



Missouri State UNIVERSITY

Board of Governors' Award for Staff Excellence in Public Affairs

The Board of Governors' Award for Staff Excellence in Public Affairs has been established at Missouri State University to recognize staff who excel at carrying out the Public Affairs Mission. Up to three staff awardees may be selected each year. Recipients will receive a framed certificate, recognition by the Board of Governors and a \$1,500 grant to be used toward travel, research and/or other activities related to their work with public affairs within the University.

The University's Public Affairs Mission

The University's statewide mission in Public Affairs was officially recognized on June 16, 1995, when Senate Bill 340 was signed by Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan. The mission defines a primary way in which a Missouri State education is different from that of other universities and one way by which we educate our students to imagine the future. Public Affairs in higher education is not restricted to politics, humanities, or the social sciences. Rather, its presence is found in all areas that require critical thinking, participation, and the willingness to work for the common good.

The mission is realized through three broad themes: cultural competence, ethical leadership, and community engagement. These themes are implemented in the public space of the classroom, through co-curricular activities on campus and also outside the University through internships, field experiences, government service, volunteer programs, service learning programs, and a variety of other forms of community engagement and outreach.

Ethical Leadership

Goal: Students will articulate their value systems, act ethically within the context of a democratic society, and demonstrate engaged and principled leadership. (Adapted from the [Center for Ethical Leadership](#).)

Cultural Competence

Goal: Students will recognize and respect multiple perspectives and cultures.

Community Engagement

Goal: Students will recognize the importance of contributing their knowledge and experiences to their own communities and the broader society.

Goal: Students will recognize the importance of scientific principles in the generation of sound public policy.

Staff Nominations & Eligibility Criteria

Nominations can be submitted by colleagues, faculty, administrators, students, alumni or community members. The nomination letter should describe how the nominee meets the criteria and desired qualifications outlined below. Nominees from the West Plains campus are welcomed. There is no limit to how many staff nominations can be submitted for consideration.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

901 South National Avenue, Springfield, MO 65897 • Phone: 417-836-8346

www.missouristate.edu/sdpa

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

Staff nominees must be current, full-time Missouri State University employees and have a minimum of 3 years full-time employment at the time of their nomination.

Desired Qualifications

Staff recipients should be able to provide evidence of significant and meaningful involvement in support of the University's Public Affairs mission. **Examples** of this include, but are not limited, to the following:

- Demonstration of active engagement with the community for a sustained period of time. Inclusion of students in this engagement is essential.
- A successful record of inspiring and motivating students to develop the skills to become informed and culturally competent citizens who are knowledgeable about public policy issues affecting our society.
- A sustained record of leadership involving students in the process of addressing and seeking solutions to important public policy, educational, cultural, health, economic development, or environmental issues.
- Development of successful partnerships between students and community members and/or organizations in carrying out Public Affairs initiatives.
- Effective leadership within the University in support of priorities and projects that demonstrate the University's Public Affairs Mission in action.
- Exemplification of the highest standards of citizenship, cultural competence, and ethical behavior and evidence of mentorship of students in these areas.

Nominee Application Requirements

- The staff application packet must include a personal letter of application from the nominee plus a minimum of 3 support letters. The application letter should highlight the nominee's work and accomplishments in support of the University's public affairs mission.
- At least one of the three support letters must be from a current or recent student.

Letters of Support may be addressed to:

Dr. Rachelle Darabi
Assoc. Provost for Student Development & Public Affairs
Missouri State University
University Hall 115
901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897

- Applications should not exceed 10 pages maximum.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

901 South National Avenue, Springfield, MO 65897 • Phone: 417-836-8346
www.missouristate.edu/sdpa

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

Selection Process

Staff applications will first be reviewed by Student Development and Public Affairs and the Office of Public Affairs Support for minimum eligibility. If there are more than eight staff applications, then a university level committee will first review all applications. As available, the university level committee will consist of the chair of the Staff Senate and one staff member each from the Divisions of Student Affairs, Student Development and Public Affairs, International Programs, and Administrative Services. Three student members will be selected by the Student Government Association to serve as well.

Upward to six staff applications, or as appropriate, will be forwarded to the Board of Governors Selection Committee for final review and award determination. As available, this committee will consist of one previous award winner, current class of Citizen Scholar Award winners, current SGA President, Board of Governor (BOG) members from the Academic and Student Affairs committees and as needed the Associate Provost for Student Development and Public Affairs.

2020 Timeline / Deadlines

January 21, 2020	Call for nominations
March 6, 2020	Nominations due to Dr. Rachelle Darabi
March 9, 2020	Nominees notified by Dr. Rachelle Darabi
April 6, 2020	All staff nominee application packets due to Dr. Rachelle Darabi
April 13, 2020	All staff nominee applications submitted to the Board of Governors staff selection committee
April 27, 2020	BOG selection committee submits their recommendations to Dr. Rachelle Darabi
May 21, 2020	Awardees recognized at the May 2020 Board of Governors' Meeting

Please direct questions to Dr. Rachelle Darabi, Associate Provost at rdarabi@missouristate.edu or Stacey Trewatha-Bach, Office of Public Affairs Support at staceytrewatha@missouristate.edu

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

901 South National Avenue, Springfield, MO 65897 • Phone: 417-836-8346

www.missouristate.edu/sdpa

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution