Subject: Outstanding Research Article Award

Review Responsibility: Research Committee

Policy Statement:
SGNA encourages its members to conduct research studies and recognizes the value of publishing research findings by awarding the Outstanding Research Article Award. This award is presented annually to the author(s) of the most outstanding research article.

Focus:
Authors of research articles published in Gastroenterology Nursing Journal.

Purpose:
To outline the process for selection of the recipient of the Outstanding Research Article Award.

Procedure:
1. Articles are eligible for consideration if they (a) were published in Gastroenterology Nursing Journal between January 1 and December 31 of the year preceding the award and (b) describe the findings of original research by the authors. If a member of the committee is an author of an article under consideration, the member will excuse him/herself from the research article review process.

2. Criteria for judging the quality of the articles will be developed by the Research Committee.
   2.1 The Research Committee will review the criteria annually.
   2.2 The criteria will be published annually in the January/February issue of the SGNA News and the January/February issue of Gastroenterology Nursing Journal (GNJ).
   2.3 Article quality will be judged using a scoring form based on standard criteria for critiquing research articles.

3. The Research Committee will review all articles published during the time period of eligibility to determine which articles meet the criteria for eligibility.

4. Members of the Research Committee will individually rate eligible articles using the standardized scoring form. The article with the highest mean score will be selected for the Outstanding Research Article Award. If this average is not indicative of the most highly rated article, additional scoring methods may be used and a committee conference call will take place to determine the winning article.
5. The Research Committee Chair will announce the name of the article and the authors receiving the award at the May Board meeting in the form of an Information Report.

6. The Research Committee Chair will send award recipient(s) a congratulatory letter.

7. SGNA Headquarters will prepare the award which includes:
   7.1 The check to be given to the first author (who is responsible for dividing it among co-authors)
   7.2 A certificate of recognition for each author of the selected article.
   7.3 Recognition of the recipients in the SGNA News and/or Gastroenterology Nursing Journal.

8. The award will be presented at the Annual Course by the Research Committee Chair.