

February 6, 2006

Dear Colleague:

Division 18 (The Division of Psychologists in Public Service) proudly announces its eighth annual Student Award competition. We are currently soliciting nominations of graduate students whose careers reflect excellence in the area of public service.

The criteria for eligibility are intentionally broad. Program directors are encouraged to nominate individuals who have made outstanding contributions to public service through research, teaching, program development, and/or clinical practice. Examples include providing clinical services to underserved populations (e.g., the homeless or prisoners); research focused on innovative service delivery methods (e.g., use of telecommunications technology) that lower the response-cost to mental health service consumers; consumer advocacy; and teaching innovative courses on racial, ethnic, and/or sexual minority mental health issues.

This award will be presented at a ceremony honoring the recipient along with winners of other Division 18 awards at the American Psychological Association Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, in August. The winner will receive an award of \$500. There is no requirement that the winner attend the APA Convention to receive the award in person. Joint nominees (i.e., for a shared accomplishment or body of work) are acceptable. However, they would share a total award of \$500 if selected as the winners. This year we will again be awarding Certificates of Merit to those nominees who are not chosen for the Student Award but whose qualifications indicate exceptional worthiness. More than 30 students have been recognized in this manner since the Division 18 Student Award competition began.

All nominations must include a cover letter from the program director (or other faculty member) describing the nominee's qualifications. Supporting materials may be submitted at the discretion of the program director and can include copies of c.v.'s, reprints of articles, additional letters of recommendation, etc. Program directors may nominate more than one student. Each application package must consist of two copies of each document being submitted in support of the candidate's nomination, and must be received by May 19, 2006. The award winner and his or her program director, along with those nominees to be awarded Certificates of Merit, will be contacted on or about June 15, 2006. Only individuals who have not yet completed their graduate programs as of May 19, 2006, are eligible. Predoctoral interns are eligible. We welcome nominees from Canadian programs.

Nominations should be submitted c/o Robert W. Goldberg, Ph.D., Chair, Division 18 Awards, Louis Stokes Cleveland DVAMC, 10701 East Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44106. Program directors interested in nominating a student are encouraged to contact Dr. Goldberg with questions at [Robert.Goldberg2@med.va.gov](mailto:Robert.Goldberg2@med.va.gov)