

2021 SPHN Award Descriptions & Eligibility Criteria

1) Early Career Award

The SPHN Early Career Award honors a junior scholar who has made exceptional contributions to research and/or practice that integrates social/personality and health psychology. The recipient of the award will be announced at the 2021 preconference, and the winner will be formally recognized at the 2022 preconference with a plaque and the opportunity to give an invited research talk.

Eligibility: Scholars are eligible to be nominated for this early career award if they have earned doctoral degree within the past 10 years (i.e., not before March 2011). Nominees should submit a packet including a CV, a 1-2 page cover letter describing the research contributions in terms of integration of social/personality and health psychology, and 2-3 representative publications. Self-nominations are welcome.

Members of the SPHN Steering Committee are ineligible for the award.

2) Outstanding Dissertation Award

The SPHN Outstanding Dissertation Award is given to an individual whose dissertation is judged to be an outstanding contribution to the scientific study of social and personality psychology in health contexts and to inform efforts to promote favorable health outcomes. Award winning dissertations demonstrate strong contribution through asking important questions and displaying theoretical rationale and systematic methods. A distinguished dissertation includes a well written summary and is publishable in a top journal.

Eligibility: Potential awardees must be nominated by a faculty member/mentor who is familiar with the nominee's dissertation work. The nomination should include the nominee's CV, a 1-2 page cover letter which includes a brief report of the dissertation work's contribution to social, personality and health psychology, and a copy of the nominee's full dissertation. The nominee should be a member of the Social Personality and Health Network, but can become a member at the time of nomination.

Only dissertations completed during the previous year (i.e., 2019-2020 academic year) are eligible for the award. The completion date for a dissertation is defined as the date of the oral defense, as officially recorded by the nominee's institution.

Awardees are selected by a dissertation award selection subcommittee appointed by the SPHN steering committee. The awardee may be invited to serve on a subsequent Dissertation Award Selection Committee. The selection process will occur via a masked review process.

3) Diversity in Research Award

The SPHN Diversity in Research Award recognizes individuals whose program of research acknowledges the importance of diversity in the study of social and personality psychology in health contexts and informs efforts to promote favorable health outcomes among underrepresented groups. The research program should demonstrate a strong commitment to broadening the understanding of underrepresented groups in social, personality, and health research.

Eligibility: Potential awardees can self-nominate or be nominated by another individual who is familiar with their work. The nomination should include a CV, a 1-2 page statement of their research program as it relates to diversity and health, and up to 3 representative publications. This award is open to individuals of all career stages, but a priority is a clear program of research devoted to issues of diversity and the inclusion of underrepresented groups in their research program.

Awardees are selected by a diversity award selection subcommittee appointed by the SPHN steering committee. The awardee may be invited to serve on a subsequent Diversity in Research Award Selection Committee.

4) Career Service Award

The SPHN Career Service Award recognizes outstanding career service to the primary aim of SPHN, which is to advance the scientific study of social and personality psychology in health contexts and to inform efforts to promote favorable health outcomes. It honors a person that has consistently promoted and advanced the aims of the Social Personality and Health Network through non-research, non-clinical work to governmental agencies, public policy groups, editorial roles, public education, or non-governmental charitable or foundation organizations.

Eligibility: Potential awardees can self-nominate or be nominated by another individual. The nomination should include a CV/Resume and a 1-2 page statement describing the contributions and achievements of the nominee as they relate to the primary aim of SPHN, focusing on contributions made throughout the career. Nominees must be a current member of the Social and Personality and Health Network.

Awardees are selected by a career service award selection subcommittee appointed by the SPHN steering committee. The awardee may be invited to serve on a subsequent Career Service Award Selection Committee.