Award/Scholarship Description: The **Leading Light Award** is presented annually to a NACADA member in recognition of significant contributions to diversity, equity and inclusion within NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising. **Diversity**, as defined by the NACADA Board of Directors, includes **ethnicity, gender, gender identity, disabilities,** and **sexual orientation** as well as diversity in regard to **institutional type, size, and employment position**. Examples of contributions are innovations to encourage advisors from underrepresented populations to join and remain in NACADA, outreach to specific underrepresented populations, service to NACADA on behalf of an underrepresented population, etc.

These one-time awards/scholarships are non-transferrable to another person or activity/event. **Individuals may nominate themselves.** Current NACADA Board members, NACADA Council members, Administrative Division Chairs, Region Chairs, Advising Community Chairs, Advising Community Cluster Reps, and NACADA Executive Office staff are not eligible for nomination. NACADA’s Executive Office staff does not disclose who is nominated or how many individuals are nominated for any award/scholarship. Because we believe there is considerable strength in diversity, the selection committee strongly encourages applications from groups under-represented in the Association and its leadership.

Eligibility Criteria:
- Nominee/applicant must be a current member of NACADA at the time of application.
- Nominee/applicant must have a history of involvement and membership in the association.
- Previous winners are not eligible.

Selection Rubric:
None

Recipient receives:
- An engraved award plaque
- Early bird registration to the Annual Conference
- Travel funds up to $500 ((Hotel, then Air, then Food) towards Annual Conference
- Recognition at the Annual Conference Global Awards and Scholarships Ceremony

Number of awards/scholarships available:
1 Award per year.

Application materials required (all documents must be uploaded in PDF format, including letters):
Submit materials via the NACADA Awards online nomination system including the following documents, uploaded in PDF form:

**Nomination/Application Letter:** This letter should:

- Summarize the nominee/applicant’s qualifications and why the individual is being nominated for the award.
- Provide evidence and examples that exhibit visionary and insightful leadership to promote positive interactions and a commitment to the inclusion of persons of marginalized groups within the academic advising profession and ensure diversity within and among NACADA members.
- Provide leadership in the advocacy for the fair and equitable treatment of all people to development of best practices that support the diversity goals of NACADA.
- Provide evidence that the candidate has made significant contributions to NACADA in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Contributions include innovations to encourage advisers from underrepresented populations to join and be contributing members, outreach to specific underrepresented populations and/or service to NACADA on behalf of an underrepresented population. Contributions may be at any level of the association.

**Letters SHOULD NOT exceed three pages, single spaced.**

**Letters of Support:** A required component of the application materials submitted is letters of recommendation. Please include up to three letters of support and/or recommendation, not to exceed 9 letters maximum. These letters must come from other NACADA members who might augment the selection committee's understanding of the nominee. These letters must be on institutional letterhead. **Letters SHOULD NOT exceed two pages, single spaced.**

**Current Resume or Curriculum Vita:** Please limit entries to material that pertains directly to academic advising, presenting relevant information from the nominee/applicant's overall resume/vita. Please include the nominee/applicant’s current job with either a position description or a list of job responsibilities.

**Additional Materials:** Please include any additional materials that support the candidate’s nomination. These materials must be included in one PDF file as an attachment in the online system application. **Total number of pages should not exceed more than 40 pages.**

**Selection Process:**
The current NACADA Council members in place, at the time of the review period, read and score the nominations in this category. The NACADA Vice President makes the final award selections based on the reviews completed by the Council members.

**Expectations of Award/Scholarship winner:**
It is ideal if the nominee/applicant has the support of their office/department/college/institution in attending the annual conference as the recipient will be recognized and presented their award during the Annual Conference Global Awards and Scholarships Ceremony. Recipients may be asked by NACADA to provide a written testimonial of their conference/event experience including ways in which their career and/or education benefitted from receiving the NACADA Award/Scholarship.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Criteria</th>
<th>Outstanding 3</th>
<th>Proficient 2</th>
<th>Fair 1</th>
<th>Inadequate 0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Packet:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Nomination/Application Letter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Letters of Support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Current Resume or Curriculum Vita</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Additional Materials</td>
<td>Packet complete and is a current NACADA member.</td>
<td>Packet complete and is a current NACADA member.</td>
<td>Packet complete and is a current NACADA member.</td>
<td>Incomplete packet. One or more required items are missing from the submission, or the applicant is not a current NACADA member. Application automatically ineligible for further evaluation or consideration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrated significant contributions to NACADA in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Contributions include innovations to encourage advisors from underrepresented populations to join and be contributing members, outreach to specific underrepresented populations, and/or service to NACADA on behalf of an underrepresented population.</td>
<td>Multiple examples of significant contributions to NACADA in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion.</td>
<td>Some examples of significant contributions to NACADA in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion.</td>
<td>Limited examples of contributions to NACADA in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion.</td>
<td>Examples of contributions to NACADA in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion are limited and/or not significant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrated leadership in the advocacy for the fair and equitable treatment of all people to the development of best practices that support the diversity goals of NACADA.</td>
<td>Multiple examples of leadership and/or advocacy for the fair and equitable treatment of all people to advance the development of best practices that support the diversity goals of NACADA.</td>
<td>Some examples of leadership and/or advocacy for the fair and equitable treatment of all people to advance the development of best practices that support the diversity goals of NACADA.</td>
<td>Limited examples of leadership and/or advocacy for the fair and equitable treatment of all people to advance the development of best practices that support the diversity goals of NACADA.</td>
<td>Very limited or no examples of leadership and/or advocacy for the fair and equitable treatment of all people to advance the development of best practices that support the diversity goals of NACADA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrated visionary and insightful leadership to promote positive interactions and a commitment to the inclusion of persons of marginalized groups within the academic advising profession and ensure diversity within and among NACADA members.</td>
<td>Multiple examples of commitment and/or leadership to promote inclusion of marginalized groups within the academic advising profession.</td>
<td>Some examples of commitment and/or leadership to promote inclusion of marginalized groups within the academic advising profession.</td>
<td>Limited examples of commitment and/or leadership to promote inclusion of marginalized groups within the academic advising profession.</td>
<td>No examples of commitment and/or leadership to promote inclusion of marginalized groups within the academic advising profession.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>