



### **3.2.3: Special Recognition Awards**

Purpose: This policy articulates the purpose and procedure for awarding Recognition Awards.

Applies to: Board of Directors

**Policy:**

The Board of Directors desires to recognize and acknowledge exceptional and extraordinary service to MRS or to the materials community at large and to celebrate and promote volunteerism in a meaningful, visible manner. To accomplish this, it has established two awards: the Board Special Recognition Award, and the Woody White Service Award.

**Board Special Recognition Award:**

The Board Special Recognition Award recognizes and acknowledges exceptional and extraordinary service to MRS or to the materials community at large.

This award will not be conferred on any set periodic basis, but only when there is a case worthy of recognition. The award is not restricted to MRS members or volunteers.

Any member of the Board may propose an individual for the Board Special Recognition Award. Notice of such a nomination shall be provided to the Executive Committee at least one month prior to a regular meeting of the Board, in order to be placed upon the agenda for the meeting. Electronically-submitted nominations are also permitted, and may be voted upon via email.

A nomination for the Board Special Recognition Award shall include the proposed citation, and a record of the nominee's service will be documented and distributed in advance for discussion at the Board Meeting or during the email vote, according to the Confidential Discussion Policy.

The award consists of a suitable plaque or award memento, inscribed with the awardee's name and a brief description of the reason(s) for which it was conferred. There is no cash award or other prize.

Any nomination for the Board Special Recognition Award must be seconded, and shall be debated like any other motion before the Board, except that vote of at least 75% of the entire Board in favor is required for the Award to be conferred.

Upon approval of a Board Special Recognition Award, HQ staff will arrange for the preparation of the plaque, and the award will be conferred formally at one of the MRS national meetings or other appropriate event, as soon as reasonably possible following the Board vote.

**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.

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.

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 1 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.

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.

The Board's Executive Committee shall receive and evaluate nominations and the final selection shall be determined by a majority vote of the committee.

Deliverables: Consider candidates for award; Review policy every three years or as needed  
Who: President; Secretary, respectively  
When: At least 8 weeks before the Board meeting at which amendments should be considered.  
To: GovCom

Policy first adopted: 4/25/03  
Last modified: Dec. 4, 2015 (Maintenance); Jan 2021  
Last reviewed: Mar 2018; Dec 2020

Enacting Legislation: Board Motion B:2003:20; B:2015:40 approved the Woody White Service Award; B:2020:30 (Consent Agenda)

Policy created by: ERC Party responsible for this policy: Secretary and GovCom