**GSS Research Assistant 1 (RA1) Award - 2019**

The following is a description of the Graduate Student Senate Research Assistant 1 (RA1) Award, the funding of the award, and the procedures of administering the award.

**Purpose:** The Graduate Student Senate Research Assistant Award recognizes the outstanding performance of a graduate student who is not a Teaching Assistant. The award should be based on the following criteria:

1. Outstanding performance in their position (as demonstrated by a recommendation from the graduate assistant’s main supervisor).

2. A positive contribution to and relationship with the BGSU Community.

3. Outstanding service to the group or individuals the nominee assists.

**Nominations:** **You may self-nominate yourself OR any supervisor, co-worker, or fellow graduate student may nominate any graduate student with an RA-1 graduate assistantship.**

 a. Two letters of reference/recommendation (one must be from the nominee’s main supervisor) are required in addition to the nomination form.

**Funding:** The Graduate Student Senate will designate a portion of its annual Honors and

Awards budget for a Research Assistant. The winner of this award will receive **$250.00**

**Selection Committee:** The Graduate Research Assistant 1 (RA1) Award and the Research Assistant 2 (RA2) Award are judged by the RA1/RA2 Award Selection Committee. This committee is composed of two faculty members and two administrators/supervisors of graduate students.

**Presentation of Awards:** The finalists will be notified of their status and the awards will be presented at the annual Shanklin Competition and Award Ceremony on April 18, 2019.

**CRITERIA**

1. **Eligibility** - Any graduate student who is not a teaching assistant and performs primarily research duties in their assistantship. Has an RA-1 graduate assistantship.

2. **Nominees** – Must have exhibited exceptional performance in their assistantship. The nominee should exhibit sensitivity to others by showing an open, caring attitude and being attentive to the development of the assistantship site. In addition, the nominee must demonstrate at least one of the following attributes:

1. **Innovation and Initiative** – demonstration of resourcefulness in the assistantship site, including the formulation and implementation of creative new ideas. The emphasis of these ideas should be to improve the work environment, to save time and/or money, to better serve students or faculty, and in general, to contribute to the better overall efficiency and effectiveness of the department/division/university.

2.  **Performance** – “above and beyond” that required by the position, e.g., accepting special projects, additional responsibilities such as committee work, giving extra time to effectively complete an administrative or research assignment, service on university committees, or recognition brought to the department/division/university through their performance.

3. **Relationship/Service to the University Community** – The nominee must effectively interact with faculty, staff, or students in providing services that promote growth and harmony in their respective department or division, and in general campus relations.

**NOMINATION PROCESS:**

To nominate a graduate student please fill out the ONLINE FORM and supply two letters of reference/recommendation (one must be from the nominee’s main supervisor) Letters of reference/recommendation should describe how long and in what capacity the writer has known the nominee and what qualities (described in the criteria sheet) the nominee possesses. Please keep in mind that the selection of the award recipients will be made on the basis of information supplied. Please submit these letters on the online nomination/application form found on the **GSS Canvas page under “Modules”** by **March 4, 2019 by 11:59 pm.**

Please contact GSS with any questions.

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