

SOCIETY FOR MINING, METALLURGY, AND EXPLORATION, INC.

PERCY NICHOLLS AWARD RULES

Information to be transmitted each year to the
incoming chair

The following information on the Percy Nicholls Award, the precedents and procedures to be followed, has been prepared for the convenience and guidance of the chair. Experience has shown that with a new chair coming in each year, with new members coming from two different sources, and with the chair of the Fuels Division of the ASME and the chair of the Coal & Energy Division of the SME changing each year, a guide of this type is necessary to obtain best committee action. This guide may, of course, be altered by the committee as experience and changed conditions make desirable.

1. There are five members on the committee.
2. Each member normally serves five years, the fifth year being as chair of the committee.
3. Each year one new member is elected to serve on the committee. This member is elected by either the Fuels Division of the ASME or by the Coal & Energy Division of the SME, depending upon the rotation for that year.
4. The term of the chair begins on January 1
5. The outgoing chair should notify the incoming chair of this new position and pass on to him this guide, together with the names of the three other remaining members of the committee.
6. The new chair should ascertain, if notice has not already been given, the name of the new member beginning his term that year.
7. The chair should canvass the members of the committee for suggestions for candidates for the award. It may be desirable to inform some of the members, the names of those who have received the award recently. The chair should also canvass the chair of the Fuels Division of the ASME and the chair of the Coal & Energy Division of the SME, sending copies of the requests to the secretaries of these Divisions. In addition, suggestions may come directly from individuals.
8. From the names suggested, the chair and his two fellow society members will select a maximum of five candidates for consideration that year. After the winning candidate has been selected, all names are deleted from the list. Each year will require a completely new list of candidates. Names previously submitted may be resubmitted each year. All persons recommending nominees must also furnish a biographical sketch of the candidate including his major contributions.
9. The award can be given only to a member of ASME or the SME with the award alternating between societies each year as much as practicable. Although the award is available annually, it does not have to be given if there is no properly qualified recipient nominated or selected.

- 10. Early in May, a ballot should be prepared and sent to each member of the committee listing alphabetically the names as determined by the chair. The members should indicate their "order of choice" for every name, number 1 being the first choice, 2 the second, etc., through the entire list of names.

Example ballot

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Order of position</u>
Name A _____	4
Name B _____	3
Name C _____	5
Name D _____	1
Name E _____	2

The chair then summarizes the ballots as received, including his own, as in the following example:

<u>Ballot No.</u>	<u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Name A	1 4 2 3 4	14
Name B	4 3 5 5 5	22
Name C	3 5 3 4 2	17
Name D	5 1 4 2 3	15
Name E	2 2 1 1 1	7

The candidate having the lowest total in the above example, "7", is elected for the award. This scheme has been found to give the results quickly, and the possibility of needing a re-balloting owing to two equal low numbers is remote.

- 11. A copy of the above tabulation is sent to each member. The chair next reports the name to receive the award to the chairs of the two Divisions, sending copies of his letter as before to the secretaries of the Division. The officers of the Divisions usually wish this information sometime in May in order to report at the semi-annual meetings.
- 12. The chair next prepares a citation for the award. Usually the chair requests a preliminary draft of the citation from a member of the committee having the most information regarding the recipient of the award. This write-up is sent to each member of the committee for suggestions. The final draft should be approved by all members of the committee.
- 13. The citations take the following form:

THE PERCY NICHOLLS AWARD

For Notable Scientific or Industrial Achievement
in the Field of Solid Fuels

In Recognition of the Outstanding Achievement of

JOHN EDWARD DOE

In the field of solid fuels, the Fuels Division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and the Coal & Energy Division of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration jointly confer upon him the Percy Nicholls Award for 20_ (Note: the Fuels Division is mentioned first if the awardee is an ASME member, and the Coal & Energy Division is mentioned first if he is an SME member).

