Service Excellence Award Committee Report

NASSS 2019

Committee Members:
Joshua Newman (Chair), Marques Dexter, Shaun Edmonds, Donna Wolf

Award Criteria include, but are not limited to:

- Service to NASSS as an organization
- Scholarly impact on the field through the discipline of the sociology of sport

Process:
A call for nominations went out to the NASSS membership on March 14. A reminder was sent out on June 12. Nomination letters were accepted via email. A final reminder was sent out prior to the August 31 deadline on August 21. Two NASSS members were submitted via three separate letters. The committee members independently reviewed the letters and the stated accomplishments of the nominees. The members then ranked the nominees and provided a rationale for the ranking.

Selection:
The Committee agreed on the winner after sharing of ranking and rationales. Both nominees were exceptional and accomplished. There were a few factors which set the winner, Dr. Brenda Riemer, apart, which are noted in the recommendation letter:

> When looking up the various definitions of service in the dictionary, the following best personifies the qualities that Brenda provided to NASSS and its members: useful labor that does not produce a tangible commodity, the function of serving, employment as a servant, and the one that best describes why she so deserves this recognition, contribution to the welfare of others. Brenda has left her position as treasurer, but more important has left NASSS in its best financial shape, ever.
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> The Treasurer is one of, if quite frankly not the most, important positions for the organization and often the least recognized. The NASSS President does a lot of work with the conference planning and is highly visible, but that conference wouldn't happen without sound finances. For years, Brenda led NASSS efforts to complete the required paperwork for our non-profit status, updated countless forms and payments, and spent countless hours diligently guiding the direction of NASSS to its financial solvency.
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> Brenda has been stalwart for years regarding our finances and upkeep of the books...not necessary the most joyous of tasks. Always accountable!
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> As someone who has been lucky enough to collaborate with Brenda, I have benefited from her great mentorship - she guided me through presentations at my first (NASSS!)

and other early conferences, and continues to share her ideas and expertise with other new faculty and graduate students

In times of NASSS instability, when I was asked to assume the presidency of the organization for an extra year, I accepted mostly because I knew that I would be surrounded by exceptional individuals and Brenda Riemer was one of those. Indeed, her service as treasurer has been impeccable and a crucial factor in the long-term success of NASSS

For many years now, NASSS has been blessed with an inspirational force for good in the person of Brenda Reimer. Painstakingly, patiently, and with aplomb, Brenda deftly executed her responsibilities as treasurer to the benefit of every NASSS member, making the mysteries of NASSS's financial situation more transparent and understandable.

At every NASSS conference you (Brenda) had a concise and transparent report on where we stood with respect to finances and which issues needed attention accompanied by advice on how to address them. I know it was a LOT of work and I appreciate that (as I'm sure the rest of the NASSS membership did).

Brenda helped save the organization from financial devastation, she has always provided wise council and sage advice to everyone in NASSS leadership, she is one of the hardest working and most ethical people in NASSS, and she is two hoots and howler to be around!!

Signatories supporting Dr. Riemer's nomination were:
Leigh Ann Danzey-Bussell
Brian Gearity
Toni Bruce
Cheryl Cooky
Audrey Giles
Mary Jo Kane
Annelies Knoppers
Jeff Montez de Oca
Geneviève Rail
Jane Stangl
Ellen J. Staurowsky
Theresa Walton-Fisette
Erica Zonder