

2018

Excellence in Scholarship Award Citation for Jerald Podair

Lawrence University

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2018 AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP OR CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Jerald Podair

In your 20 years at Lawrence University, you have distinguished yourself as one of our most prolific and accomplished scholars, producing highly regarded, award-winning studies on U.S. political and historical topics involving modern civil rights struggles and contemporary urban history. The 2017 publication by Princeton University Press of *City of Dreams: Dodger Stadium and the Birth of Modern Los Angeles*, is the latest, and arguably the most august, chapter in this already impressive narrative. Winner of the 2018 Dr. Harold and Dorothy Seymour Medal of the Society for American Baseball Research, *City of Dreams* has drawn favorable attention from critics at the *Los Angeles Times* and the *New York Times* and was named a Finalist for the 2018 PEN/ESPN Award for Literary Sports Writing.

In fact, this is not the first time you have received this award. In 2010, then-President Jill Beck presented you with the Excellence in Scholarship Award in recognition of your “outstanding” scholarly contributions since joining the faculty in 1998: the publication of two major monographs (*The Strike that Changes New York: Blacks, Whites, and the Ocean Hill-Brownsville Crisis* and *Bayard Rustin: American Dreamer*), election as a Fellow of the New York Academy of History, membership in the Wisconsin Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, and, in 2005, your appointment to the Robert S. French Professorship of American Studies.

In receiving this year’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship, you become the first faculty member to be twice so recognized. This is a remarkable accomplishment, and one that is richly deserved. I am extremely pleased to present you with the 2018 Award for Excellence in Scholarship.

June 10, 2018