrs.org/mrsfellows). With the Fellow's permission, other information may also be included, such as photo, citation, brief biography, affiliation, and contact information.
- Each new MRS Fellow will be presented with a certificate of such recognition.
- In extraordinary circumstances, the title may be withdrawn for cause.

**Administration:** Fellowship selection is managed by the MRS Fellow Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. This Subcommittee is responsible for evaluating nominations annually and recommending the successful nominees to the MRS Board for final approval.

**Rules and Eligibility:**

- Nomination is open to any MRS Member in good standing at the time of nomination and whose membership has been continuous for at least 5 years preceding the year of selection. In exceptional circumstances this requirement may be waived.
- Members of the MRS Fellow Subcommittee, the Chair of the Awards Committee, and the current MRS Officers and Board of Directors are not eligible for nomination.
- Each nomination submitted remains active for a period of three years without further action by the nominator. During that period, the nominator may submit an updated version. Alternatively, a new nomination package may be submitted, designated specifically to completely replace the old version. Such a new submission will remain active for three years, as any other new submission would do. In all cases, though, eligibility requires a record of five years continuous membership prior to January 1 of the year of selection as MRS Fellow.
- Self-nomination is not permitted.
- The title of MRS Fellow will not be awarded posthumously.

**Nominator Guidelines and Information: Many Different Types of Accomplishments are Eligible**

There are many ways by which a person might make "sustained and distinguished contributions to the advancement of materials research," which is the fundamental criterion for attaining the title of MRS Fellow. Any or all types of accomplishment that have made significant contributions towards "the advancement of materials research", in its broadest sense, may appropriately be cited in the nomination. Success in the Fellow selection process will be based upon the aggregate impact of all the achievements that have been convincingly described and supported in the Nomination. "Advancement of materials research" may embrace not only the intellectual insights, scholarly publications, inventions, or applications resulting from the Nominee's materials research, but also the nurture and advancement of the institutions and programs that operate and support materials research, as well as the institutions and programs that support and strengthen the communities of people whose activities are linked with materials research and its consequences. "Materials research" and "materials communities" are here considered in their global context, although the specific impacts of the Nominee's cited achievements may be domestic or international, as appropriate, and distinguished service to MRS is highly valued.

For purposes of organization, the evaluation process will initially appraise the contents of each nomination in the broad categories of "Research" and "Service". Each of these categories represents an important possible type of qualifying contribution. However, a high-ranking score in both categories is not mandatory, and ultimate success depends on the appraisal of the nominee's combined specific achievements of all kinds. However, it is important to recognize that, unlike the Fellow criteria for some other societies, the assessment of MRS Fellow nominations seeks evidence of significant accomplishment in activities supporting the materials community, as well as a distinguished research record.

Examples of the kind of accomplishment that might contribute to the nominee's final score in each category include:

**Research:** basic and applied science research; product development; engineering research; technology development; management of research; inventions and patents; scholarly publications.

**Service:** materials education; public outreach; advocacy; leadership, involvement and support for the materials research community. This category includes distinguished volunteer service to organizations, particularly MRS, that are dedicated to supporting and advancing materials research.

**Nomination Package:** The information provided in the nomination package will constitute the entire basis upon which the selection committee assesses the nominee. Personal knowledge of a candidate's accomplishments by one or more of the Subcommittee Members will not be a factor in determining the outcome of the nomination.

Since each submission package is strictly limited in size, it is important to select the information with care, and present it concisely. The nomination must be written and submitted in English using the online submission site at <http://fellows.mrs.org/>. The submission site will accept nominations from June 1 through August 1.

A complete Nomination will include the following components:

**Summary Citation:** This is a statement of 30 words or fewer, stating the area(s) of achievements on which the nomination is based.

**Nomination Statement with Signature:** The Nomination Statement represents the essential substance of the Nomination Package, and must be signed and on letterhead. The Nomination Statement should describe the entire basis for the nomination. It should be informative, clear, concise and complete. It may include graphics, but they are not required. It should explain, in non-specialist terms, the nature and importance of the nominee's most significant accomplishments and activities. Specific, factual, and convincing information provided in this description will be the evidential basis upon which the nomination is evaluated.

The following structure is suggested for the Nomination Statement:

- Brief Introduction
  - First Topic: Description of one principal achievement or endeavor, placing it in context of both significance and success. It should concisely cite relevant, evidential support, such as key publications, related honors and awards, patents, professional appointments, related service/leadership/outreach/editorial activities, etc.
  - Second Topic: Description of another principal achievement being cited.
  - Third Topic, Fourth Topic, etc., if needed
  - Brief Summary
- This Nomination Statement file will be uploaded and must be a PDF or Word document, not exceeding 5 pages or 3MB.

**Two Letters of Support:**

- Provide two signed letters of support on letterhead, written by people other than the nominator, who are familiar with the nominee's work.
- These letter files will be uploaded as two separate files and must be a PDF or Word document, not exceeding 5 pages or 3MB.

