

Paul Smeal Leadership and Administration Award
Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science
(Approved by Executive Committee February 2, 2018)

Background: The Leadership and Administration Award was initiated by Dr. A. Hugh Dempsey, University of Georgia, while he was President of the Southern Region, and was first presented in 1979.

In 2006, the Executive Committee voted to rename the Leadership and Administration Award after Dr. Paul Smeal in honor of his 13 years of service as Secretary-Treasurer.

In 2009, the Executive Committee voted to expand those eligible for the award to include administrators of Horticulture Units with a minimum of 6 faculty equivalent positions with examples listed such as Department Heads at Universities, USDA units, botanical gardens and arboreta, etc.

Award: A plaque provided by Southern Region American Society for Horticultural Science.

Objectives: To recognize outstanding and effective Leadership and Administration contributing to the progress of Professional Horticulture. The award should promote interest and appreciation for superior Leadership and Administration for the improvement of Horticultural Science.

Eligibility: The recipient should be an administrator and leader who currently is active or has been active within the past five (5) years; who is or was an administrator of Horticulture Units with at least 6 FTE or at least half of the faculty having a position description that address horticultural commodities in the areas of teaching, research and/or service. Eligible administrative titles include Department Heads or Chairs at Universities or Colleges, College of Agriculture level administrators, University level administrators, USDA units, botanical and arboreta, which must be located in one of the States of the Southern Region ASHS. Nominations can be made beyond this scope and will be evaluated for eligibility on a case-by-case bases.

This is a life-time award and can be awarded to any given individual only once.

Selection: The selection committee will be composed of the three most recent past Presidents of the Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science. The senior past president will serve as Chairman of the selection committee and each year the immediate past president will become the junior member

Criteria or Qualification:

- (1) The nominee should have demonstrated leadership and administrative support that resulted in substantial progress for Professional Horticulture and/or has enhanced the status of the Horticultural unit based on research, teaching, and extension accomplishments; such as through publications, grants, undergraduate and graduate programs, and service to advance Horticulture. The selection committee should consider the involvement and service of a department's faculty and staff in the Southern Region American Society for Horticulture Science.
- (2) Nominees should be nominated by and information supplied by those supervised by him/her.
- (3) Letters of support may be obtained from administrators supervising the nominee.
- (4) Nominees who were seriously considered for the award the year of nomination, but was not selected, may be continued in contention for one more year without renomination. Unsuccessful candidates will then be dropped from further consideration, unless renominated.