# ASSOCIATION OF RICE ALUMNI GOLD MEDAL NOMINATION FORM

Nominee Melbern & Susanne Glasscock	Phone 713-626-9525 Fax
Address 3507 Inwood Drive	
City/State/Zip Houston, TX 77019	Rice Class Year(s) 1961 & 1962
Degrees/Majors/Years/Institutions Melbern - MS	
Occupation/Professional Field Business Executive	ve/Petrochemical Industry // Philanthropy/Fundraising
Current Title/Position President & CEO of Texas	s Aromatics, LP // Philanthropist

The Gold Medal is the highest award bestowed by the Alumni Association, and is designed to recognize Rice alumni, faculty, staff, or friends who have rendered extraordinary service to the university. The following criteria will be considered:

- a) outstanding service in promoting the ideals of the founder of the university
- b) unusually deep dedication to and advancement of the academic excellence of the university
- c) uncommon generosity of time and means in support of the university

Please attach a letter of recommendation describing the merits of the nominee. Consider the following question in support of the above criteria: **Does this candidate foster a true lifelong connection to, or influence upon, the university, showing concern for its ongoing vitality and helping to shape its future direction?** 

#### Please note that incomplete nomination forms cannot be considered.

Nominated by George '88, '91 & Susannah Webb Phone 7	13-529-6762 Fax 713-481-8488
Address 4011 Turnberry Circle	
City/State/Zip Houston, TX 77025	
Please list two other people (i.e., colleague, classmate) whom yo to further validate your nomination.	ou have asked to write a letter of suppo
	Balatianakia Rice alumnus
Name Bobby Tudor '82 - Member, Rice Board of Trustees	Relationship Rice alumnus  Phone 713-522-9256
Name Bobby Tudor '82 - Member, Rice Board of Trustees  Address 1405 South Boulevard, Houston, TX 77006  Name Dr. Mary McIntire - Dean of Continuing Studies	Relationship Rice alumnus Phone 713-522-9256 Relationship Rice employee

Please return nomination material to:

Lauren Linn Assistant Director Office of Alumni Affairs – MS 520 Rice University P.O. Box 1892 Houston TX 77251-1892 or fax to: 713-348-5210

## Association of Rice Alumni (ARA) Laureates Program

# Nomination of Susie and Mel Glasscock for 2013 Gold Medal

by George W. Webb III ('88, '91) and Susannah Koontz Webb August 31, 2012

It is with great enthusiasm that we put forth the nomination of Melbern "Mel" ('61) and Susanne "Susie" ('62) Glasscock for Rice University's 2013 Gold Medal. We have had the distinct pleasure of knowing Mel and Susie for the past several years and have experienced first-hand their deep and long-standing devotion to Rice. They are exemplary ambassadors for Rice who have provided extraordinary service to the University across all domains considered for this award:

#### 1. Outstanding service in promoting the ideals of the founder of the University

The Glasscocks have been champions of the ideals established by President Lovett: to accept outstanding students; to intensify research, scholarship and professional excellence; and to serve the community. Mel and Susie's contributions to both the George R. Brown School of Engineering (supporting the Alan Chapman Award to recognize an outstanding senior mechanical engineering student) and the Shepherd School of Music (funding grants and prizes in voice and several instruments) have helped these schools attract, reward and retain exceptional students from around the world. In total, Mel and Susie have created six endowed scholarships that support more than 25 students annually. Most visibly, their unparalleled support of the School of Continuing Studies has enabled Rice to powerfully extend its reach beyond the hedges, offering the Houston community an increasing breadth of programs of the highest quality while showcasing Rice's educational excellence.

# 2. Unusually deep dedication to and advancement of the academic excellence of the University

Illustrative of the Glasscocks' dedication to University advancement is their service on multiple University boards that guide, fulfill or support Rice's academic mission. Susie has served with distinction on the Rice Board of Trustees; the Leadership Committee of the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy; the Board of Directors of the Friends of Fondren Library; and the advisory board of the Shepherd School of Music. In each case, her time and talent have facilitated fundraising efforts and fostered the professional growth of these entities, strengthening Rice's position as a preeminent university locally, nationally and internationally.

