

SWS Awards Revocation Procedure Effective February 27, 2019

SWS reserves the right to revoke or withhold the grant of any award given by SWS if it determines, in its sole discretion, that a recipient has engaged in conduct that constitutes a substantial departure from SWS's core mission and/or commitment to transforming the academy through feminist leadership, undermines the credibility and integrity of the award, or violates generally accepted standards of public behavior.

Any past or present SWS member or other interested party who, in good faith, believes that a past or pending SWS award winner has acted in a manner inconsistent with the purpose for which the award was and/or will be granted, may submit a written request that Council further review whether the recipient remains qualified for the award. This request can be in the form of an email. Requests can be sent to any member of SWS Council setting forth the reasons for requesting further review. The requesting party may request that their name be withheld from disclosure to other members of Council. The SWS Council member shall forward the request (with redaction of identifying information, if so requested) to the entire SWS Council for further review of whether the recipient remains qualified to be granted the award. Then, SWS will make the ultimate determination of what specific remedy is proper.

Council may conduct a further investigation including but not limited to notifying the recipient of the award of the allegations made and potential action that may be undertaken by SWS on the award. Following its investigation, SWS Council will determine, in its sole discretion, whether to revoke and/or withhold the granting of the award. SWS expressly reserves the right to take action on any award on its own accord, based on information ascertained by SWS Council.

The decision by SWS Council shall be guided by principles of fairness and be made after it has made efforts to ascertain the relevant facts pertaining to the matter. Following any decision to revoke or withhold an award, SWS will notify the recipient of its action and remove that recipient's name from all records pertaining to the award maintained by SWS.

Questions You May Have:

Why contact a Council Member with this information instead of some other body? At present, the Discrimination and Academic Justice Committee is overwhelmed, and SWS does not have another institutional body that can field sensitive concerns such as these.

Why does Council make this decision and not the Awards Committee that issued the award in the first place? While members of the Awards Committee are responsible for ensuring that nominees and recipients are well qualified to receive an award at the time an award is given, SWS Council consists of elected representatives with ultimate fiduciary authority over SWS's activities and affairs and, consistent with such authority and accompanying responsibility, are charged with ensuring that all SWS award recipients adhere to the organization's mission and

core values at all times – before and after the receipt of any award. Thus, this representative responsibility means that Council is the most appropriate body to make these decisions.

What are some things that would warrant further review? Research misconduct, ethical violations in human subjects research, plagiarism, and/or harassment of any kind. This is not an exhaustive list, but examples of some behaviors that could potentially lead to an award being revoked or held.

How will this procedure protect those who come forward from exposure and/or retaliation? If you contact a member of Council with information that an award winner has violated SWS's mission and wish to remain anonymous, please state that in your request. Your identity will not be shared with anyone else, even the other members of Council, without your prior consent.

How will members learn that an award has been held or revoked? In the event that Council votes to hold or revoke an award, the Executive Office will send out a message to membership alerting them that, in keeping with organizational policy, Council has voted to hold or revoke the award in question. Due to the need to maintain confidentiality in these matters, additional details will not be provided.

I know someone who violated SWS's mission, but this was a long time ago, and the award was given many years back. Can I still come forward? Yes, absolutely. Award winners represent SWS and its mission. Thus, Council reserves the right to revoke any award at any point in time, as long as it is done in accordance with this procedure.