**Curriculum Vitae:**

- The nominee's Curriculum Vitae is intended to serve only as a source of supplemental backup information, if required, for the selection committee to consult. This should be a CV that clearly supports the Nomination Statement, and that could also provide helpful background information. Inclusion of lists of relevant publications, patents, honors, and professional appointments is useful.
- This CV file will be uploaded and must be a PDF or Word document not exceeding 8 pages or 3MB.

**Membership History:**

- The nominee must be an MRS member in good standing at the time of nomination and on January 1 of the year of selection, and must have held continuous membership for a period of five years preceding the year of selection. The nominee's MRS membership records on file may be verified by contacting the MRS Member Services Department. The nominee's membership records will be provided to the selection committee, as well.

**Membership Recording Cycle for MRS:** Membership in MRS is always started or renewed on January 1 or July 1 of each year, and it is renewed for periods of six months, 12 months, or longer. Membership resulting from registering to attend a meeting does not take effect in the formal record until January 1 or July 1 following that meeting. Thus, for example, an attendee at the Fall Meeting will appear on the record as beginning the resulting membership on January 1 of the following year, and not (as often assumed) on the day of meeting registration. Please note this information carefully, since it specifically determines the eligibility of each nominee.



**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** Submissions are accepted at <http://fellows.mrs.org/> from June 1 through August 1. or dates as set by and publicized by the Awards Committee.

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**AWARD: INNOVATION IN MATERIALS CHARACTERIZATION AWARD**

**Purpose:** This award honors an outstanding advance in materials characterization that notably increases knowledge of the structure, composition, in situ behavior under outside stimulus, electronic, mechanical, or chemical behavior, or other characterization feature, of materials. It is not limited to the method of characterization or the class of material observed. Impact of the advance on materials research will be the primary consideration in making the award. Nominations for this award may be made for scientists and engineers in all areas of materials research.

MRS acknowledges the generosity of Professors Gwo-Ching Wang and Toh-Ming Lu in endowing this award.

**The Award:** The annual award consists of a \$5,000 cash prize, a presentation trophy, and a certificate. Meeting registration fee and transportation and hotel expenses to attend the Materials Research Society Meeting at which the award is presented will be reimbursed.

**Rules and Eligibility:** Nomination for the Innovation in Materials Characterization Award is open to scientists and engineers in all areas of materials science. Nominees need not be members of the Materials Research Society and nominees of any nationality are eligible. Current members of the Innovation in Materials Characterization Subcommittee, MRS Board of Directors members, the Awards Chair, and previous recipients of this award are not eligible. The Innovation in Materials Characterization Award is presented at the MRS Spring Meeting. The Award will not be bestowed in absentia except in extraordinary circumstances. The endowing parties will not be involved in the selection process for this award.

**Administration:** The award is managed by the Innovation in Materials Characterization Award Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. The Subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating nominations annually and recommending a nominee to the MRS Board for final approval.

**Nomination Package Requirements:** The following is required for nomination for the Innovation in Materials Characterization Award:

1. Completed Nomination Form
  - Download form as a Word or PDF document at [www.mrs.org/awards/IMCA](http://www.mrs.org/awards/IMCA)
2. Proposed citation (<60 words). Summarize the innovation in characterization upon which the nomination is based, avoiding flowery descriptors.
3. A statement by the nominator supporting the candidate's suitability for the award with respect to:
  - the specific, clearly defined, recent research innovation in characterization which is proposed for recognition
  - the impact of the innovation within the relevant materials field(s), and its broader contribution to materials science, the originality and "break-through" quality of the innovation
4. Supporting documentation: Brief CV, including lists of professional appointments held, honors, awards, patents. A separate list of most important publications, including those related to the proposed innovation.
5. Names of two well-established scientists familiar with the nominee's qualifications and area of research of the proposed innovation, who have agreed to send letters supporting the nomination with explicit reference to the criteria listed above in item 3. Letters should be included in the nomination package or, if necessary, letters may be sent directly to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org).
6. The full nomination package, no more than 13 pages, as a Word or PDF document must be in the following order:
  - Completed Nomination Form, including Proposed Citation
  - Statement by Nominator
  - Supporting Documentation (4 pages maximum)
  - Letters of Support from two Scientists

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** All materials comprising a nomination package, with the exception of support letters, which may be sent separately, should be sent as a single file document preferably in PDF

format, or Word. Incomplete and late nominations will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the nominators to ensure legibility of the PDF or Word Document. Please send the file via e-mail to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org) by **August 1 or a date established by and publicized by the Awards Committee.**

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#### **AWARD: MATERIALS THEORY AWARD**

**Purpose:** The Materials Theory Award recognizes exceptional advances made by materials theory to the fundamental understanding of the structure and behavior of materials. This Award is intended to honor both those who have pioneered the development of a new theoretical approach and those who have used existing approaches to provide significant new insight into materials behavior.