## 3. Uncommon generosity of time and means in support of the University

The Glasscocks' philanthropic support of Rice has been uncommon in its longevity, consistency, and magnitude. Mel and Susie have given to Rice for over 30 years, and have supported the Annual Fund every year for as long as the University has maintained giving records. Not surprisingly, they are among the top 25 donors to the Centennial Campaign. Their monetary support has earned them membership in <u>all</u> of Rice's giving societies: the Rice University Associates; the William Marsh Rice Society, which they served as chairs; and the Rice Legacy Society, for cumulative giving of at least \$4.6 million. The Glasscocks' record of generosity is highlighted by their eight-figure donation in 2005 to endow the Susanne M. Glasscock School of Continuing Studies – a gift believed to be the largest ever made to a university continuing studies program in the United States.

In addition to their personal philanthropy, Mel and Susie have worked tirelessly to lead and encourage the generosity of others. Realizing the importance of philanthropic participation, they have been alumni leaders for the senior gift challenge (most recently at McMurtry College), serving as role models for students in supporting their alma mater. As a member of the Rice University Fund Council, Susie was part of a select group that worked closely with the Development Office on fundraising programs. Susie's most visible role as a philanthropic leader for Rice has been her service as Co-Chair of the Centennial Campaign and member of the Campaign Leadership Working Group. In this pivotal volunteer role, Susie is a recognizable face of this historic campaign and a personal force behind its success.

Equally noteworthy are the Glasscocks' energy and example as proud and visible alumni. Mel and Susie are leaders of the Class of 1962's 50<sup>th</sup> reunion and enthusiastic participants in a wide range of alumni endeavors, including the Alumni Travel Program (most recently joining the Lewis and Clark expedition led by John Boles in July 2012). They have been instrumental members of the Friends of Fondren Library, whether serving as Gala Chair (as Susie did in 1999), donating valuable items to the group's silent auction, or opening their home to host special events. Moreover, the Glasscocks are tireless cheerleaders for Rice athletics and its student athletes, and have held season tickets at the highest level for several sports across many seasons. At home and on the road, you can find Mel and Susie in the stands rooting for the Owls.

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Susie and Mel's profound and sustained involvement with Rice has directly impacted hundreds of faculty, staff, students and alumni, and has indirectly touched thousands more who count Rice as part of their community. In everything they do, the Glasscocks represent Rice with integrity and professionalism, but also with a warm personal touch that welcomes all members of the Rice community to connect with the University and with each other. While Susie's service to Rice was recognized in 2005 with the ARA's Meritorious Service Award, even that considerable honor does not do them justice. As Mel and Susie have given and continue to give so much, while seeking so little in return, we cannot conceive a more appropriate recognition for this outstanding couple than the Gold Medal.



September 14, 2012

Ms. Carrie Brown
Executive Director of Alumni Affairs
Rice Alumni Office
6100 Main Street
Houston, Texas 77030

Dear Carrie,

I am writing to second the nomination of Mel ('61) and Susie ('62) Glasscock for Rice University's 2013 Gold Medal.

In every regard, the Glasscocks represent and promote the ideals and mission of Rice. They give generously of both time and treasure, having supported endowed scholarships for students; grants and prizes in both the Shepherd School and the School of Engineering; and of course, extraordinary leadership at the Glasscock School of Continuing Studies. They are tireless givers, workers and advocates for the Rice Annual Fund. And while they are constantly asked to, and happily serve as, leaders of various campaigns, committees, and projects at Rice, they are also enthusiastic foot soldiers, eager to help others when called upon. If the term "generosity of spirit" ever applied to anyone, it applies to Susie and Mel.

They have also played an important role in the increased engagement of Rice with the City of Houston, where they are recognized community leaders. The respect they command from the City's civic and cultural leadership has enhanced Rice's brand in Houston, and allowed us to touch many more of our fellow citizens than we otherwise might. Everyone knows that Susie and Mel are connected to and passionate about Rice, and their character and qualities inspire others to become similarly engaged.

Perhaps most importantly, the values that the Glasscocks project in their everyday life speak most eloquently to the values of Rice. They have a commitment to excellence in their professional and civic endeavors; they are kind and compassionate people, dedicated to helping those less fortunate; they are friendly, civil, and respectful of others; and, they know how to have a good time!

Ms. Carrie Brown September 14, 2012 Page 2

While there are many who have positively impacted the trajectory of our University in the past twenty-five or so years, I can think of very few who have had both the breadth and depth of impact as have the Glasscocks. I gladly second their nomination, without reservation.

