GSM Alumni Association Alumni Awards

Policies, Procedures and Eligibility Requirements

I. Purpose

Established in 2003, the alumni association awards serve to recognize GSM alumni who embrace our core values of passionate, energetic leadership, and a continuing advocacy of community building. We strive to recognize those alumni who have distinguished themselves through outstanding achievement in their professional field (Distinguished Achievement Award), displayed exemplary support of the School by giving of their time, expertise and/or financially (Outstanding Service Award), and early/mid-career outstanding professional contributions, or contributions to the community or GSM/UCD (Rising Star Award, established in 2019). The awards shall be administered through the GSM's External Relations and Development Office in conjunction with the GSM's Alumni Association Board of Directors.

II. Nominations

Nominations for the Award shall be accepted generally four months prior to the awards presentation. The call for nominations shall be publicized widely through communication vehicles deemed appropriate. Nominations can be made by GSM alumni, faculty or staff. Top vote-getters from previous years may be carried over to the following year, per recommendation from the committee and/or chair.

IV. Criteria/Eligibility

A. The recipient must be an individual who has brought great honor and distinction to the School through outstanding service to GSM and/or through personal achievement.

B. For the **Distinguished Achievement Award**, we are looking for a recipient who has a combination of real achievement in his or her career and who has given back to the GSM. Areas to focus on include (but are not limited to) the candidate's leadership/work ethic (leadership, collaboration, ethics, etc.) public service, broad impact of their work (local, national, and international), and the ability to overcome any adversity in life. This person should be a "poster child" for the school and embody the values that the school promotes.

For the **Outstanding Service Award**, we are looking for a recipient who has made an IMPACT on the GSM and is a true ADVOCATE and CHAMPION of the School. The QUALITY of their contribution in advancing the GSM vision is much more important than the quantity work.

For the **Rising Star Award**, we are looking for a recipient who has contributed to their profession or to the GSM/UCD community during their early/mid-career stage.

C. The individual shall not be currently employed by the GSM.

D. Current members of the GSM Alumni Association Board of Directors or members of the Alumni Awards Committee may not be nominated during their terms of service.

E. The award recipient should make every effort possible to attend the awards ceremony. If the individual is unable to attend, a contingency plan will be worked out with the winner.
F. No person shall receive the same award twice; however, an individual can win in different award categories in separate years.
G. The Chair and the Director of Alumni Relations & Network Strategy reserve the right to review nominations and nominee bios to ensure that the candidate is nominated in the correct award category.

III. Supporting Documentation

The GSM's External Relations & Development (ER&D) department will provide nominee bios for each nominee. This will include all qualitative and specific nominee data gathered from GSM staff, faculty and databases. The committee will then conduct *external* research (Internet research and, potential interviews with those that know the nominee, etc.) and add to the bios of *the distinguished achievement award and rising star award nominees*. The *outstanding service award nominees* will not require further research or interviews.

V. Alumni Awards Committee

The Alumni Awards Committee shall be composed of six to ten members and include a designated Chair from the GSMAA board, a GSMAA board member, the GSM's Director of Alumni Relations & Network Strategy, past award winners, and a mixture of other GSM alumni volunteers from the three MBA programs, Online Program, MPAc and MSBA. An individual who nominates a candidate shall not serve on the Alumni Awards Committee.

The primary responsibility of the Alumni Awards Committee shall be to research nominees, review a slate of nominees and determine the winners of the GSMAA Alumni Awards. Each committee member will conduct research on 1-2 *distinguished achievement* and *rising star award* nominee(s).

VI. Alumni Awards Committee Voting Procedures

The Committee has the responsibility of selecting the award recipients from the slate of nominees. The Alumni Awards Committee shall meet, in person or online, at least once upon the closing of the call for nominations to review all nominees and make the final decisions. Before this meeting, each committee member will be assigned to conduct research on candidates and possibly interviews. Each member of the committee will come to the decision-making meeting prepared to speak about the candidates. The committee will use a ranking mechanism to score rank each set of nominees and determine the winners. Should any of the candidates tie in their ranking, the committee shall open up discussion again to determine the winners.

Any voting member who misses any portion of the discussion of the nominees may participate in the remaining discussion but forfeits the right to vote, having not been present for all comments relative to the nominees.