MRS acknowledges the generosity of Professors Toh-Ming Lu and Gwo-Ching Wang in endowing this award.

**The Award:** The annual award consists of a \$5,000 cash prize, a presentation trophy, and a certificate. Meeting registration fee, transportation and hotel expenses to attend the Materials Research Society Meeting at which the award is presented will be reimbursed.

**Presentation:** The Materials Theory Award is planned to be a Fall Meeting award and will be presented at the Awards Session. The award does not stipulate a technical presentation by the recipient(s).

**Rules and Eligibility:** Nomination for the Materials Theory Award is open to scientists and engineers who have made exceptional advances in some aspect of materials theory including computational materials science and simulations. Consideration is not limited by the approach used in the theory, or by the class of materials to which it is applied. Researchers who perform measurements to test the validity of their theory or guide them in its development are eligible, but consideration for the award is based on the theory and its importance. Nominees need not be members of the Materials Research Society. It is expected that the nomination is for a single person. However, since breakthroughs often involve more than one individual, the nomination can be for two or three people, maximum. In the case of multiple nominees, it must be shown that each person contributed roughly equally.

Current members of the MRS Materials Theory Subcommittee, MRS Board of Directors Members and previous MRS Materials Theory Award recipients are not eligible. The selection of the Materials Theory winners must be approved by the MRS Board based upon the recommendation from the Awards Committee; the decision of the Board is final. Awards will not be awarded in absentia except in extraordinary circumstances. Nominations remain active for three years.

**Administration:** The award is managed by the Materials Theory Award Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. The Subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating nominations annually and recommending a nominee to the MRS Board for final approval.

**Nomination Package Requirements:** The following is required for nomination for the Materials Theory Award:

1. Completed Nomination Form
  - Download form as a Word or PDF document at [www.mrs.org/awards/](http://www.mrs.org/awards/)
2. Proposed citation (<60 words). Summarize the advances in materials theory upon which the nomination is based, avoiding flowery descriptors.
3. A statement by the nominator supporting the candidate's suitability for the award with respect to:
  - The specific, clearly defined, recent advance in materials theory or its application which is proposed for recognition
  - The impact of the advance in the relevant materials field(s), and its broader contribution to materials science, the originality and "break-through" quality of the theory advance.
4. Supporting documentation: Brief CV, including lists of professional appointments held, honors, awards, patents. A separate list of most important publications, including those related to the proposed award.
5. Names of two well-established scientists familiar with the nominee's qualifications and area of research of the proposed theory advance, who have agreed to send letters supporting the

nomination with explicit references to the criteria listed above in 3. Letters should be included in the nomination package or, if necessary, letters may be sent directly to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org). The full nomination package, no more than 13 pages, as a Word or PDF document must be in the following order:

- Completed Nomination Form, including proposed citation
- Statement by Nominator
- Supporting Documentation (4 pages maximum)
- Letters of Support from two scientists

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** All materials comprising a nomination package, with the exception of support letters which may be sent separately, should be sent as a single file document preferably in PDF format, or Word. Incomplete and late nominations will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the nominators to ensure legibility of the PDF or Word Document. Please send the file via email to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org) by April 1 or a date set by and publicized by the Awards Committee.

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#### **AWARD: MID-CAREER RESEARCHER AWARD**

**Purpose:** The Mid-Career Researcher Award recognizes exceptional achievements in materials research made by mid-career professionals. The award recipient must also demonstrate notable leadership in the materials area.

MRS acknowledges the generosity of Sigma-Aldrich in endowing this award.

**The Award:** The annual award consists of a \$5,000 cash prize, a presentation trophy, and a certificate. Meeting registration fee, transportation and hotel expenses to attend the Materials Research Society Spring Meeting at which the award is presented will be reimbursed.

**Presentation:** The Mid-Career Researcher Award is planned to be a Spring Meeting Award and will be presented at the Awards Session. The award does not stipulate a technical presentation by the recipient.

**Endowment Guidelines for Presentation:** The endowment should be mentioned at the meeting upon presentation of the award. The endowers will be present at the first award ceremony that the presentation for this award will be made.

**Rules and Eligibility:** Nomination for the Mid-Career Researcher Award is open to scientists and engineers who have made exceptional advances in their career and have become recognized leaders in the materials area. Consideration is not limited by class of materials or area of materials research. A recipient must have made their exceptional advances in their career over a period of 15 to 27 years at the time the award recipient is announced and the award is presented. Exceptions may be made for an interruption in career progression due to family/leave or military service. Final determination on any exceptions will be at the discretion of the Mid-Career Reseracher Award Subcommittee.

A nominee need not be a member of the Materials Research Society. Current members of the MRS Mid-Career Researcher Award Subcommittee, MRS Board of Directors members and previous MRS Mid-Career Researcher Award recipients are not eligible. The selection of the Mid-Career Researcher Award winners must be approved by the MRS Board based upon recommendation from the Awards Committee; the decision of the Board is final. Awards will not be awarded in absentia except in extraordinary circumstances.

