



THE SOCIETY FOR
POLITICAL METHODOLOGY
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Excellence in Mentorship Award Committee
Drew Dimmery
Jane Sumner
Michelle Torres

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Dear Professor Xu

As this year's award committee for the Becky Morton and Tom Carsey Excellence in Mentoring Award, we write to commend you on the strength of your nomination. These awards are in many ways a function of seniority, in that faculty with longer careers build up larger stores of letter-writers, but we were especially impressed by how many letters you received even at this early stage of your career, and how strong those letters were. As such, although this award does not historically have an "honorable mention" category, this year we opted to create one.

Students, cite, in particular, your ability to make difficult topics comprehensible and your commitment to your students' success. As an example, one student wrote, "He inspires confidence and encourages a deeper understanding of the material, fostering an environment that rewards both growth and mastery. His commitment to mentoring students, especially those from non-traditional backgrounds like mine, is truly commendable". Another agreed, writing, "It is so clear that his goal is to help every single person in the department do the best research they can and he is willing to devote ample time to this."

Although you were not selected this year, the strength of your nomination letters suggest a bright future. Congratulations on an extremely well-deserved award.

Best,
Drew Dimmery, Jane Sumner, Michelle Torres