

Kevin McKeough Award
For Outstanding Participation in the Political Process
Northern Illinois University

The Department of Political Science is now accepting applications for the Kevin McKeough Award for outstanding participation in the political process by a graduating senior at NIU. The McKeough Award is given each year to the political science major or minor who has made an outstanding contribution to the political process while at NIU through work in political campaigns, interest group activity, or election to public office.

The McKeough Award honors Kevin McKeough, a professor specializing in American politics, who retired from the political science department in 1999 after 30 years of service. The award acknowledges the importance of political participation in our society, and it encourages excellence in that participation. The award brings with it a certificate, recognition at the departmental commencement ceremony, and a monetary stipend of \$500. In addition, the recipient's name will be inscribed on a plaque in the departmental main office.

Applicants must submit 1) an essay of up to five double-spaced pages describing their political participation and its impact, 2) a copy of their transcript, and 3) two letters from persons knowledgeable about the applicant's political participation. The letters must clearly describe the applicant's accomplishments and contributions to the political process. Participation in student government or in government agencies does not count toward the award. Candidates must have earned at least a 2.5 GPA in political science courses.

Participation in politics through a departmental internship is strongly encouraged by the department, although it is not a prerequisite for the receipt of this award. Academic credit may be earned for internship activities if arrangements are made before the internship begins.

Applicants should send the cover letter, transcript, and two letters of recommendation to the Assistant to the Chair, Department of Political Science, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb IL 60115, by **4:30 p.m., Monday, March 12, 2012.** Questions may be directed to the Assistant to the Chair at 815-753-7039.