**Administration:** The award is managed by the Mid-Career Researcher Award Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. The Subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating nominations annually and recommending a nominee to the MRS Board for final approval.

**Nomination Package Requirements:** The following is required for nomination for the Mid-Career Researcher Award:

1. Completed Nomination Form
  - Download form as a Word or PDF document at [www.mrs.org/awards/](http://www.mrs.org/awards/)

2. Proposed citation (<60 words). Summarize the achievements upon which the nomination is based, avoiding flowery descriptors.
3. A statement by the nominator (2-pages maximum) supporting the candidate's suitability for the award with respect to:
  - The specific, clearly defined, recent research achievements upon which are proposed for recognition
  - the impact of the achievements within the relevant materials field, and their effect on other sciences, and
  - the indications that the candidate is a recognized leader in the materials area
4. Curriculum Vitae of the Nominee (2-pages maximum)
5. A separate list of the candidate's 10 most relevant publications with proper citation, titles and including a citation analysis (1-page maximum).
6. Letters of support from two well-established scientists familiar with the nominee's qualifications and area of research. Each letter must be two-pages or less and should make specific references to the criteria listed in item 3 above. Letters should be on letterhead and include the signature of the supporter. They should be included in the nomination package or, if necessary, letters may be sent directly to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org).
7. The full nomination package, no more than 10 pages, as a Word or PDF document must be in the following order:
  - Completed Nomination Form, including proposed citation
  - Statement by Nominator
  - Supporting Documentation (CV and publication list)
  - Letters of Support from two scientists

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** All materials comprising a nomination package, with the exception of support letters which may be sent separately, should be sent as a single file document preferably in PDF format. Incomplete and late nominations will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the nominators to ensure legibility of the PDF or Word Document. Please send the file via e-mail to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org) by **August 1 or a date established by and publicized by the Awards Committee.**

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#### **AWARD: MRS IMPACT AWARD**

**Purpose:** The MRS Impact Award honors outstanding individuals who have displayed excellence in areas of science communication, education, advancing diversity, mentoring, or community engagement, which reflect the Society's pursuit to advance materials science and technology to improve the quality of life.

**The Award:** Each prize consists of a \$5,000 cash prize, an award trophy, a citation certificate, meeting registration fee to attend the Materials Research Society meeting at which the award is presented, and a one-year MRS membership. Additionally, reasonable travel and hotel expenses to attend the MRS meeting will be reimbursed. (When a team is recognized, the cash prize will be split equally, but each individual shall receive a trophy and certificate.)

**Presentation:** The award will be presented during the Awards Ceremony at the MRS Spring Meeting and will be announced in the *MRS Bulletin* and on the MRS website. The Award will not be bestowed in absentia except in extraordinary circumstances.

**Rules and Eligibility:** Eligibility for the MRS Impact Award is open to scientists and engineers in all areas of materials science worldwide. Nominees need not be members of the Materials Research Society. Current members of the MRS Impact Award Subcommittee, MRS Board of Directors members, the Awards Chair, and previous recipients of this award are not eligible. The selection of the MRS Impact Award recipient must be approved by the MRS Board, based upon a recommendation from the Awards Committee. The decision of the Board is final.

**Administration:** The award will be managed by the MRS Impact Award Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. The Subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating nominations, selecting the recipient of the award from the pool of qualified nominees, and making a recommendation to the MRS Board of Directors for their approval.

**Nomination Package Requirements:** *(The Nomination Package Requirements are subject to review/revision by the MRS Impact Award Subcommittee, when established.)*

The following is required for nomination for the MRS Impact Award:

1. Completed Nomination Form
  - Download form as a Word or PDF document at [www.mrs.org/awards/](http://www.mrs.org/awards/) [link TBD]
2. Proposed citation (<60 words). Summarize the achievements upon which the nomination is based, avoiding flowery descriptors.
3. A statement by the nominator (2-pages maximum) supporting the candidate's suitability for the award with respect to:
  - The specific, clearly defined, contributions which are proposed for recognition
  - the impact of the achievements within the materials community or in society in general
4. Curriculum Vitae of the Nominee (2-pages maximum)
5. Letters of support from two well-established scientists or individuals of prominence in education, industry, outreach, or government who are familiar with the nominee's contributions. Each letter must be two-pages or less and should make specific references to the criteria listed in item 3 above. Letters should be on letterhead and include the signature of the supporter. They should be included in the nomination package or, if necessary, letters may be sent directly to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org).
6. The full nomination package, no more than 10 pages, as a Word or PDF document must be in the following order:
  - Completed Nomination Form, including proposed citation
  - Statement by Nominator
  - Supporting Documentation
  - Letters of Support from two scientists or individuals in education, industry, outreach, or government.

