

Nominations for the 2015 Distinguished Alumni Awards

The School of Social Work Alumni Society Work is pleased to announce the categories for its awards program:

Outstanding Contributions to Social Work Education

Outstanding Contributions/Career in Social Work Practice

Outstanding Alumni Award

Outstanding Field Instructor Award

Rising Star Alumni Award

Nominees for the Distinguished Alumni Awards should have the highest standards of professional integrity and personal conduct; advance knowledge of the profession; and support public and social policies that ensure equal rights for all regardless of race, creed, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, income, or disability.

Outstanding Contributions to Social Work Education

This award acknowledges and honors Pitt School of Social Work alumni whose contributions to social work education have been outstanding. It is understood that the nominee has been actively involved in social work education through one or more of the following: teaching, consultation, research, administration, or scholarship.

Nominators are asked to provide concrete examples of the nominee's contributions to social work education in any or all of the following areas:

- Development of knowledge (e.g., research), dissemination of knowledge (e.g., teaching, field supervision), and/or scholarship or administration
- Demonstration of exceptional effectiveness and productivity
- Putting into practice the school's mission and goals
- Ability to effectively communicate/listen, work with a diverse population, and share knowledge and experience in a way that promotes professional development in students

Outstanding Contributions/Career in Social Work Practice

This award acknowledges and honors a social work alumnus who, throughout her or his career, has consistently demonstrated exceptional contributions to the profession and the community at large.

Nominators are asked to provide examples of the nominee's contributions throughout her or his career in any or all aspects of social work practice, including advocacy; clinical practice with individuals, families, and/or groups; field instruction and/or supervision; education; community organization; administration; program development; research; public and/or corporate policy; and social planning.

(continued)

Outstanding Alumni Award

The University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work graduates hundreds of outstanding students every year. Our alumni change the world, support the next generation of leaders, and embody what it means to be social work professionals. The School of Social Work Alumni Society seeks to recognize these outstanding alumni as they work to create better lives for people in the community.

The Outstanding Alumni Award honors School of Social Work graduates whose accomplishments, affiliations, and careers have benefited society and brought credit to the institution. It pays tribute to alumni who use their social work degree to bring excellence to their professional achievements and community service involvements (local, state, national, or global) and who, through exceptional service to the University, have helped to advance its mission and goals.

The Outstanding Alumni Award does more than honor its recipients. It illustrates the value of the academic programs and student involvement at the School of Social Work. The award also increases the pride alumni, students, faculty, and staff have for the University.

Outstanding Field Instructor Award

Field education is an integral part of the BASW and MSW curricula at the School of Social Work. In 2008, the Council on Social Work Education designated field education as the signature pedagogy in which the classroom and the field integrate. Students learn under the supervision of a qualified field instructor, participate in experiential learning in affiliated community organizations, and apply classroom knowledge to real-life practice situations. This experience prepares students for the professional positions they'll assume after graduation.

Field instructors assume the roles of teacher, guide, challenger, and mentor, and they perform their responsibilities on a voluntary basis. They seek to remain current and challenged in their thinking about the practice role they perform and the social issues they face in their work with individuals, families, small groups, neighborhoods, communities, and organizations.

The Outstanding Field Instructor Award is presented to a field instructor who has demonstrated a strong commitment to the School of Social Work and its students. It honors a social work professional for his or her distinguished service as an educator who prepares students for social work practice in the field.

Rising Star Alumni Award

The School of Social Work Rising Star Alumni award is presented to an alumnus/alumna who has graduated within two to five years from the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work. The awardee must have demonstrated energy, creativity and leadership either in direct practice or community organizing/social administration. The Rising Star Award is an opportunity to recognize an individual who has contributed to society and the social work profession within a short period of time since his/her degree. Nominations are encouraged from all fields of social work practice.

2015 ALUMNI RECOGNITION NOMINATION FORM

Please submit by August 12, 2015, for fall recognition.

Nominations may be submitted via e-mail to Tony Gacek at Tony.Gacek@ia.pitt.edu or by mail to University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, 2117 Cathedral of Learning, 4200 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

Nominee Information

Nominee Name/Title: _____

Nominee's Employer: _____

Employer Address: _____

Nominee's Address: _____

Nominee's Phone Number: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

Nominee's E-mail Address: _____

Nominated by:

Nominator Name/Title: _____

Nominator's Employer: _____

Employer Address: _____

Nominator's Address: _____

Nominator's Phone Number: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

Nominator's E-mail Address: _____

Please include the following items with your completed nomination form:

____ Two letters of recommendation
(addressing accomplishments that qualify the individual for this award)

____ Nominee résumé/CV (also news clippings and other supporting materials, if available)

Award recipients will be announced in *Bridges* magazine and on the school's Web site, and they will be recognized at a fall event.

REVIEW PROCESS

The School of Social Work Alumni Society will consider all nominations, and nominators will be notified of the committee's decision. Award recipients will be announced in *Bridges* magazine and on the school's Web site, and they will be recognized at a fall event.



University of Pittsburgh

School of Social Work

Nomination Form