

CAMPUS CORRESPONDENCE  
578-3181

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL

From: Office of the Graduate School

Date: October 9, 2007

To: Academic Deans, Directors, Department Chairs, Department Heads and Graduate Advisors

Re: Distinguished Dissertation Award Nominations

I am pleased to announce that the LSU Alumni Association will again sponsor, for the twenty-fourth year, the Distinguished Dissertation Awards. Through the generosity of the Alumni Association, the University will continue to recognize two distinguished dissertations – one in the arts, humanities and social sciences and one in science, engineering and technology. The awards will be made next spring in conjunction with the Distinguished Research Master Lecture. Because the lecture celebrates excellence in faculty research, it is an especially appropriate occasion to honor similar achievements by graduate students.

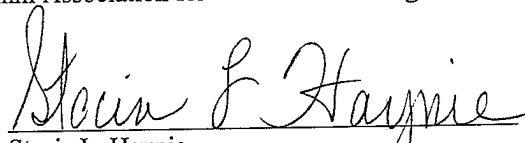
As in previous years, each Distinguished Dissertation Award will consist of \$1000 along with a certificate. This will be presented to the doctoral student in each category whose research and writing epitomize superior scholarship. Any student receiving his or her doctoral degree at any of the three commencements in 2007 will be eligible to be nominated for this award. The winning dissertations will be chosen by a committee of members of the graduate faculty.

I am asking that dissertations be screened initially by the deans and directors of the eleven colleges and schools involved in graduate education at the doctoral level: Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Basic Sciences, Business Administration, School of the Coast and Environment, Education, Engineering, Mass Communication, Music and Dramatic Arts, Social Work, and Veterinary Medicine. Deans will establish their own selection process. We strongly recommend that the selection process on the college level involve reviewers with recent experience in evaluating dissertations nominated for these awards.

After the initial screening process, the selected dissertations will be forwarded to the Graduate School for consideration by two University-wide selection committees. Each dean may submit dissertations according to the following schedule: one to twenty degrees, one (1) nomination; twenty-one to forty degrees, two (2) nominations; forty-one to sixty degrees, three (3) nominations. Therefore, according to the number of degrees awarded in 2006, the Deans of Arts and Sciences, and Basic Sciences may submit three (3) nominations, the Deans of Agriculture, Education, Engineering, and Music and Dramatic Arts may submit two (2) nominations, while all other Deans may submit one (1) nomination each for the 2007 award.

For each submitted dissertation, the attached nomination form must be completed. Nominators must designate the award category in which each dissertation should be considered. The forms and dissertations, along with letters of support from major professors and from the deans or their college-level selection committees, must reach the Graduate School no later than Friday, February 8, 2008.

I know that each of you joins me in thanking the Alumni Association for its continued recognition of the doctoral dissertation -- the capstone of graduate education.



Stacia L. Haynie  
Interim Dean of the Graduate School  
and  
J. W. Annison, Jr. Family Alumni  
Professor of Political Science

SLH: ct  
Attachment

Cc: Chancellor Sean O'Keefe  
President Roberts

LSU ALUMNI FEDERATION  
DISTINGUISHED DISSERTATION AWARD

NOMINATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_

Date degree received \_\_\_\_\_

Major Professor \_\_\_\_\_

This dissertation is being nominated in the area of \_\_\_\_\_ arts, humanities, and social sciences or  
\_\_\_\_\_ science, engineering, and technology.

Dissertation Title \_\_\_\_\_

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List any publications that have resulted from the dissertation.

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An assessment of the scholarly importance of this dissertation should be submitted by the major professor. A second assessment must be provided by the dean or the college-level selection committee. Please include these two supporting documents with the nominated dissertation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (major professor)