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** All materials comprising a nomination package, with the exception of support letters which may be sent separately, should be sent as a single file document preferably in PDF format. Incomplete and late nominations will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the nominators to ensure legibility of the PDF or Word Document. Please send the file by the stated deadline on the website via e-mail to [awardsprogram@mrs.org](mailto:awardsprogram@mrs.org).

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#### **AWARD: MRS POSTDOCTORAL AWARDS**

**Purpose:** The MRS Postdoctoral Award recognizes postdoctoral scholars who are showing exceptional promise that may include, for example, excellence in scientific research, leadership, advocacy, outreach, or teaching, during their postdoc assignment.

**The Award:** Each award consists of a \$2,000 honorarium, citation certificate, meeting registration fee to attend the Materials Research Society Meeting at which the award is presented, and a one-year MRS membership. One award may be presented each year.

**Presentation:** The awards are presented during the Awards Ceremony at the MRS Meeting and announced in the MRS Bulletin and on the MRS Website.

**Donation Guidelines for Presentation:** The donation to support this prize should be mentioned at the MRS Meeting upon presentation of the awards. Donor will be invited to participate in presentation of initial

awards.

**Rules and Eligibility:** Eligibility for an MRS Postdoctoral Award is open to postdoctoral scholars who have been nominated for the award and who have met all required criteria. Consideration is not limited by class of materials or area of materials research. Preference will be given to Postdocs who will still be in this position at the meeting where they receive the award.

A nominee or nominator need not be a member of the Materials Research Society. Current members of the Awards Committee, its Subcommittees, and MRS Board of Directors members are not eligible to be nominated for this award. The selection of the MRS Postdoctoral Award recipients must be approved by the MRS Board based upon recommendation from the Awards Committee; the decision of the Board is final. The awardee must be in attendance at the respective meeting.

**Defining postdoctoral scholar:** A postdoc is an individual holding a doctoral degree who is engaged in mentored research and/or scholarly training for the purpose of acquiring the professional skills needed to pursue a career path of his or her choosing. Individuals who hold tenure-track or permanent staff positions are not eligible.

**Administration:** The awards are managed by the MRS Postdoctoral Awards Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. The Subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating postdoctoral scholar nominations semi-annually, selecting the recipients from the pool of qualified nominees.

**Nomination Package Requirements:** The following is required for nomination for the MRS Postdoc Prize:

1. Completed Nomination Form, including Proposed citation.
  - Download form as a Word or PDF document at [www.mrs.org/postdoctoral](http://www.mrs.org/postdoctoral)
2. Nominator Statement (PDF file, two pages maximum)  
Summarize the achievements upon which the nomination is based, avoiding flowery descriptors.
  - The specific, clearly defined, recent achievements that are proposed for recognition
  - The indications that the candidate is a recognized leader in the materials area (include examples of research, leadership, advocacy, outreach or teaching during their postdoc assignment)
  - Additional Requested Information (important if the nomination is based mainly on the nominee's research accomplishments). Please include this information on the last page of the nominator statement, below the signature of the nominator.
    - Nominee's number of papers that have been published: \_\_\_\_\_
    - Number of publications that have arisen because of their postdoctoral work (rather than the nominee's thesis work): \_\_\_\_\_
    - The Nominee's h-index, and their total number of citations as of the submission date: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Curriculum Vitae of the Nominee (2-pages maximum)
4. Letters of support from two individuals familiar with the nominee's qualifications.
  - Each letter must be two-pages or less and should make specific references to the criteria listed in item 3 above.
  - Letters should be on letterhead and include the signature of the supporter. They should be included in the nomination package or, if necessary, letters may be sent directly to [postdoc@mrs.org](mailto:postdoc@mrs.org).
5. The full nomination package, no more than 10 pages, as a Word or PDF document must be in the following order:

- Completed Nomination Form, including proposed citation
- Statement by Nominator
- CV
- Letters of Support from two scientists

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** All materials comprising a nomination package, with the exception of support letters which may be sent separately, should be sent as a single file document preferably in PDF format. Incomplete and late nominations will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the nominators to ensure legibility of the PDF or Word Document. Please send the file via e-mail to [postdoc@mrs.org](mailto:postdoc@mrs.org) by the date established by and publicized on the MRS website by the Awards Committee.

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**AWARD: MRS GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS AND THE ARTHUR NOWICK GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD**

**Purpose:** MRS Graduate Student Awards are intended to honor and encourage graduate students whose academic achievements and current materials research display a high level of excellence and distinction. MRS seeks to recognize students of exceptional ability who show promise for significant future achievement in materials research. The Arthur Nowick GSA recognizes a student who shows particular promise as a future teacher and mentor.

