

**Awards & Recognition**, submitted by: Vanessa Mitchell

## **Members**

Vanessa Mitchell, chair (Library of Congress)  
Jamie Carlstone, chair (Northwestern University)  
Susan Davis, member (SUNY at Buffalo)  
Susan Elkins, member (Sam Houston State University)  
Joe Hinger, ex-officio (St. John's University)  
Smita Joshipura, member (Arizona State University)  
Tessa Minchew, member (North Carolina State University)  
Kate Moore, member (Indiana University Southeast)  
Dejah Rubel, member (Ferris State University)

Shannon Keller, board liaison (New York Public Library)

## **Continuing Activities, placing emphasis on any activities supporting the 2017-2021 [Strategic Plan](#)**

By continuing to offer awards to attend the annual conference, the work of the A&R Committee helps ensure that a diverse group of librarians, paraprofessionals and students can have an opportunity they might not otherwise be able to afford and interact with others in the NASIG community.

Additionally, the Marcia Tuttle International Grant and the Fritz Schwartz Education Scholarship help foster scholarly communications, the former for a professional already working in the field and the latter for someone who has shown strength in doing so as a student.

## **Completed Activities, placing emphasis on any activities supporting the 2017-2021 [Strategic Plan](#)**

In support of the work referenced above in the Continuing Activities, the A&R Committee discussed how to handle the grants for the 2021 conference in light of the pandemic. We are in agreement that the slate of in-person awards should be put on hold until it is clear that there will be an in-person conference. Otherwise, assuming optimistically that there will be an in-person conference in 2022, we would end up with 3 people per award for a total of 27 awardees which seems unmanageable and would lead to a less than satisfactory experience for those individuals.

We also discussed the Board's suggestion of making "Virtual Attendee Awards." Our recommendation would be to have these align with the categories of the in-person awards, i.e. Diversity and Inclusion, First Timer, etc. We also suggest streamlining the application process, requiring a one-paragraph statement and a resume. The question was raised as to whether the awards should be need or accomplishment-based or a combination of the two.

## **Statistical Information**

The Board also asked about the current total financial burden for the entire slate of awards which is as follows:

Non-conference (Capstone & Tuttle): 4500  
Conference lodging-3 nights at approximately 150 x 9=4050  
Stipend-600 x 8 (Mexican Award doesn't include this)=4800  
Merriman/UKSG Award-3000  
Schwartz Award-3000

Total=19350\*

\*Note-apart from the lodging, uncertain how to estimate cost for Mexican award that covers travel and visa expenses.

Waived conference fees-9 x 400 (approximate fee because some awards require membership and others do not and based on years past)=3600

There are also additional A&R expenses for plaques for the awardees and gifts for Board members and outgoing committee chairs: 2000?

## **Action(s) Required by Board**

Make decision about what type of awards to offer for 2021.

Appoint a Vice Chair (to date no one has expressed interested in serving in this position.)

## **Questions for Board**

If we move forward with the virtual awards, on what basis should they be evaluated: need or accomplishment or a combination?

## **Recommendations to Board**

Only offer virtual awards for 2021 for those that include travel to the conference.

submitted on: November 7, 2020