To: Directors of Undergraduate Studies  
From: Kenneth W. Warren, Deputy Provost for Research & Minority Issues  
Date: April 20, 2010  
Re: Oliver Cromwell Cox and Ernest Everett Just Award

I am pleased to announce the second year of the Oliver Cromwell Cox and Ernest Everett Just Award.

The Office of the Deputy Provost for Research and Minority Issues will award annually for the next four years a $500 prize to the undergraduate senior thesis recommended for departmental honors from any discipline that best exemplifies the aspirations and achievements of Oliver Cromwell Cox and Ernest Everett Just, graduates of the Division of Social Sciences and the Division of Biological Sciences, respectively. In recognition of the distinct areas of study of the named honorees, college honors level theses from all disciplines are eligible for nomination.

Oliver Cromwell Cox (1932, MA Economics; 1938 PhD, Sociology) was an independent-minded social scientist whose scholarship rigorously explored the meaning of race and the nature of race relations in American life. His book, *Caste, Class, and Race: A Study in Social Dynamics* (1948) remains a touchstone of mid-twentieth century scholarship on race in the United States.

Ernest Everett Just (1916, PhD Zoology) was awarded the NAACP’s inaugural Joel A. Spingarn Medal for outstanding achievement by an African American in 1915. A longtime chair of the Department of Zoology at Howard University, Dr. Just made foundational contributions to research on cellular structure in his major work, *The Biology of the Cell Surface*, published in 1939.

Eligibility: In keeping with the broad diversity goals of the Office of the Deputy Provost for Research and Minority Issues, senior theses recommended for departmental honors in any field may be nominated for the award by a faculty member or preceptor. Successful nominees will typically have a thesis that focuses on issues of diversity and inequality and/or a personal background that includes overcoming disadvantage and adversity.

Deadline: Friday, May 7, 2010

Nomination Process: Send an email that includes the requested nomination information and the nominated thesis as an attachment to cox-justaward@lists.uchicago.edu no later than Friday, May 7, 2010.

Cox-Just Award Nomination Information  
/ I. Contact information  
Nominee’s Name, Email, Department & Thesis Title  
Nominator’s Name, Email, and Department

/ II. Evaluation of Thesis (Required)  
Faculty/Preceptor evaluation of Thesis (This can be the evaluation submitted in recommending the thesis for honors).
III. (Optional)
If you feel it would be helpful to our evaluation, please describe how this thesis contributes to scholarly inquiry into inequality and diversity, or provide additional information about the student’s personal background or career that you believe makes him/her an appropriate candidate for a Cox-Just award.

Please direct inquiries to Cheryl Bradley-Stone at cbradley@uchicago.edu.

The 2009 Cox-Just Award Recipient

Julia Fox Coburn received the 2009 Cox-Just Award for her thesis, Documenting Rightlessness: Theoretical Perspectives on Mexican Illegality Within The United States’ H-2 Guestworker Program.

The Oliver Cromwell Cox-Ernest Everett Just Award is made possible through a generous donation from Edouard Maciejewski.