

## **Award for Excellence in Education Programs**

SCRA Council of Education

### **Purpose and Requirements**

The purpose of the Award for Excellence in Education Programs is to recognize an exemplary undergraduate and/or graduate program at the M.A. or Ph.D. level that has innovative structures, strategies, and curricula that promote development of the field of community psychology and community research and action.

Specific criteria for the award includes two or more of the following: (1) Promotion of innovative strategies in education that integrate community psychology theory and action; (2) significant contributions to the structure and process of education in community psychology, research, and action (3) consistent, high quality teaching and mentorship contributing to the professional development of students and/or recent graduates involved in community research and action; (4) contribution to fostering a positive climate that supports undergraduate and graduate students in their setting. Collaborative work with students, activities, publications, and curricula relevant to the criteria indicated above, should be highlighted.

**Nomination Deadline:** December 1, of even-numbered years.

### **Award Committee**

The Council of Education serves as the Awards Committee, with the COE Chair serving as the Award Chair.

**Special Procedure and Decision Making Process** (in addition to the general procedures, above)

1. Both self-nominations and nominations by individuals or organizations outside the program will be accepted. Those submitting nominations should send:
  - a. A nomination letter (no more than 4 pages long) describing the basis of the recommendation and summarizing the features of the program that qualify it for the award (see criteria specified above). The nomination letter should also include a list of the program faculty and other resources (e.g., community-based organizations, community expertise), relevant publications, and the ways in which they contribute to the education of undergraduate and/or graduate students
  - b. One letter of reference (2 letters if the nomination is a self-nomination). Letters should come from individuals outside the program, and may include representatives of community agencies/organizations with whom the program is associated, graduates of the program (out for at least 3 years), or colleagues in other programs in or outside of the college/university.
2. Nomination materials will be reviewed and discussed by all members of the COE based upon the criteria described above.
3. If there are no applications or applicants are not selected for the award, no award will be given.

### **Award Presentation**

The awardee receives a plaque given at the SCRA biennial.