**2020 MSR Promising Dissertation Proposal Awards**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**  **March 17, 2020, 5:00 PM EDT**

The Academy of Management MSR Interest Group is pleased to announce the 2020 MSR Promising Dissertation Proposal Awards. These awards are made available annually to doctoral candidates approaching completion of comprehensive exams, beginning the formulation of their dissertation topics, and/or currently performing dissertation-related research. This year, we are pleased to continue a tradition of awarding stipends to top finalists for the purpose of offsetting dissertation research and conference travel costs.

The purpose of these awards is to honor and assist doctoral candidates working in the domain of Management, Spirituality, and Religion (MSR) to develop quality dissertations that can: (1) integrate management with spirituality and/or religion, and (2) reflect novel and/or significant evidence-based theoretical and/or applied contributions to the field. As an emerging discipline of scholarship within the Academy of Management, MSR seeks to encourage quality doctoral dissertations as a springboard to ongoing contributory research and inquiry.

Submissions should generally align with the MSR domain statement: "MSR explores how spirituality and religion can influence organizational dynamics and affect management outcomes. In that regard, MSR is devoted to defining the relevance and impact of spirituality and religion in management, organizations and society. Major areas of study include theory building and empirical research around the issues of faith, spirituality and religion as they influence principles and practices in management. Important contributions have been made in MSR research to better understand the meaning of work, the impact of spirituality and spiritual leadership in the workplace, the purpose of business, the effects of religious pluralism in the workplace, and the distinctive elements of individual religious and spiritual beliefs that cultivate inner awareness and promote wisdom for the common good."

Please include a digital photo with all submissions. Submission of material for this award shall be deemed as an acknowledgement by applicants that they authorize the MSR Interest Group to publish photos, biographical information, and/or portions of submitted material for press releases or other purposes that the organization may deem appropriate.

**Expectations of Finalists**

.       Attend the 2020 Academy of Management meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, August 7-11, 2020.  Note: See the additional requirement to attend the pre-conference MSR Consortium as follows.

.       Attend the MSR Research Consortium which precedes the AOM conference.  This year's Consortium is scheduled for Thursday, August 6, 2020. Location details will be provided.

.       Come to the Consortium prepared to discuss progress to date on your research proposal as well as receive feedback during the session.

.       Attend the dissertation awards presentation during the MSR business meeting tentatively scheduled for Sunday during the conference. Meeting schedules will be finalized before the conference date.

.       Submit a scholarly paper to MSR through the Academy of Management review process when the thesis is completed. This would normally occur within one or two years after receiving the award.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**

Dissertation proposals must be submitted by **March 17, 5:00 PM EDT** to be considered for an award. Finalists will be notified approximately four months in advance of the Academy of Management Annual Meeting to allow time to make appropriate travel plans for attendance. Additional information on the AOM 2020 conference may be found [here](http://aom.org/annualmeeting/theme/).

**Submission Requirements**

**Please email your dissertation proposal to the MSR Most Promising Dissertation Proposal Committee Chair by the March 17 due date**. NO MORE THAN FOUR (4) DOUBLE-SPACED PAGES MAY BE SUBMITTED, INCLUDING REFERENCES AND/OR FIGURES, providing an overview ('executive summary') of the proposed research, setting forth the topic of interest or study, its relevance to MSR, links to interesting theoretical concerns, preliminary or current methodological approaches, and connection to managerial actions or practice. "Refined” proposals and/or research findings are not required. An aim of the MSR Promising Dissertation Proposal Awards is to capture early ideation or research of significant promise and to provide subsequent assistance in the refinement of quality scholarly efforts. **Already completed or defended dissertations are ineligible.** Please contact the MSR Dissertation Proposal Committee Chair for questions regarding qualifications or eligibility of your submission.

**Selection Committee**

The selection committee for the Most Promising Dissertation Awards in any given year may consist of MSR Interest Group officers, distinguished Academy of Management scholars, and external invited reviewers. All decisions by the selection committee are final. Anyone who wishes to serve on the selection committee should contact either the MSR Dissertation Proposal Committee Chair or the MSR Chair if interested. Thank you for your support and interest in MSR.  We look forward to your participation in this program.

------------------------------

Orneita Burton

Chair, MSR Promising Dissertation Proposal Committee

oxb00a@acu.edu

(325) 674-2759

Charles Tackney
Chair, MSR IG Academy of Management
*cttack@gmail.com*
------------------------------

**Note**: Doctoral students and early career faculty doing research in the MSR domain are also encouraged to apply for the MSR/Fetzer Emerging Scholar Scholarship. This scholarship refunds up to $2500 to cover travel expenses to attend Academy of Management MSR pre-conference, conference, and post-conference events. For more information, contact the MSR Scholarship Committee Chair Judi Neal, judi@edgewalkers.org.