

# **ISHS WORKING RULES: SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTION AND GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS**

(Adopted by the ISHS Executive Board, October 2005)

## **A. OBJECTIVE**

Each year ISHS shall endeavor to recognize outstanding scholars and promising graduate students conducting research in humor studies with either a Scholarly Contribution or a Graduate Student Award.

## **B. SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTION AWARDS (SCA)**

- 1. Eligibility:** SCAs shall be awarded to scholars who have made outstanding contributions to humor research through high quality publications, conference presentations, and other scholarly activities. Particular consideration will be given to researchers doing important work but lacking international recognition due to limited opportunities to travel or to publish outside of their region of the world.
- 2. Process of Selection:** The ISHS Awards Committee shall invite and consider formal nominations (including self-nominations) from ISHS members for the Scholarly Contribution Award. Each nomination must include an outline of the nominee's merits that warrant the award as well as a list of referees who could attest to the nominee's scholarship. Upon its review of nominees, the ISHS Awards Committee shall present its recommendations to the Society's Executive Board for final approval, and the Board shall notify SCA recipients in advance of the Society's annual Conference. To receive their award, SCA recipients must give a plenary address at the Society's annual conference.
- 3. Award:** In addition to a plenary session of their work, SCA recipients shall receive (1) a certificate of achievement, (2) a stipend to cover their Conference registration fees, and (3) waived fees to designated ISHS-endorsed seminars and workshops. SCA recipients may also receive additional grants depending on the Society's resources.

## **C. GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS (GSA)**

- 1. Eligibility:** GSAs shall be awarded to graduate students working toward masters or doctoral degrees and doing noteworthy research within humor studies. All ISHS graduate student members, planning to attend the Society's annual conference, shall be eligible for this award. As part of their conference application, interested students must submit (1) a letter of intent to compete for a GSA, (2) a description of their research program within humor studies, (3) a presentation proposal, and (4) all required registration materials and fees.
- 2. Process of Selection:** The ISHS Awards Committee shall review each applicant's materials and, based on merit, select students from different disciplines to receive Graduate Student Awards. The Awards Committee shall present its recommendations to the ISHS Executive Board for final approval, and the Board shall notify GSA recipients of their awards in advance of the Society's annual Conference.
- 3. Award:** GSA recipients shall present their work at a special session of the annual conference and shall receive (1) a certificate of achievement, (2) a stipend to reimburse their Conference registration fees, and (3) waived fees to designated ISHS-endorsed seminars and workshops (i.e., Summer School and Symposium on Humor and Laughter; European Workshop on Humor Studies). GSA recipients may also receive additional grants depending on the Society's resources.

## **D. FUNDING**

To provide stipends and grants to SCA and GSA recipients as well as other humor scholars in need of assistance, ISHS shall maintain a scholarship fund. Each year, ISHS shall invite its members to support this fund with a contribution when they submit their dues. Based on all annual contributions, the ISHS Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall determine the number and the size of any stipends that may be made available in a given year.

## **E. NUMBER OF AWARDS**

The number of Scholarly Contribution and Graduate Student Awards shall depend on available funding and be limited to a combined total of four awards per year. In any given year, the Society may give any combination of the two types of awards or no awards at all. However, when funding allows, the Society's Awards Committee should make a good faith effort to provide at least two awards each year.

## **F. ISHS AWARDS COMMITTEE**

The ISHS President shall appoint each year four members to serve on the ISHS Awards Committee. These Committee members shall include:

- the year's Conference Convenor, who shall serve as Chair,
- two ISHS Board Members, other than the Conference Convenor, and
- one active ISHS member, who regularly coordinates ISHS-endorsed workshops or symposia.

The Committee shall also include the ISHS Executive Secretary-Treasurer as an *ex officio* member, responsible for advising the Committee on scholarship resources. The Awards Committee shall review all nominations for ISHS awards and shall make Award recommendations, subject to final Executive Board approval.