

Sosman award committee rulebook

1.) Selection of the committee

The chair of the Sosman committee is the Chair-Elect of the Basic Science Division. Other Members of the committee are

Year
Vice Chair of the BSD
Chair-elect of the BSD
Secretary-Elect of the BSD
BSD liaison to ACerS
First ProgCoCh of Long Range Planning Committee
Second ProgCoCh Long Range Planning Committee
PCSA delegate

The ProgCoCh Long Range Planning Committee is nominated by the vice chair of BSD.

If a committee member is also a nominee, the committee member is replaced by the BSD chair or past chair.

The committee chair (Vice chair of the BSD) leads the committee to make the selection, and to make a final decision when there is a deadlock/tie.

2.) Nomination process

The nomination process follows the overall call for nominees published by the ACerS. Every member of the ACerS including the committee members has the right to submit nominees.

A complete nomination requires a supporting statement (limited to 1000 words) that addresses the following aspects of the nominee's accomplishments based on the following two criteria:

- **PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS:** Outstanding work, including unpublished research, in the field of ceramics with which the nominee has been associated in a responsible capacity and his or her relation to this work.
- **DESCRIPTION OF IMPACT IN THE FIELD OF CERAMICS:** Seminal publications; discovery or research that significantly advances, redirects or impacts the science of ceramics.

A word limit of 1000 words applies to the nomination excluding CV and similar documents.

Nominations that do not follow this requirement will be communicated to the nominating person and, if not corrected, ignored.

3.) Selection of the winner

a. Equal opportunity statement

The equal opportunity statement must be distributed among the committee members as first action. The committee members need to confirm that they will account for the equal opportunity statement.

“Fostering a welcoming environment for all

The American Ceramic Society represents all people involved in the global ceramics and glass community. Our common enthusiasm for solving grand challenges with ceramic and glass materials binds us and leaves no room for artificial boundaries. Therefore, we must continually challenge ourselves to create an interpersonal culture of diversity in the Society and do our best to export it throughout our sphere of influence.

As part of our commitment to cultivating a diverse, inclusive, and equitable environment for all in the ceramics and glass community, we have curated this webpage to give members a transparent account of all our ongoing initiatives to achieve this goal.

The American Ceramic Society values and seeks diverse and inclusive participation within the field of ceramic science and engineering. ACerS strives to promote involvement and access to leadership opportunity regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, nationality, disability, appearance, geographic location, career path, or academic level.”

b. Conflict of interest (COI)/apparent conflict of interest

Before the vote, the chair of the committee asks the committee if anyone sees a potential COI. If any committee member sees a potential COI, it is discussed within the committee in an online meeting before the first vote. If the issue cannot be settled, any committee member can discuss with the chair of the BSD to settle the issue. Possible measures are that a committee member is replaced or that a committee member waives his right to vote for one or several candidates. The COI needs to be settled before voting.

Examples are:

- A committee member brought in a nominee
- Two professors from the same university among committee members and nominees

c. Diversity of the slate of nominees

At least one nominee must be part of an ethnically diverse group. If the slate of nominees does not have a diverse makeup, it is upon the committee members to submit additional candidates.

d. Pre-selection

The pre-selection is omitted if there are only three or less nominees.

The chair of the committee calls for a vote from every committee member. The committee members rank the nominees from first to last (it must be integer numbers, 1 is the best and no rank can be given twice). The committee members should send their vote to the Chair of Sosman committee and the ACerS BSD liaison (Erica Zimmermann) AND the Chair of the BSD. They will average the votes for each of the nominees. The first three nominees will be selected (the lowest score is the best) for the final selection without showing their ranking to the Sosman committee at this stage.

In case of a tie, the nominee(s) with the highest number of number-1 votes is preferred.

If among the top three nominees, there is no member of a diverse group, only two will be selected and the highest member of an ethnically diverse group will be added.

e. Selection

The committee chair calls for a discussion meeting with all committee members, if possible as a joint online meeting. The committee members can waive their right to participate in this meeting. In this meeting:

- The chair mentions the Equal Opportunity Statement and asks every committee member if he/she accounted for it.
- Every committee member has the chance to bring arguments for and against the candidates

After the meeting, the chair of the committee calls for a vote from every committee member on his/her most favorite nominee. The votes are collected via email following the same procedure as in the preselection. The nominee with the most votes is selected. In case of a tie, the committee chair decides under consideration of the criteria of the Sosman award.

4.) Announcement of the winner

The winner is announced to all committee members and, subsequently, communicated within BSD and ACerS. The votes are not distributed.

- 5.) The Sosman award includes a distinguished presentation at MS&T and is usually associated by an invitation-only symposium that honors the awardee. The symposium is usually lead by a person that is suggested by the awardee (usually the person who nominated the awardee). The award is handed over in the frame of the distinguished presentation at MS&T.