

Guidelines for ARMA Distinguished Service Award

Updated on 24 September 2021

The new **ARMA Distinguished Service Award** is described in this document. Similar awards are made by other societies, including SPE ([Distinguished Service Award](#)), AAPG ([Distinguished Service Award](#)), and GSA ([Distinguished Service Award](#)).

Purpose and scope

The award is to recognize significant contributions that ARMA members have made to the services offered by ARMA. These services include, but are not limited to,

- ▶ Activities supporting ARMA's annual symposium, international conferences, workshops, forums, and other meetings that promote rock mechanics and geomechanics technologies and applications;
- ▶ Education efforts by senior ARMA members, including Fellows;
- ▶ ARMA technical committees;
- ▶ Publications such as ARMA letter, newsletters, OnePetro, peer-reviews, etc.; and
- ▶ Any other volunteer services to help ARMA achieve its mission.

Candidates

The award shall consider contributions by ARMA members and support staff, excluding the current board and selection committee members. Normally it will annually recognize contributions by at least one candidate from each of the following categories:

- ▶ Significant contributions from a **senior** member or support staff¹
- ▶ Significant contributions from a **junior** member or contractor; and
- ▶ Significant contributions from a **student** member.

¹ A senior member has ten or more years of professional experience since the highest college degree; a senior contractor has ten or more years of experience working with ARMA.

Selection criteria

Award recipients must have been members or contractors of ARMA during the nomination period. The award shall recognize significant contributions of volunteer or contractor services within one year of their completion. The contribution should have involved dedicated time and effort to provide a meaningful and qualitative impact to the success of ARMA's events and activities.

The award committee shall consider the following criteria:

- ▶ Basis of Contribution — Difficulty of tasks involved, amount of time and effort required, quality of service;
- ▶ Value of Contribution — Value in terms of meaningful impact on the ARMA Mission, significance to ARMA members and to general public.

Nomination process

ARMA shall collect award nominations at all times via its website. Anyone can provide a nomination via the ARMA website or email the Selection Chair.

The annual nomination cycle shall close two months prior to the annual ARMA conference.

Every award nomination must present the following information:

- ▶ Full name and contact information of nominator
- ▶ Nominee's name, contact information, and resume/CV
- ▶ Abstract of the nominee's service contribution (up to 250 words)

The nomination process shall follow the procedures in place for the other technical ARMA awards (Section 4 of the 2019 document²).

² American Rock Mechanics Association's Awards Selection Committee, Awards Criteria and Operating Procedures, 2019, 6 p.

Selection process

The selection process shall involve a dedicated ARMA service awards committee, which will be composed of 1) a Board officer (e.g., Vice President), 2) a Selection Chair from senior ARMA members, 3) members representing different disciplines such as Petroleum, Mining, and Civil, 4) an early career member, and 5) a student. The committee members must be actively involved in ARMA's activities. The Chair will assemble the package of service award recipients for the Board to approve at the annual Board meeting in January. The other terms for committee members follow the general guidelines for an ARMA Awards committee.

Nature of award

All awardees will receive a plaque or certificate, prepared by the Executive Director before the annual ARMA symposium. They will additionally receive a year of complementary ARMA membership, or, in the case of an awardee being a lifetime ARMA member, a gift card for up to \$100. Student awardees will additionally receive complementary registrations for the symposium³ at which the award will be presented.

This award would be distinct from the other ARMA awards, particularly the Outstanding Contributions Award that “recognizes [an] individual whose career achievements have provided outstanding contributions to the profession of rock mechanics and rock engineering.” While the Outstanding Contributions Award focuses on service to the larger profession, including organizational roles in the rock mechanics and rock engineering community, the ARMA Distinguished Service Award will recognize contributions (not necessarily technical in nature) specifically to ARMA rather than to the broader communities that it serves. The ARMA Distinguished Service Award will also be distinct from the Presidential Citation, which is in the sole domain of the President.

The award will be **conferred** at the subsequent annual symposium.

³ No other financial support for the student awardee would be provided, including travel, lodging, per diem, honorarium, or similar expenses. No change in presentation type (podium vs. poster) would be considered or made to awardees as a result of receiving this award.