



October 19, 2017

Distinguished Scholar Award committee members:

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Dr. Charles Hartwig for the Arkansas Political Science Association's (ArkPSA) Distinguished Scholar Award in 2018.

This award is presented to a current or past member of the Association who has had "an exemplary teaching, scholarship, and/or service record in the areas of political science, public administration, or public policy, including at least ten years in the state of Arkansas." As I will briefly explain below, I believe that Charles meets, and in fact exceeds, the criteria for the award.

Charles arrived at Arkansas State University (ASU) in 1973. By that time, he had already served as a volunteer in the Peace Corps in Monrovia, Liberia (1965-1967) and taught at Slippery Rock State College in Pennsylvania (1971-1973). In between, he earned a M.A. degree in Political Science at the University of Kentucky (1975) and worked as a hospital administrator in Kenya (1969-1970). In 1973, Charles embarked on a nearly 40-year career of successful teaching, research, and service at ASU.

During his career at ASU, Charles positively impacted thousands of undergraduate students through the teaching of a wide variety of political science courses, mainly in the fields of international relations and comparative politics. In particular, Charles developed an expertise in African governments and politics. Charles was awarded a Fulbright Lectureship from the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) in 1985-1985, during which he taught at Cuttington University College in Liberia. Three years ago, Charles was honored with the "Distinguished Faculty" recognition for his nearly four decades of teaching at ASU.

Charles' research record at ASU includes several published book chapters and articles, as well as dozens of book reviews over the course of his career. Charles was also an active participant in several academic conferences, including presentations at the Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), Southwestern Political Science Association (SWPSA), African Studies Association (ASA), Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Liberian Studies Association (LSA), International Studies Association-Southwest (ISA-Southwest), Southwest Council of Latin American Studies (SCOLAS), and Arkansas Political Science Association (ArkPSA).

In the area of service, Charles' record of providing high school and undergraduate university students with experiential learning opportunities outside of the classroom was outstanding. Without going into all of the details, Charles advised the ASU Model United Nations (MUN) student organization for nearly 40 years, during which he regularly took students to the Arkansas Model United Nations (AMUN) conference at the University of Central Arkansas and the

Midwest Model United Nations (MMUN) conference in St. Louis. More often than not, his ASU undergraduate students won outstanding delegate and delegation awards at these conferences. As an indication of his Model UN reputation, he was asked to give keynote addresses during the opening sessions of the 1987 and 1995 AMUN conferences at UCA. In the last decades or so, Charles and his students organized several Model UN conferences at ASU for high school students. He served on the Board of Directors of MMUN, Inc. from 1999 to 2001. He also organized *Model UN for Beginners* workshops for students and teachers in northeast Arkansas in the early 1990s. There should be little doubt that numerous students benefited considerably from the various Model UN learning experiences sponsored by Charles.

Perhaps not surprisingly, Charles also served the ASU Department of Political Science with distinction, including serving as department chair from 1982 to 1993, and interim department chair from 2002 to 2003. He also served as M.A. Coordinator in the Department of Political Science from 1992 to 2010. In addition, he served on a variety of department, college, and university committees during his time at ASU.

Finally, Charles was an active and productive member of the Arkansas Political Science Association (ArkPSA). Charles attended (and often presented papers at) most of the annual meetings of the Association after its founding in 1974. In addition, Charles served in a variety of leadership positions with the Association, including Program Chair (1978), Vice President (1978-1979), and President of the Association (1979-1980). Few current or past members of the Association have a longer or deeper record of active involvement and participation than does Charles.

Again, I strongly support the nomination of Dr. Charles Hartwig for the Distinguished Scholar Award from the Arkansas Political Science Association (ArkPSA) in 2018. I know that Charles would be greatly honored and humbled to receive this award at the next annual meeting of the ArkPSA, which will be held at ASU in Jonesboro.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Mullenbach". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Mark Mullenbach

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Central Arkansas
Former President of the Arkansas Political Science Association (2008-2009)