



Charles A. Caramello Distinguished Dissertation Award (2017)

In 2011, the Graduate School inaugurated the annual Charles A. Caramello Distinguished Dissertation Award. The seventh competition will occur in Spring 2017 and will be for Ph.D. dissertations defended and submitted to the Graduate School in **calendar year 2016**.

The Distinguished Dissertation Award recognizes original work that makes an unusually significant contribution to the discipline. Both methodological and substantive quality will be judged. Awards will be given each year in four broad disciplinary areas: 1) Mathematics, Physical Sciences, and Engineering; 2) Social Sciences; 3) Humanities and Fine Arts; and 4) Biological and Life Sciences. The Council of Graduate Schools uses these categories for its annual national dissertation awards. (For the CGS definitions of the award categories, please see attached Appendix A.)

Recipients of the Charles A. Caramello Distinguished Dissertation Award will receive an honorarium of \$1,000 and may be nominated by the University for the CGS national award.

AWARD GUIDELINES

Recipients of the Charles A. Caramello Distinguished Dissertation Award will receive an honorarium of \$1000 and may be nominated by the University for the Council of Graduate School's national award.

Up to four Awards will be given each year, one in each of the four broad disciplinary areas.

Eligibility

To be eligible for this competition, a dissertation must be submitted by a Ph.D. candidate to the Graduate School in calendar year 2016.

Please contact your department and college for more information about the nomination process.

Nominations

Nominations will be made by colleges to the Graduate School. Each college may nominate at least one. Colleges that award more than 25 Ph.D.s annually (averaged over the past three years) may nominate an additional dissertation for each 25 Ph.D.s awarded, as reported by IRPA. (For nomination allotments, please see attached Appendix B.)

Each dissertation must meet the eligibility requirement and must be written by a Ph.D. student whose home department is in the college making the nomination. The college may choose the disciplinary category most appropriate for each dissertation.

Colleges and their programs are free to use whatever process they choose to select the nominees for this competition.

Distinguished Dissertation Award, Continued

Nomination Packages

Nomination packages from colleges to the Graduate School must be submitted electronically to www.gradschool.umd.edu/GSAwardsSystem in two PDF files.

The first PDF file must include these four required elements of the nomination package:

1. a Distinguished Dissertation Award Cover Sheet (*found on page 4, or online*);
2. two letters of nomination, one from the College and one from the dissertation supervisor, that evaluate the significance and quality of the dissertation. The College letter should include substantive contributions to the package and not simply cover or summarize the dissertation supervisor's letter.
3. a 10-page, double-spaced abstract of the dissertation. Appendices containing non-textual material, such as charts or tables, may be included in addition to the 10 pages. Each page should be numbered and bear the name of the nominee.

Important Note: Nominees are encouraged to write a 10-page abstract specifically for this competition. The abstract should be written for a general audience.

4. the nominee's brief CV. (4 page maximum)

The second PDF file must be an electronic copy of the whole dissertation in PDF form.

Deadline

Nomination packages from Colleges are due in the Graduate School on **Wednesday, February 15, 2017, by 12:00 noon.**

Selection

The dissertations nominated for the Charles A. Caramello Distinguished Dissertation Award will be evaluated, and award recipients selected, by a multi-disciplinary, campus-level Selection Committee. A Distinguished University Professor will Chair the Selection Committee.

Due to the interdisciplinary nature of some dissertations, the selection committee may move a dissertation from one of the four disciplinary areas to another.

Contact

Please direct any questions to Robyn Kotzker, Assistant Director for Fellowships and Awards, The Graduate School, (rkotzker@umd.edu, 301.405.0281.)

August 2016

APPENDIX A

Council of Graduate Schools Definitions for Dissertation Award Categories

The following list, although not all-inclusive, illustrates the field considered as **Mathematics, Physical Sciences and Engineering**: mathematics, statistics, computer sciences, data processing, systems analysis, chemistry, earth sciences, physics, geology, meteorology, astronomy, metallurgy, geophysics, pharmaceutical chemistry; aeronautical, architectural, biomedical, ceramic, chemical, civil, and electrical engineering sciences; environmental health engineering; geological, mechanical, mining, nuclear, and petroleum engineering. (For purposes of this competition, engineering technologies are not included.)

The following list, although not all-inclusive, illustrates the fields considered as **Social Sciences**: agricultural economics, geography, anthropology, archaeology, economics, education, sociology, government (political science), demography, and psychology. (For purposes of this competition, history is considered with the humanities.)

The following list, although not all-inclusive, illustrates the fields considered as **Humanities and Fine Arts**: history; philosophy; language; linguistics; literature; archaeology; jurisprudence; the history, theory and criticism of the arts; ethics; comparative religion; and those aspects of the social sciences that employ historical or philosophical approaches.

The following list, although not all-inclusive, illustrates the field considered as **Biological and Life Sciences**: biology; botany; zoology; ecology; embryology; entomology; genetics; nutrition; plant pathology; plant physiology; anatomy; biochemistry; biophysics; microbiology; pathology; pharmacology; physiology; and related fields. Also included are agriculture, forestry, and related fields.

APPENDIX B

Nomination Allotments by College

Each college may nominate one dissertation. Colleges that award more than 25 PhDs annually (averaged over the past three years) may nominate an additional dissertation for each 25 PhDs awarded, as reported by IRPA.

AGNR	1
ARCH	1
ARHU	4
BSOS	3
BMGT	1
CMNS	6
EDUC	4
ENGR	5
INFO	1
JOUR	1
PLCY	1
SPHL	1



CHARLES A. CARMELLO
DISTINGUISHED DISSERTATION AWARD
Nomination Form

Please submit the nomination package to www.gradschool.umd.edu/GSAwardsSystem as two separate PDF attachments. The first PDF attachment must include the required elements of the nomination package. The second PDF attachment must be an electronic copy of the whole dissertation.

Please consult the Award Guidelines for complete information at http://gradschool.umd.edu/funding/student-fellowships-awards/distinguished-dissertation-award .

Nomination packages are due to the Graduate School by Wednesday, February 15, 2017, by noon.

Nominee's Name: _____

Nominee's UID Number: _____ Nominee's Phone Number : _____

Nominee's Email address(es): _____

Nominee's current Postal Mail Address: _____

Nominating College: _____

Department and Program or Field: _____

Title of Nominee's Dissertation: _____

If interdisciplinary, please indicate fields _____

Date Dissertation was submitted to the Graduate School: _____

Date Cleared for Graduation _____

Dissertation Advisor's name: _____

Dissertation Advisor's email address: _____

Dissertation Advisor's mailing address: _____

Disciplinary Area (check one):

Mathematics, Physical Sciences, and Engineering

Social Sciences

Humanities and Fine Arts

Biological and Life Sciences

Please note: Due to the interdisciplinary nature of some dissertations, the selection committee may move a dissertation from one of the four disciplinary areas to another.

Total Distinguished Dissertation nominations submitted by the college: _____

August 2016