

Society for the Study of Social Problems
Doris Wilkinson Faculty Leadership Award Committee Report

Shirley A. Jackson, Chair, 2019-2020

July 15, 2020

Committee Members: Jennifer Bulanda, Shirley A. Jackson (Chair), and Beth Williford

The committee received two nominations for the award. One individual inquired about reapplying for the award this year and was encouraged to reapply but did not do so. Both of the nominations received were self-nominations. As part of the nomination process, individuals who self-nominate can request that the committee contact the individuals they name as references. This year, the deadline for the award was April 15, 2020 and it was recommended that letters be submitted by May 1, 2020.

Action Items:

- Require candidates who self-nominate to request letters of support from references **before** they submit their application.
 - Rationale: This year, each person who was listed as a reference by candidates, was notified by the committee chair to submit their letter of support by a specific date. Not all did so. By having candidates notify potential references in advance and the date by which they should submit the letter (i.e., by the closing deadline for applications), it is more likely candidates will have a certain number of letters for their file that can be reviewed by the committee.
- Revise the way award nominations are made for the Wilkinson Faculty Leadership Award.
 - Rationale: SSSP and/or specific divisions should consider sending not only the link to the award page with the description of the award but a photo and brief overview to remind members of who Doris Wilkinson is and the significant role she has played. In essence, make her **real** to potential self-nominating candidates, nominees, and references.