A few paragraphs covering the outstanding work of the recipient then follow. It is best not to make the citation too long. Typical paragraphs that have been used are as follows:

Example A:

"Engineer, organizer, and administrator, an outstanding leader in the coal industry, he has made an important and lasting impression on design of coal-burning equipment to use a wider range of coals. He organized a comprehensive series of fuel engineering conferences, the published proceedings of which constitute an outstanding reference work. For many years chair of the Technical Advisory Board of Bituminous Coal Research, Inc., he has led in numerous research activities leading to improved coal-burning equipment and practices."

"Past chair of the Fuels Division ASME, and of the Coal & Energy Division SME, we recognize in him a genial, enthusiastic engineer of many capabilities."

Example B:

"The recipient, a man of original ideas, has for years been a keen student of fuel technology and a seeker after truth. It has been his axiom that "There can be no disagreement among engineers and scientists in the solution of any problem when all the facts are assembled."

"As a fuel and combustion engineer, his exceptional talents are well known. He has helped hundreds of industrial coal consumers solve their problems, and many mine operators have benefited from his advice and counsel. He has been a bulwark of strength in the engineering profession toward furthering better fuel utilization and improved mining practices."

"A member of both societies, he has been a staunch supporter of the joint activities of ASME and SME, having served as chair of the SME Coal & Energy Division, and as a member of important committees of both societies."

"Never seeking credit for himself, he has always pointed toward the accomplishments of others. It is, therefore, most fitting that his accomplishments be properly recognized by means of this award."

Example C:

"Both these societies gratefully acknowledge his efforts in founding the Coal Division of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers."

"His whole professional life has been devoted to the science and art of mining coal. His skill in the application of sound economic principles to the exploitation and production of solid fuel has earned him worldwide recognition in his profession."

"Throughout his career, his careful judgment and good counsel has been invaluable to the coal industry in resolving the differences of conflicting interests."

"The nation is indebted to him as an author for his painstaking labor in perpetuating the annals of the coal mining industry of America."

"In him we recognize not only a prominent engineer but a citizen who has contributed in great measure toward the advancement of civic affairs and education."

The citation ends with signatures of the chairs of each Division. If the awardee is an SME member then the Coal & Energy Division chair's signature is placed on the right hand side. If the awardee is an ASME member then the Fuels Division chair's signature is placed on the right hand side.

Chair, Coal & Energy Division, SME

Chair, Fuels Division, ASME

SME seal

ASME seal

14. The staff of either one of the societies will take care of the necessary details in having the citation certificate prepared. The staff should be given at least 90 days to complete this work. There is, on deposit in New York, two trust funds of \$2500 each, one for ASME and one for AIME earning about 4% interest which is to cover the cost of preparation and framing of the certificate. Since the award normally will alternate between societies, approximately \$200 will be available for each certificate.
15. The staff arranges for the signing of the certificate by both Division chairs.
16. While developing the wording of the citation, the chair, with the approval of the Division chairs, determines and obtains acceptance of an appropriate individual to present the award, usually arranged to be given at either the Annual Meeting of ASME in September or the SME Annual Meeting usually in February/March. An associate of the recipient who is familiar with the work and contributions of the awardee should make the presentation if at all possible. The chair is responsible to see that the recipient is notified so that he can arrange to attend the presentation. He is also responsible for getting the certificate to the person making the presentation.
17. The chair will arrange for news releases and other publicity in the recipient's hometown and will

also provide this information for appropriate technical publications.

18. The chair of the local arrangements committee is notified as to who will make the presentation, carbon copies going to the Division chairs. He will also make the necessary arrangements for publicity in local news media.

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DEADLINE DATES SCHEDULE

April 15	Issue “Call for Nominations” to committee
June 1	Nominees submitted to committee chair.
June 15	Ballot to committee.
August 1	Chair of committee shall forward the name of the recipient and citation to the Awards Coordinator at SME. SME will ask for Coal & Energy Division Executive Committee’s approval. SME will then notify SME Board of Directors.
October	SME will notify recipient over Chair’s name and request his/her attendance at the Coal & Energy Division Luncheon to accept the award.

In order to have award recipient announced in the SME Annual Meeting Mailer, the recipient must be selected and submitted to SME by August 1.