

NASPSPA Outstanding Student Paper Award (from NASPSPA policy manual)

*Submit your abstract through the online system by the submission due date. Send **both** this submitted abstract and a long abstract (see guidelines below) to the appropriate program chair by February 10th, 2022. Indicate in your correspondence that you wish to have your paper considered for this award. Also, your advisor should send the required recommendation letter to the same program area chair by February 10th, 2022.*

Contact information for the program area chairs:

Motor Development – [Ali Brian](#), Chair (University of South Carolina)

Motor Learning and Control – [Louisa Raisbeck](#), Chair (University of North Carolina – Greensboro)

Sport and Exercise Psychology – [Leah Ferguson](#), Chair (University of Saskatchewan)

Purposes

1. To recognize meritorious research by student members of NASPSPA.
2. To foster research by student members of NASPSPA.

Method of Selection

1. An award may be given in each of the three conference program areas, though an award is not necessarily given every year.
2. The selection committee for a given program area consists of the Area Program Committee members. The Area Program Chair coordinates the review of applications and, if necessary, breaks ties.
3. The Area Program Chair distributes award applications to the selection committee. Selection committee members independently evaluate which, if any, applications are sufficiently original, innovative, important, and significant to warrant award recognition. Members then each rank the proposals that meet this threshold and submit rankings to the Area Program Chair. Committee members do not rank applications if there is a conflict of interest (e.g., current or former advisees) and inform the Area Program Chair accordingly. The Area Program Chair assembles the rankings and then initiates a discussion among selection committee members to settle upon the top ranked application. The top-ranked application at the end of this process must be considered award-worthy by all selection committee members to receive the award. The Area Program Chair will communicate the outcome of the decision-making process and provide feedback to all applicants.

Criteria for evaluating the research

1. The research question should be original, innovative, important, and significant.
2. The researcher observed appropriate standards for the treatment of participants. That is, a statement certifying that ethical treatment of participants was followed in conducting this research should be included. (Note: These criteria are modified from guidelines found on pp. 11-18 of the Publication Manual of the APA, 6th edition).
3. At the time of the award application, the applicant must be a currently enrolled student (not post-doctoral) and a member of NASPSPA.

Guidelines

For students applying for the Outstanding Student Paper Award, the following must be sent to the Area Program Chair:

1. A short abstract submitted by the abstract submission deadline. That is, the short abstract needs to be e-mailed to the Area Program Chair, in addition to the submission through the web portal.
2. A long abstract (no longer than 5 pages double-spaced, 12-pt. font, including figures). This abstract should include: the research question, a rationale for the importance of the question, methods, results (including selected figures if appropriate), and a discussion of the findings and their significance. References should be included as separate pages using APA style. Deadline is two weeks following the abstract submission deadline of the annual conference.
3. For the graduate student advisor: A letter of nomination for the award must be written by the advisor indicating why this student's research is worthy of the Outstanding Student Paper Award. This should address the criteria being used by the committee to evaluate the research (see above). The letter should also include a statement indicating that the majority of the work done for this research was completed by the student. In the case of multi-authored publications, the advisor should indicate the individual contributions of each author. Deadline is two weeks following the abstract submission deadline of the annual conference.

Other clarifications

Students may win the award more than once. The NASPSPA website will include a listing of student award winners. Information about awards will appear in the Fall Newsletter. The Student Column in the Fall Newsletter will include information about the winners. The awards will not be "named." Winners will receive a plaque, the registration fee for the NASPSPA conference will be waived, and they will receive a \$200 honorarium. One award per area will be given, but the research should be of very high quality so three awards may not be given each year.