**Procedure:** Graduate Student Award Applications are accepted from graduate students who authored or co-authored a submitted abstract for the current MRS Meeting. Applications that include abstracts which are ultimately accepted for the MRS Meeting are reviewed by the Graduate Student Award Subcommittee and symposium organizers for the selection of finalists. At the MRS Meeting, the finalists are further evaluated by a panel of judges to determine the Gold and Silver awardees. Each finalist presents a ten-minute talk in this session, followed by three-four minutes of questioning by the judges. The finalists are evaluated primarily on their oral presentation, and also on their application materials. The Nowick GSA is selected from the finalists, as well.

**The Award:** All finalists receive either Gold or Silver Awards, a waiver of the Meeting registration fee, and a one-year MRS student membership. The awards are presented during the Award Ceremony at the MRS Meeting and announced in the MRS Bulletin and on the MRS website.

- Gold Awards: \$400 and a presentation plaque
- Silver Awards: \$200 and a certificate of accomplishment
- Nowick Award: \$500 and plaque

**Administration:** The award is managed by the Graduate Student Award Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. That subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating nominations prior to each Spring and Fall Meeting, and determining the finalists who make presentations at the Meeting. Gold and Silver winners, as well as the Nowick winner, are determined on site by a panel of judges.

**Rules and Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- Be an author or co-author of an abstract submitted for oral or poster presentation during the upcoming MRS Meeting specified on the current application
- Be in good standing in a recognized academic graduate degree program\*
- Be prepared to present the paper in the judging session for all finalist presentations (usually on the first day of the MRS Meeting.) Note: Because the award recognizes the achievements and potential of the student, not the research project, the finalist must be the presenter during the Special Talk Session.

\*Applicants who received their final research degree within a period of not more than four months prior to the MRS meeting are also eligible if the work they are presenting is a part of their PhD dissertation, or if the work they are presenting had been completed while they were a doctoral student. **Previous MRS Gold Award recipients are ineligible.**

The following item must be submitted online:

1. **Abstract and Description of Research**

Only a **one-page Abstract** may be included for award evaluation, along with a **two-page-maximum Description of Research** (both combined into one file: Abstract as Page 1, and Description of Research as Pages 2 and 3).

- **Abstract:** Must be identical, including the title, to one of the student's abstracts that was submitted separately for oral or poster presentation during the current MRS Meeting. (Extended abstracts and supplemental pages are not to be included.) **The student and advisor are not to wait for MRS notification of abstract status;** ultimately, only applications that include accepted abstracts will be evaluated.

**Criteria for Selection:** In the selection of both finalists and award recipients, the judges look for evidence of:

1. Excellence in the conduct of materials research, including:
  - thoroughness of the applicant's research and significance of the work already completed
  - originality and independence of the applicant's contributions
  - depth of understanding of the research topic, the methodologies used, and the relationship of the results to the specific research area and the broader materials field
  - scholarship and ingenuity shown by the student in undertaking the research project
2. Promise for future substantial achievement in materials research

For the Nowick GSA, the judges will look for a student with promise in teaching or mentoring.

**General Information:**

1. MRS Graduate Student Awards are presented at both Spring and Fall Meetings; the Nowick GSA only at the Fall Meeting.
2. Applications must be submitted online by the application deadline.
3. Finalists will be notified approximately six weeks before the MRS Meeting and will be required to present a 10-minute special talk for judging at the Graduate Student Award Special Talk Session during the week of the meeting. Because the award recognizes the achievements and potential of the student, not the research project, the finalist must be the presenter during the Special Talk Session.
4. Finalists will be requested to send a head/shoulders photograph to MRS for a display at the Meeting.
5. Any questions concerning the Graduate Student Award application may be directed to the Graduate Student Award Administrator, email: [gsa@mrs.org](mailto:gsa@mrs.org).

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** Applications will only be accepted via the MRS website at [www.mrs.org](http://www.mrs.org) (Graduate Student Awards.) Submissions via mail, fax, or email will not be accepted. There will be no exceptions for late submittal of the application.

Submission deadline: (This date varies, depending on meeting dates)

Fall Meeting (August)

Spring Meeting (December)

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**AWARD: THE KAVLI FOUNDATION EARLY CAREER LECTURESHIP IN MATERIALS SCIENCE**

**Purpose:** This lectureship, supported by The Kavli Foundation, honors an early career scientist who has made a significant contribution to the science of materials through experimental and/or theoretical research. Nominees are selected by the Kavli Foundation Early Career Lectureship in Materials Science Subcommittee.

MRS acknowledges the generosity of The Kavli Foundation in sponsoring this award.

**The Award:** The annual award consists of a \$1,000 cash prize, and a trophy. For the meeting at which the award is presented, the meeting registration shall be complimentary and two nights' hotel accommodations will be provided by MRS.

**Rules and Eligibility:** Nomination for the Kavli Foundation Early Career Lectureship in Materials Science is open to scientists working in the field of materials science. Nominees need not be members of the Materials Research Society and nominees of any nationality are eligible. Current members of the Kavli Foundation Early Career Lectureship in Materials Science Subcommittee, MRS Board of Directors members, the Awards Chair, and previous



recipients of this award are not eligible. One award is presented annually at the MRS Fall Meeting. The endowing parties will not be involved in the selection process for this award.

