

## Kubiëna Medal

### **Current Description**

#### **Purpose of Award (established):**

The Kubiëna Medal award is conferred by the IUSS Soil Morphology and Micromorphology Commission (originally Subcommittee B - ISSS) to commemorate Walter L Kubiëna for his distinguished contribution to soil micromorphology. His works opened up a new dimension to soil science.

This IUSS medal is awarded for outstanding and sustained contribution in the discipline of soil micromorphology.

#### **Qualifying Criteria (established):**

The awardees must demonstrate an

- 1) Outstanding performance in the discipline of soil micromorphology
- 2) Sustained performance in the discipline of soil micromorphology

All areas of micromorphology including research, teaching and its application to environmental, agricultural, archaeological and industrial problems are considered relevant.

#### **Application Package (established):**

- 1) Statement of key achievements and career highlights of the nominee (1 page)
- 2) Curriculum vitae detailing career history and publication record of the nominee
- 3) Name of proposer and seconder for the nominee
- 4) Any other relevant information in support of the nominee
- 5) Full address and contact details of the nominee

#### **Composition of the Kubiëna Medal Committee**

The selection committee for the Kubiëna Medal award is composed of the previous Kubiëna medal holders plus the Chair and past Chair of IUSS Commission 1.1. Soil Morphology and Micromorphology.

### **PROPOSED REFINEMENTS**

#### **Background:**

Here we aim to respect the original “Criteria for selection of nominees” given above but (i) implementing those with more precise sub-criteria and (ii) implement additional criteria (e.g. recognition to services to soil micromorphology).

The Kubiëna medal evaluation Committee has to implement these criteria and has the freedom to establish how to weight them. In general terms, here it is suggested that for each candidate the research criteria (1a) must represent the majority of the total evaluation.

Kubiëna Medal candidates do not require to be retired, but please remind that this is a prize rewarding an outstanding carrier in Soil Micromorphology thus the award assumes that candidates would be in a ‘later’ stage of their careers.

#### **EVALUATION GUIDELINES:**

#### **A. Characterizing “Outstanding Performance in the Discipline of Soil Micromorphology”:**

##### **1 Contributions to the Science of Soil Morphology:**

##### **1a) Advancing the Frontier of Knowledge (Research)**

- \* To consider both the *quality* and *quantity* of papers (IF and not IF) and books
- \* *Evaluation criteria* to include:
  - congruency of research contributions with soil micromorphology
  - originality of the research
  - use of metrics (n. papers, quality of papers (e.g. journal ranked on impact factor-IF normalised for Soil Science, number of citations, h-index, etc.)
  - impacts in soil science and allied scientific communities (i.e. diversity)

### **1b) Knowledge Translation and Transfer (Technical Innovations and Applications)**

- \* To consider the *quality* and *quantity* of techniques, technologies and applications
- \* *Evaluation criteria* to include:
  - impacts in soil science and allied scientific communities (i.e diversity)
  - impacts on land management and policy

## **2 Contributions to the Promotion of Soil Morphology:**

### **2a) Preparing the Next Generation Soil Micromorphologists (Teaching)**

- \* To consider the *quality* and *quantity* of theoretical courses, skill-training activities, as well as development of relevant instructional materials (e.g. textbooks, reference sections/images)
- \* To consider the *quality* and *quantity* of scholars mentored (e.g. supervision of post-graduate students, post-doctoral researchers)

### **2a) Service to Micromorphology Community**

- \* To consider the participation and contribution on relevant committees (e.g. Chair/Vice-Chair of Commission 1.1, organization of ICoSM or other items of similar importance).
- \* Representation of micromorphology in non-traditional forums

## **B. Characterizing “Sustained Performance in the Discipline of Soil Micromorphology”:**

\* Eligibility for the Kubiěna Medal does not require candidates to be retired, but it does assume that they would be in a ‘later’ stage of their careers. Accordingly, candidates will be evaluated from the perspective of the effort they regularly focussed to micromorphology during their professional career. This may include temporal continuity (N. of years) of active engagement in soil micromorphology.

## **C. Additional Considerations regarding Application Package:**

\*Each candidate must be nominated independently. Decisions to potentially jointly recognize more than one individual, would be entirely the purview of the Kubiěna Medal Award Committee.

\*The evaluation of candidates will be based on the presented documentation; but the Committee members are free to consult web resources (e.g. WoS, Scopus) to get further insight in the presented applications. In this regard, nomination packages should be as specific and succinct as possible, ensuring that the various evaluation criteria are effectively addressed in the statement of key achievements and curriculum vitae.

## **COMPOSITION STANDING AWARD COMMITTEE FOR THE KUBIĚNA MEDAL:**

\* The Standing Award Committee for Kubiěna Medal shall be composed of at least five members: (i) All recipients of the two most recent Kubiěna Medal competitions (also considering

ex -aequo); (ii) the current Chair and most recent past-Chair of IUSS Commission 1.1; and (iii) until reaching the minimum of 5 members additional senior soil micromorphologists will be selected from previous terms chair and past-Chair of IUSS Commission 1.1.. Despite the above, in case the number of 5 components is not reached then an electronic election will be performed.

\* Nominated candidates, and nominators of Kubiëna Medal candidates, will be ineligible to participate on the Award Committee. If one of the Award Committee members becomes a Medal candidate, or the nominator of a Medal candidate, the current Vice-Chair of IUSS Commission 1.1 shall that substitute that individual on the Award Committee.

\* Deliberations among Award Committee members will typically be through emails and by video conference.

