POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR THE MARIAN WILLIAMS AWARD FOR RESEARCH IN PHYSICAL THERAPY  BOD Y06-08-02-02 [Amended BOD Y03-07-08-17; BOD Y06-06-06-16; BOD Y03-06-05-06; BOD Y03-03-28-77; BOD 05-02-02-04; BOD 11-98-29-102; BOD 03-97-08-16; BOD 06-96-11-27; BOD 11-92-11-46; BOD 03-85-45-153; BOD 11-81-17-66; BOD 04-80-19-77; BOD 06-76-14-39) [Policy]

History

In 1963, the Marian Williams Award for Research in Physical Therapy was established to recognize individuals who have performed sustained and outstanding basic, clinical, and/or educational research pertaining to physical therapy.

The award is named in honor of Marian Williams (deceased 1964), whose life was dedicated to promoting the profession of physical therapy through teaching, writing, and research. Dr Williams received her doctorate degree from Stanford University and was an Associate Professor of Physical Therapy and Anatomy at Stanford for many years. Dr Williams’ research interests and scholarly publications covered the areas of kinesiology and electromyography, and she co-authored books on biomechanics, muscle testing, and therapeutic exercises. Dr Williams also initiated one of the first post baccalaureate master’s degree programs in physical therapy. Dr Williams’ superb teaching skills enabled students to understand very complex concepts, and her skills as a mentor fostered analytical thinking in her students.

Purpose

To acknowledge an individual who has made significant contributions to physical therapy through excellence in research as exemplified by the professional and research career of Marian Williams.

In addition to the information provided in the APTA Board of Directors’ Policy and Procedures Regarding APTA Honors and Awards, the following criteria apply to this award:

Criteria for Eligibility/Criteria for Selection

The nominee has:

1. Outstanding basic clinical and/or educational research that pertains to physical therapy, is sustained for at least 10 years, and makes a meaningful contribution to the scientific basis of physical therapy. Grant funding and extramural funding will also be considered.

2. Published scientific studies with sufficient frequency in appropriate scientific and/or professional publications.

3. Presented his/her scientific studies orally with sufficient frequency to the appropriate audiences.

4. Demonstrated continuity of professional commitment to physical therapy.

5. Current members of the APTA Board of Directors and members of the APTA Awards Committee - Research Awards Subcommittee are not eligible to be nominated for this award and shall not nominate, write letters of support, or endorse an individual for this award.

Procedure for Nomination
1. Nominations must be submitted electronically via APTA’s website (www.apta.org). All materials completed and submitted for each nomination must be received by the APTA Honors and Awards Program by 5:00 pm Eastern time on December 1, for consideration for the award.

2. The nominator is responsible for reviewing and ensuring the completion of all steps and compliance with the eligibility criteria within the online nomination submission process before its final submission. During the online process, the following documents will be required for upload:

   A. Current curriculum vitae or resume of the nominee.

   B. A letter of nomination (from the nominator) that specifically focuses on the strengths of the nominee in relation to the award criteria, not to exceed 3 pages.

   C. Two (2) letters of support, not to exceed 2 pages each obtained from individuals who can specifically address the criteria for selection in relation to the nominee.

      Letters of support should:

      • Explicitly state how the nominee is qualified under the criteria for selection by providing details on what the nominee has accomplished during his/her professional career that augments the information contained in the nominee’s vita, and how it has specifically impacted physical therapy research and/or practice.

      • Reflect genuine knowledge and consideration of the nominee’s qualifications for this award.

      • Indicate in what capacity the author works or worked with, or otherwise knows personally, the nominee.

   D. Electronic reprints of 4 scholarly works published by refereed journals that present clear evidence of sustained and outstanding research.

Notification of Award

1. The award recipient and nominator will be notified promptly after selection by APTA’s Board of Directors.

2. The nominators of individuals not selected will receive a letter thanking them for their participation.

Nature of Award

A plaque will be presented to the awardee by APTA’s Board of Directors at the NEXT Conference and Exposition and an official announcement of the award will appear in an Association publication.

(Member Services Department, ext. 8082)

Explanation of Reference Numbers:

BOD P00-00-00-00 stands for Board of Directors/month/year/page/vote in the Board of Directors Minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, BOD P11-97-06-18 means that this position can be found in the November 1997 Board of Directors minutes on Page 6 and that it was Vote 18.