

Teresa Godwin Phelps Scholarship Award

Award Criteria

This award honors and draws attention to individual works of outstanding scholarship specific to the legal writing discipline that are published in any given calendar year. The award is meant to set aspirational standards for others writing in the field.

In making an award, the selection committee and the LWI Board will focus solely on whether an individual work is specific to the discipline of legal writing and on whether it makes an outstanding contribution to the discipline. Neither the selection committee nor the Board will take into account long-term contributions to the field or contributions in service, program design, teaching, or improving status for the legal writing field.

The selection committee may recommend and the Board may give more than one award for any given year.

Eligible works

Published articles and books are eligible for the award. To be eligible for an award made for any given calendar year, the work must be nominated for the award, and the work must have been published in its final form in that calendar year.

Anyone, except a member of the selection committee in that year or author of the nominated work, may nominate a work for consideration by the selection committee. Nominations must be in writing, briefly summarize the reasons for the nomination, include a copy of or link to the work, and must be received by the deadline for nominations. Nomination deadlines and contact information for that year's selection committee will be posted on the LWI website.

The publication date assigned by the publisher determines eligibility regardless of whether the work is actually available on that date. If the final form of the work is not actually available to the public in the year of its official publication date with the result that a nomination is untimely or the selection committee lacks time to consider the work before making award(s) for that year, the selection committee may exercise discretion to evaluate the work and recommend an award for the subsequent year even though its official publication date was in the previous year.

Examples:

1. A draft of an article is posted on SSRN in October 2016 and the final form of the article is published in print by a law review. The review's issue is dated February 2017. The article is eligible for consideration for an award for the year of 2017.
2. A law review distributes a print issue in February 2017, but the official publication date of that issue is December 2016. An article in that issue was published in final form online in 2016. In this instance, the article is eligible for an award either in 2016 or in 2017, but not in both. The selection committee may review the article for a 2016 award, if time permits. If not, the selection committee may consider it for a 2017 award.

Eligible authors

Any person, except a member of the selection committee in a given award year, is eligible to win the award. The author's faculty status, level of experience, or area(s) of teaching will not be taken into account.

Annual Nomination Deadline and Process:

Phelps Scholarship Award, Announcement 1.27.2017

For works published in 2016, the nomination deadline is June 30, 2017. The LWI Board plans to announce the Award(s) winners by September 30, 2017.

Send nominations to Kate George, administrative assistant to Ian Gallacher, the secretary of the 2016 selection committee, at kageorge@law.syr.edu.

Nominations must be in writing, briefly summarize the reasons for the nomination, provide a copy of or link to the nominated work, and must be received by the deadline for nominations. The committee will not accept nominations by the author of the nominated work or by any member of the committee in that year.

Questions: Please contact Kate O'Neill, Chair of the 2016 selection committee, at kateon@uw.edu.