

## Trevor Parry-Giles

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**From:** Trevor Parry-Giles  
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2019 5:08 PM  
**To:** Trevor Parry-Giles  
**Cc:** Justin Danowski; Star Muir  
**Subject:** Distinguished Scholar Announcement

Dear NCA Distinguished Scholar:

I am writing on behalf of the NCA Executive Committee; the EC has asked that I inform you of an action taken at its last meeting on March 1, 2019. The EC has changed the procedure for selecting new Distinguished Scholars. Beginning this year, the new Distinguished Scholars will be chosen by a selection committee of NCA members appointed by the Leadership Development Committee (formerly the Committee on Committees). The selection committee will be approved by the Legislative Assembly. In this way, the Distinguished Scholar award will more fully resemble NCA's other awards. The EC took this action in response to repeated calls for greater diversity, inclusion, and equity in the Distinguished Scholar award program and because it felt that the proposed actions suggested at the DS meeting in Salt Lake City (e.g., greater promotion of the DS call to increase the nominations) were inadequate to achieve the diversity, inclusion, and equity goals of the association.

Along with changes to the selection process, the EC also revised the call for Distinguished Scholar nominations: "A distinguished research career is operationally defined as a person who has at least 20 complete years of scholarly contributions since their Ph.D. was awarded. Breadth and quantity should be considered in the selection process, but it should not in any way override considerations of depth and quality. The Distinguished Scholar selection process should reflect NCA's mission statement with regard to those honored: 'NCA supports inclusiveness and diversity among our faculties, within our membership, in the workplace, and in the classroom; NCA supports and promotes policies that fairly encourage this diversity and inclusion.' No more than five Distinguished Scholars will be named each year; one award each year may be posthumous. Moreover, those selected by the committee should reflect the breadth of the Communication discipline with regard to areas of inquiry and paradigms." The nomination process remains the same.

Please feel free to contact me or any member of the Executive Committee with any questions you might have about this change to the Distinguished Scholar program. EC email addresses are available here: <https://www.natcom.org/about-nca/what-nca/leadership-and-governance>

Thank you,

Trevor

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