

September 21, 2015

Dr. Mark Mullenbach
217 Irby Hall
University of Central Arkansas
Conway, AR 72034

Dear Dr. Mullenbach:

I would like to nominate Dr. Gary Wekkin for the Arkansas Political Science Association's distinguished scholar award. Dr. Wekkin is retiring after this year and I know that this award would be very meaningful to him because of the contributions he has made to the Arkansas Political Science Association. Dr. Wekkin has been a member of the Arkansas Political Science Association since 1982. He has been an active member and helped to develop the Association's reputation as a top notch state association. He sat on the Association's executive council from 1993-96, was program director in 1993, and was the president in 1994. Dr. Wekkin also was the editor of the Association's *Mid-South Political Science Journal* from 1990-1992 and then reorganized it as the *American Review of Politics* and continued to edit it from 1993-1996.

As an instructor Dr. Wekkin has developed the expertise to teach a wide variety of courses which have included the American Presidency, Politics of Presidential Selection, Interest Groups & Money in Politics, Political Parties & Electoral Problems, Political Behavior, Campaign Organization & Management, State & Local Government Public Opinion, Scope & Methods, Legislative Process, and International Politics. In his classes he has been successful at bridging the gap between theoretical political science and practical politics for the benefit of his students.

Dr. Wekkin has also been an active scholar. He has published three books, fourteen book chapters, and over twenty research articles or notes. Dr. Wekkin's research goes beyond quantity for he has also been recognized for the quality of the work. The most prominent honor awarded to Dr. Wekkin has probably been the V. O. Key, Jr. Award for the best book on Southern politics which he was awarded in 2001 from Southern Political Science Association.

In accordance with the nominating procedures I have included a copy of Dr. Wekkin's vita.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tom McInnis", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom McInnis