The Council for the Study of Community Colleges

Call for Nominations
2019 Dissertation of the Year Award

Nomination Deadline 7:00 p.m. (EST), Friday, December 14, 2018

The annual CSCC Dissertation of the Year Award honors doctoral students who graduated during the previous calendar year, and whose dissertations have explored community college-related topics and exhibited exemplary skills in research and scholarship. Further, the dissertation should demonstrate excellence in scholarly inquiry, illustrate originality of thought, and include significant findings that make a substantial contribution to the extant literature on community colleges; that shed new light on how issues and challenges facing community colleges are researched, theorized, and interpreted; and/or that potentially could have an important effect on community college policy and/or practice.

To be considered for the 2019 award, the candidate must have defended the dissertation and must have had the doctorate conferred between January 1 and December 31, 2018.

Additionally, the *chair of the dissertation committee must be an active, paid member of CSCC at the time of the nomination*. The award recipient will be announced during the March 28-30, 2019 Annual CSCC Conference in San Diego, California.

An honorarium/prize of $1,000 will be given to the student whose work is selected as the CSCC Dissertation of the Year. This honorarium was provided as a sponsorship to the 2019 conference. CSCC thanks the anonymous donor responsible for this honorarium.

NOMINATION PROCESS AND REQUIRED MATERIALS:

The nomination for Dissertation of the Year must be submitted by the nominee's dissertation chair. The chair should submit the following two documents via e-mail as two (2) separate attachments in PDF format.

1. A PDF file consisting of:

   a. The completed **Nomination Form**, which accompanies this announcement as a separate document.

   b. A **Nomination Letter from the Dissertation Chair** of no more than three (3) pages which addresses at least the following:

      i. The reason the student's work is being nominated, including why this particular dissertation is exceptional compared to other dissertations that the nominator has chaired
      ii. The potential significance of the dissertation to community college research, policy and/or practice
      iii. Plans for the publication and other dissemination of the results of the dissertation study
      iv. A description of any other awards or honors that the student may have received related to the dissertation (optional)

   c. A **Statement from the Dissertation Author** of **no more than three (3) pages** which summarizes the major contributions of the dissertation to the field of community college research and practice, and describes any future research endeavors related to the dissertation study.

   No other letters of support or other ancillary materials may be included in this file.

   The file should be titled with the student's name and "CSCC-DOY-2019-Nomination-Materials" (i.e., *Mary-Smith-CSCC-DOY-2019-Nomination-Materials*).

2. A PDF file containing the **Complete Dissertation**, including the title page, abstract, table of contents, reference list, appendices and any other ancillary materials **as submitted and accepted by the student's university (and ProQuest, as applicable).**

   The file should be titled with the student's name and "CSCC-DOY-2019-Dissertation" (i.e., *Mary-Smith-CSCC-DOY-2019-Dissertation*).

PLEASE SEND ALL NOMINATION MATERIALS VIA EMAIL WITH THE SUBJECT LINE
2019 CSCC Dissertation of the Year Nomination
ON OR BEFORE 7:00 p.m. (EST) on Friday, December 14, 2019 to:

C. Casey Ozaki
Chair, CSCC 2019 Dissertation of the Year Selection Committee
E-mail: carolyn.ozaki@und.edu
Phone: 701-777-4256

SELECTION CRITERIA

In reviewing the dissertation, the Selection Committee will consider, at a minimum, the following important questions:

Purpose and Significance (15 Points)

1. Are the problem statement and purpose of the dissertation study clearly identified, delineated, and related to each other?

2. How significant are the problem and the research questions explored in the dissertation to community college research, policy and/or practice?

3. Are the research questions clearly articulated?

Literature Review and Theoretical/Conceptual Framework (20 Points)

4. How appropriate and comprehensive is the literature review that the author has included in the dissertation?

5. How effectively has the author utilized appropriate and relevant theory/theories and or theoretical or conceptual frameworks relevant and appropriate theory/theories and/or theoretical or conceptual framework(s) in the dissertation research?

Research Approach/Design and Data Analysis (25 Points)

6. How original and/or unique is the approach taken in the dissertation to address the problem and research questions explored?

7. How effectively does the dissertation provide a detailed, appropriate, comprehensible and creative utilization a qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, or historical research design?

8. Does the author report a sound, thorough, high quality analysis of the data collected for the dissertation that is appropriate to the nature of the research questions and research design?

Findings/Results, Conclusions and implications (30 Points)

9. Are the findings/results and conclusions of the research comprehensible and meaningful? Do they actually answer the research questions that the author set out to address?

10. Do the author's interpretation of the study results and the conclusions that s/he draws demonstrate a depth of thought and understanding of the dissertation study in relation to prior research on the topic?

11. Does the author effectively address implications for policy, practice and future research that are clearly based in the results of the study?

Organization, Quality and Readability (10 Points)

12. Is the dissertation well-organized, well-written and free of mechanical errors (i.e., grammar, punctuation, citations issues)?

The Council for the Study of Community Colleges

2019 DISSERTATION OF THE YEAR – NOMINATION FORM

Nominator (Dissertation Chair) Information:	
Name:	
Position/Title:	
Institutional affiliation:	
Nominator Contact Information:	
Campus mailing address:	
City:	
State:	
ZIP Code:	
Preferred contact phone number:	
Alternate contact phone number:	
Preferred contact e-mail address:	
Alternate contact e-mail address:	
Nominee Information:	
Name:	
Title of Dissertation:	
Date dissertation defended:	
Date degree conferred:	
Degree conferred (i.e., Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.):	
Department/Major Field of Study:	
Cognate/Area of Specialization:	
Nominee Contact Information:	
Street address:	
City:	
State:	
ZIP Code:	
Preferred contact phone number:	
Alternate contact phone number:	
Preferred contact e-mail address:	
Dissertation Committee Members:	
Name:	
Name:	
Name:	
Name:	
Name:	
Name:	