

September 28, 2015

To: Dr. Mark Mullenbach
Chair of the Committee for ArkPSA's Distinguished Scholar Award
University of Central Arkansas

Dear Dr. Mullenbach:

I am delighted to nominate Dr. Harold (Hal) F. Bass, Jr. for the Arkansas Political Science Association's Distinguished Scholar Award. As someone who participated in the discussions that led to the creation of the award, and having worked with Hal for 22 years, I strongly believe he has clearly met the substantive criteria for receiving this honor.

Hal is one of those rare individuals who is both an excellent teacher and scholar. Working at a small, liberal arts college, he has had to teach a wide variety of courses during his 40-year career at Ouachita Baptist University. He has succeeded at teaching not only courses within his areas of expertise, but also in others. In regard to the former, he has taught courses in the sub-field of American Institutions, such as American National Government; Parties, Campaigns, and Elections; the American Presidency; and Congress. He has also willingly served as the instructor for CORE courses, such as Contemporary World, as well as Political Science courses outside the sub-field of American Institutions, such as World Politics. He has won the university's *best professor* award on multiple occasions. Related to teaching, for several years, he served as the faculty sponsor of the Student Senate.

Hal has also a strong record of scholarship. In addition to several conference papers, he has numerous publications. They include manuscripts in prestigious academic journals. Indeed, he is rightly recognized as one of the top scholars in the area of the American Presidency.

Hal has also demonstrated exemplary service. As you know, he has participated in the Arkansas Political Science Association for decades. This participation includes serving on the board and taking the role of Program Chair. He has consistently served on panels at the ArkPSA's annual meeting. His service includes being an officer for the Southwest Social Science Association. He was that organization's president in 2008.

I highly recommend Hal for the ArkPSA's Distinguished Scholar Award. He has a strong record in all three areas of teaching, scholarship, and service to the discipline and the academy more broadly. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Kevin L. Brennan
Professor of Political Science
Ouachita Baptist University