Nominees shall:

- be within 10 years of having received a Ph.D. (or terminal degree) at the time of the deadline of nomination on July 15. Exceptions may be made for an interruption in career progression due to family/medical leave or military service. Final determination on exceptions is at the discretion of the Kavli Foundation Early Career Lectureship in Materials Science Subcommittee. The award recipient must also demonstrate notable leadership in the materials area.
- work as an assistant professor, associate professor, full professor (or equivalent professorial rank), or a non-postdoctoral, permanent staff member in a national laboratory or industry
- have already made a significant contribution to materials research and clearly have a promising future

**Administration:** The lectureship is managed by the Kavli Foundation Early Career Lectureship in Materials Science Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. The Subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating nominations prior to the MRS Fall Meeting and selecting the recipient.

**Nomination Package Requirements:** The following is required for nomination or application for the Kavli Foundation Early Career Lectureship in Materials Science:

--One page submittal/application providing the reason his person deserves this recognition and why their research is important to nanoscience;

--Short bio

**Submission Procedure and deadline:** The submission site will accept nominations at <http://kavliearlycareerlecture.mrs.org/> by August 1 or a date established by and publicized by the Awards Committee.

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### **AWARD: MRS WOODY WHITE SERVICE AWARD**

**Purpose:** The MRS Woody White Service Award honors outstanding individuals who have embodied MRS's Mission, Vision and Values for an egalitarian interdisciplinary community advancing materials science and technology to improve the quality of life. It may be given in recognition of long-term, impactful service to the Society, as well as for special projects/programs that significantly impacted the Society.

**The Award:** The award consists of a certificate and a life-time MRS membership, as well as Meeting registration waiver and a travel stipend to attend the MRS meeting at which the award is presented.

**Presentation:** This award shall be given annually at the MRS Fall Meeting to an individual or team of volunteers. Recipients must be an MRS member(s) in good standing, whose accomplishments fit within the scope of the award.

**Rules and Eligibility:** Recipients must be an MRS member(s) in good standing, whose accomplishments fit within the scope of the award. Any member of the MRS community, including members, volunteers, and staff, may nominate an individual or team of individuals for this award. Notice of such a nomination shall be provided to the Executive Committee by August 10 each year, in order to allow adequate time for the committee to evaluate nominations and make a selection, and for HQ to make arrangements for presentation at the Fall Meeting.

Nominations must provide a description of how the nominee has embodied MRS's Mission, Vision and Values; the timeframe of service; the impact of the service to materials community; and/or the impact of the service to MRS.

**Administration:** The Board's Executive Committee shall receive and evaluate nominations, which includes nominations from the past three years, and the final selection shall be determined by a majority vote of the committee.

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## **AWARD: MRS NELSON “BUCK” ROBINSON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AWARD FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY**

**Purpose:** The MRS Nelson “Buck” Robinson Science and Technology Award for Renewable Energy recognizes a student (bachelor’s, master’s or PhD), postdoc, or other early-career professional through five years following the highest degree attained, at the discretion of the subcommittee, for the development of novel sustainable solutions for the realization of renewable sources of energy.

**The Award:** The annual award consists of a \$5,000 honorarium, citation certificate, Meeting registration fee (which includes an annual MRS membership), reasonable travel and hotel expenses to attend the Materials Research Society Fall Meeting at which the award is presented will be reimbursed. One award will be given per year

**Presentation:** The Award is presented during the Awards Ceremony at the MRS Fall Meeting and announced in the *MRS Bulletin* and on the MRS website.

**Endowment Guidelines for Presentation:** The endowment to support this prize will be mentioned at the MRS Meeting upon presentation of the prize. Endower will be invited to participate in presentation of initial Award.

**Rules and Eligibility:** Eligibility for the MRS Nelson “Buck” Robinson Science and Technology Award for Renewable Energy is open to students (bachelor’s, master’s, or PhD), postdocs, or other early-career professionals through five years following the highest degree attained, who have applied for the award and who have met all required criteria. Exceptions may be made for an interruption in career progression due to family/medical leave or military service. Final determination on exceptions is at the discretion of the Nelson “Buck” Robinson Science and Technology Award Subcommittee.

Individuals from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in materials science and/or renewable energy technology are encouraged to apply.

An applicant need not be a member of the Materials Research Society. Current members of the Awards Committee, its subcommittees, and MRS Board members are not eligible. The selection of the MRS Nelson “Buck” Robinson Science and Technology Award for Renewable Energy winners must be approved by the MRS Board based upon recommendation from the Awards Committee; the decision of the Board is final.

Awards will not be awarded in absentia except in extraordinary circumstances.

