

ACRL Instruction Section Awards Committee Process Document for Award Rubrics

Purpose of the Rubrics

The criteria for the Instruction Section's Innovation Award and Ilene F. Rockman Publication of the Year Award are intentionally written to allow for a wide range of nominations. While this creates a diverse set of nominees, it can leave the committee's selection conversations scattered. With this in mind, two rubrics were created to guide the committee's discussions during the selection meeting.

This document outlines how these rubrics are to be used throughout the awards process. It is critical to keep in mind that these rubrics are conversation starters for the committee. They are to provide some focus to discussions. These rubrics are *not* intended to be the final determinant of each award.

Transparency of the Process

While nominations and publications under consideration are strictly confidential, the Awards rubrics are publicly available. This allows for nominators to see the criteria the publications and projects will be evaluated on each year. Any questions about how the rubric is used can be directed to the Awards Committee Chair or Vice-Chair.

Norming the Rubric

The rotating roster for the Awards Committee necessitates that the rubrics be normed before reviewing each year's nominations. The purpose of the norming process is not to achieve perfect calibration, but to come to a shared understanding of the rubrics' language and the group's interpretation of the rubrics. Each year the committee should approach the rubrics with fresh eyes and not rely on their understanding of its use in previous year(s).

Because the rubrics are publicly available to nominators and will likely guide submission packets, the rubrics *cannot* be changed during the norming process. There will be an opportunity to modify the rubrics each year in the spring. If the committee feels that the rubric should be changed, the Chair or Vice-Chair should take detailed notes and revisit them when it is time to consider revising the rubrics in the spring. (It is advised that the Secretary, often a new member to the committee, not be responsible for this task. An experienced member of the committee who used the rubric in the previous year is best positioned to take these notes.)

The norming session will occur each year in late November or early December. The timing is at the discretion of the Chair and Vice-Chair and should be informed by the year's timeline. The outgoing Chair selects the publications and projects to review at the conclusion of the previous year's selection process. The outgoing Chair should use the rubric results from the previous year to choose two Rockman Award publications and two Innovation Award nominations for the norming session. There are no strict rules on which nominations to select for norming, but a selection from the middle of the voting spread and a leader is advised. The committee should

not use either of the previous year's winners in the norming process. These selections can be communicated to the Vice-Chair via email.

For the norming session the Chair can determine how the committee reports scores. This can follow the formal process outlined below (see the Using the Rubric section) or it can be done more informally.

Using the Rubric

Each committee member will use the rubric to generate scores for the Rockman publications and Innovation projects. The norming session should guide how each individual interprets the rubrics for that year. *Again, do not rely on guessing how the previous year's committee interpreted the rubric, but use the norming session as the collective determinant of interpretation.* As members complete their scoring, they should keep notes to track ambiguities, outliers, and uncertainty when using the rubric. These can help when talking about the nominations with the committee during the selection meeting.

The Chair will create an online survey (using Google Docs, Qualtrics, etc.) to collect rubric scores in advance of the selection meeting. Below is an example using Qualtrics of what the online survey could look like. (Names of non-winning projects are hidden to protect their confidentiality.)

Project Title

- 1. [Redacted]
- 2. [Redacted]
- 3. [Redacted]
- 4. 23 Framework Things
- 5. [Redacted]
- 6. [Redacted]
- 7. [Redacted]
- 8. [Redacted]
- 9. [Redacted]

Rubric Scores:

Idea: Develops a novel, clever, or original approach to a long-standing or wicked problem in line with national trends of information literacy instruction and programming (10 points)	0
Quality: Implementation of best practices applicable to the project's format, platform, or other such design (5 points)	0
Quality: Demonstrated level of impact through assessments, surveys, or other measurements (5 points)	0
Product/Outcome: The project is transformative or represents a breakthrough to solving a long-standing or wicked problem in information literacy instruction or programming (10 points)	0
Product/Outcome: The project has a vision for how it can be sustained in the future (5 points)	0
Other: Points at the discretion of the reviewer for qualities such as inspirational, scalability, replicability, open access, etc. (5 points)	0
Total	0

The timeline for reporting scores should be determined by the Chair, but the Chair should plan for at least one hour of time to organize the survey data in advance of the selection meeting.

The Chair will be prepared to share the survey data with the committee during the selection meeting. It is advised to do this through screen sharing, not by sharing the rubric results directly with committee members. This adds an additional protection to the confidentiality of the process. Downloading the data to Excel or some other manipulatable software is advised. This will allow for the Chair to quickly rearrange the results by nomination or publication during the selection meeting.

After the Awards Committee selects winners for the year, the Chair should use the rubric score results to chose two Rockman Award publications and two Innovation Award nominations for

the norming session the next year. These should be shared with the Vice-Chair, who will lead the norming process in the following year in their role as Chair of the Awards Committee.

Revising the Rubric

The Rockman and Innovation Award winners are determined prior to ALA Midwinter. During the selection meeting, the committee should determine if the rubrics need to be revised in any way. This can be done through a compilation of notes taken during the norming process and through their use in the selection process. Revisions to the rubrics should be made during the spring before the committee is too removed from the process to remember.

Revision is not required in any given year and is at the discretion of the Awards Committee. Final approval is contingent upon the Instruction Section's Executive Committee. Revised rubrics should be posted to the Award's website once approved.

Drafted June 2018 by Maoria J. Kirker, 2017-2018 IS Awards Chair