



Tips for AVS Award Nominations



Many AVS Awards Opportunities

National Awards

National Professional Awards

National Student Awards

Technical Award

Society Honors

Additional Awards

Division/Group Professional Awards

Division/Group Student Awards

Focus Topic Awards

AVS Recognition

IUVSTA Scholarships



AVS National Award Process

Professional Awards Nominations Due: March 31

Student Awards Nominations Due: May 13

- Finalists go through interview process in late summer for National Student Awards

Detailed information on awards and nomination process can be found at:
<https://www.avs.org/>

- Preview the questions that are needed for each nomination
- Submit nomination packages online

AVS Trustees review nominations for national awards and select best candidates

Award winners publicly announced at the AVS International Symposium in the fall

Submitting Nominations

Telling the Nominee's Story

Addressing the nomination questions...

Emphasize and **explain** the impact of the contributions, put them into the context of the field, their career opportunities and role.

Help Trustees get to know the candidate and their work.

Specific items requested taken together should tell a complete story.

. Do not include just a bunch of facts; the CV is easily read.

Things Trustees Often Look For...

What has the nominee contributed?

- Specific + broad accomplishments.

What makes this nominee unique?

- How do they demonstrate international leadership in research/policy.
- What did their teams achieve under their leadership? What have they enabled?

Scientific/engineering/policy impact

- Is the research/outcome used?
- How broadly? By whom?
- What has changed as a result?



Things Trustees Often Look For...

Other aspects of the candidate

- Service, mentoring, industry impact, standards and policy influence

Specific award requirements:

- Welch: applies to previous 10 years only. Focus on that time.

Emphasize the contributions of the nominee, **to** the group or the institution.



One Way to Think About It



Similar to a research/pitch proposal:

- Intellectual merit – what did the person do, why is it important, and why is it relevant to the award?
- How did the person enable the outcomes and impact – building trajectory and ongoing impact - not a single event but sustained high level contribution.
- Broader impacts – what more does this person do, what has changed as a result of their work?

Examples of Impactful Statements in Nominations



Impactful

The nominee served as the Department Chair at their University for 12 years. They initiated the concept, secured funding, and oversaw construction of a new shared instrumentation facility, creating a nationally recognized facility that services 4 local Universities and industry. Furthermore, the nominee also changed our Physics program by developing a new degree in nanotechnology, which has attracted over 100 students each year and creates a pipeline of highly sought after graduate students for physics departments across the country. The nominee encouraged every faculty member to develop elective courses in their fields to support the new nanotechnology facility and degree program.

The nominee generated 15 patents at their company. Of these patents, the CEO has recognized three of them with awards of distinction, signifying that they have had significant impact to company sales (>\$5 million). In addition, two of the patents are in healthcare products, directly affecting the lives of patients by restoring blood-flow quickly.

The nominee served on all nine committees of our local chapter. On many of the committees, he/she served in a leadership role. As one example, the nominee used his/her experience on the Membership Committee to suggest useful ways to use the identify and contact new section members from industry, resulting in growth in activity of our chapter of over 50%.

Not Impactful

The nominee served as the Department Chair at his/her University for 12 years.

The nominee generated 15 patents at his/her company.

The nominee served on all nine committees of our local chapter.

Tips for Nomination Letters of Support

1

- Letters should be from people who know the nominee or their contributions well.

2

- Strong sets of letters will be from diverse (role, international) supporters, to provide a more complete picture of the nominee.

3

- Letters should complement the nomination and provide specific examples (do not duplicate the nomination).

4

- No need to repeat what is in nominee's CV.

5

- Nominators should supply letter writers a draft of the nomination to enable the supporters to write strong letters.



Things to Focus on for Specific Awards

Fellow – scientific/technical/policy/governmental contributions and service, especially to AVS or the broader community.

In addition to academics, candidates from government research and policy agencies, standards organizations and industry are encouraged to apply.

Mark, Welch, & Langmuir – primary focus is scientific/engineering excellence and relevance to AVS technical areas.

Thornton – particularly relevant to thin films and plasma. Be sure to incorporate those into the accomplishments.

Hanyo – technical support role. Talk about their impact on their team as well as any support/ mentorship of their community. This is a good place to recognize a vendor or technical staff at a vendor.

Student – separate student's contribution from their group/mentor.

Fellow Nominations

Industry and Government Sectors

Impact Statements

You may be leading teams within a company or government agency and rather than undertaking research, your impact lies in:

- commercial outcomes
- team success/outcomes
- new product and process implementation
- development and delivery of changes in policy, funding, and culture.

Go beyond h-index, citations and other metrics that are typically used to compare academic researchers. Explain specific role context and opportunities for impact/leadership.

Factors to Highlight in Addition to/Instead of the Traditional Publication and Academic Metrics

Industry Impact – process development and manufacturing changes – commercial impact, scaling, and market share.

Industry/academic/philanthropic/government partnerships and research leadership.
Impact in training and skills development, and larger scale diversity and inclusion outcomes.

Policy Leadership – changes in standards, government policy or funding, white papers, new scientific fields advanced or created.

Team leadership for success – team growth and impact.

Deep engagement and implementation of knowledge into standards, foundational operations, and sector-wide change.

Global reach and influence within sectors including the creation/advancement of new scientific communities.

Context around the current and past roles of the nominee and scope for impact from within that role – is it internal impact or external facing role. Show evidence for how that impact is measured and ensure it is highlighted within the letters of support.

Seeking Excellent and Diverse Nominations

AVS is proud of its awards and history and as the diversity of the society expands, we encourage the nomination pool to reflect the growing diversity of the Society.

If the nominee isn't what you think of as a traditional AVS awardee, don't let that keep you from submitting a strong nomination package.





**Thank you for your
efforts in submitting
award nominations!**