**Administration:** The Award is managed by the MRS Nelson “Buck” Robinson Science and Technology Award for Renewable Energy Subcommittee of the MRS Awards Committee. The subcommittee is responsible for soliciting and evaluating applications annually and recommending an Award winner to the MRS Board for final approval.

**Application Package Requirements:** The following is required for consideration for the MRS Nelson “Buck” Robinson Science and Technology Award for Renewable Energy:

- Completed Online Application Form - Applicant will enter the following into the online form: Full name, organization, mailing address, email address, telephone number and applicant date of birth.
- [Web page link TBD]
- A statement by the applicant (2-pages maximum) supporting their suitability for the award with respect to:
  - The specific, clearly defined, recent research achievements which are proposed for recognition
  - The potential impact of the achievements and their importance in relation to novel renewable energy technology
  - The steps taken to ensure the research is synergistic with related science and engineering fields, policy, social justice, and socioeconomic factors
  - The indications that the applicant aspires to make significant contributions in the materials area and advocate for renewable energy adoption, and have greater leverage to do so by receiving the award
- Curriculum Vitae of the Applicant (2-pages maximum)

- Two letters of support from individuals familiar with the applicant's qualifications and dedication to renewable energy. Each letter should make specific references to the criteria listed in the applicant's statement as noted above. Letters should be on letterhead and include the signature of the supporter. Letters must be formatted as a PDF file; two pages maximum for each letter.

**Submission Procedure and Deadline:** The full nomination package, no more than 8 pages, as a PDF document, must be uploaded to the MRS Awards submission site noted above by the deadline indicated on the web page. Incomplete and late nominations will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure legibility of the PDF Document. Applications remain active for three years.

## **APPENDIX B: Solicitation of Award nominations**

### **The Awards Committee's consensus is that:**

- (1) It is appropriate for A.C. members to solicit nominations for Awards, and they should continue to do so, with due care to avoid misunderstandings (such as possible impression that solicited nomination will receive preferential treatment). [The A.C. has prepared a sample solicitation to provide guidance to its members on neutral phrasing.]
- (2) A.C. members should be excluded from making nominations or writing letters of support for the award of their subcommittee. [One could worry about special cases, e.g. nominator is later appointed to committee; but probably no rule is needed, let subcommittee deal with such cases ad hoc. Maybe no need to mention in Awards brochure, but new A.C. members must be made aware of this.]

### **Recommendation:**

No Board action needed. These policies should be recorded as A.C. policies.

### **Appendix: Sample letters for solicitation and for reply to inquiry**

Award\_Solicitation\_ltr\_DA\_MA\_20030918.doc

For soliciting nominations:

I am [state your position on the committee].

The MRS Awards Committee has received a suggestion that X may be an appropriate candidate for the X Award of the Materials Research Society. As you will recognize, our function is to select Award recipients on the basis of nomination packages that have been submitted. Because we must remain impartial, we cannot prepare such packages ourselves. However, we are interested in receiving the broadest range of appropriate nominations each year, thus maximizing the potential of the Award. With this goal in mind, I am writing you to inquire whether you would be interested in nominating [X] for this Award. Naturally, I cannot predict what the selection subcommittee may decide. However, the Awards Committee would appreciate your thoughtful consideration of our request, and would certainly appreciate your efforts in preparing the nomination package should you decide to do so. The deadline is [June 1][October 1]. The nomination remains active for three years. If the package is not received before the present deadline, the nomination will not be considered this year but will be active for the following three years. A nomination package may be updated at any time.

If you are interested, details can be found at <http://www.mrs.org/awards/>

Please study the exact criteria stated for the Award carefully and follow them literally when preparing the nomination package. Each Award has a different purpose and scope, for example distinguished interdisciplinary career achievements, distinguished communicator, single recent brilliant discovery, or early-career researcher showing outstanding promise. In each case eligibility and selection are based on these unique criteria, which the nomination and the supporting letters must specifically address.

Best wishes,

=====  
Response to unsolicited expressions of interest in nominating someone:

Thank you for your expression of interest in nominating [X] for the Materials Research Society's [X] award. My position on the Awards Committee is [state your position on the committee], and on behalf of the Committee I strongly encourage you to prepare a thoughtful and informative nomination package for [X].

Naturally, I cannot predict what the selection subcommittee may decide. However, the Awards Committee would certainly appreciate your efforts in preparing the nomination package. The deadline is [June 1][October 1]. The nomination remains active for three years. If the package is not received before the present deadline, the nomination will not be considered this year but will be active for the following three years. A nomination package may be updated at any time.

Details can be found at <http://www.mrs.org/awards/>

Please study the exact criteria stated for the Award carefully and follow them literally when preparing the nomination package. Each Award has a different purpose and scope, for example distinguished interdisciplinary career achievements, distinguished communicator, single recent brilliant discovery, or early-career researcher showing outstanding promise. In each case eligibility and selection are based on these unique criteria, which the nomination and the supporting letters must specifically address.

Best wishes,