Respectfully yours,

Bobby Tudor ('82)

## Association of Rice Alumni (ARA) Gold Medal Award Supporting Document for the Nomination of Susie and Mel Glasscock Submitted by Mary McIntire ('75), Dean, Susanne M. Glasscock School of Continuing Studies

It is a great pleasure to write in support of Susie and Mel Glasscock's nomination for the Rice Alumni Gold Medal award. For nearly fifteen years, I have had the honor of knowing Susie and Mel. During that time, I have come to appreciate both their great loyalty to Rice and their commitment to the Houston community. Others will no doubt speak to the Glasscocks' involvement in a wide range of Rice activities and while that is very important, I want to focus on their role as ambassadors for the University, as two individuals deeply committed to strengthening the ties between Rice and Houston.

Susie and Mel Glasscock are widely recognized in Houston and beyond for their generosity, their humility, and their active role in making our city a better place to live. They are dedicated supporters of Texas A&M, where Mel served on the Foundation board, the Good Samaritan Foundation, which promotes nursing as a career by providing scholarship funds to Texas nursing students and where Mel has chaired the board, Bayou Bend, where Susie has been a docent and a trustee of their advisory committee, and the Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council, where Susie is a board member. Additionally, they support with resources and with service an extraordinary number of religious, civic, and cultural organizations in the greater Houston community. In recognition of their remarkable leadership, the Greater Houston Chapter of Association of Fundraising Professionals awarded them at a luncheon with nearly 1,000 attendees the 2007 Maurice Hirsch Award for Philanthropy. This is the association's highest award, and it is given to those few who have a proven record of exceptional generosity, outstanding civic and charitable responsibility and "whose generosity encourages others to take philanthropic roles on a community level." Susie and Mel are remarkable ambassadors for Rice.

We in Continuing Studies are proud that our School is named the Susanne M. Glasscock School of Continuing Studies. Through that transformational gift, Susie and Mel have ensured that the School will for generations provide innovative and accessible education, training, technology, and curriculum to the Houston community. The more than 500 courses offered in a given year enrich the lives and advance the careers of Houstonians both today and for decades to come. The Glasscock School has one of the largest programs for college preparatory teachers in the country, has recently initiated the Center for Philanthropy and Non-profit Leadership to strengthen though extensive programs the non-profit fabric in our city, offers extensive personal enrichment courses, and provides professional development in a host of certificate programs that prepare our citizens to move ahead in their careers. The School also offers two masters' degree programs, the Master of Liberal Studies and the Master of Arts in Teaching. Truly, what the Glasscocks have enabled us to do has had a significant multiplier effect on hundreds of thousands of our neighbors.

What the Glasscocks have made possible for the School and Rice to accomplish is precisely what Edgar Odell Lovett envisioned for the University at its founding. He spoke—with great vision—of the importance of Rice's responsibility to Houston, of the bonds between the University and what was then a small city with a few hundred college graduates, even suggesting that he hoped those alumni of other institutions would come to see Rice as their alma mater. He spoke of his plan to ask Rice faculty to give lectures to business people and teachers, with subjects chosen of "current interest as well as those of assured and permanent value." He went on to say that education "does not begin with the university, nor does it end in the university. It is a matter of life, the whole span of life." The Glasscocks exemplify this idea. They have been taking Continuing Studies courses for more than thirty years and inviting their friends and neighbors to join them. They have a constant curiosity and love of learning for life, a love they want to share with the broader community of which they are a vital part. They want to advance the academic excellence of the community by making that excellence available through Rice to our Houston neighbors.

More recently, Susie and Mel's support of the new building for Continuing Studies will help the school to reach its full potential: an enrollment of 20,000, increased professional development courses; capacity for extensive e-learning that can benefit the entire campus as well as the community; a learning in retirement program and an increase in other daytime courses; and, most of all, a physical space that represents the University's engagement to Houston, a literal and figurative portal for a vibrant, ongoing conversation of academic excellence. Susie and Mel have begun a legacy that will change lives through education now and for generations to come. For all that they do for the University and for our city, Susie and Mel are ideal candidates for the Association of Rice Alumni's highest honor.

Karen Hess Rogers

1802 West Bell

Houston, TX 77019

September 12, 2012

#### TO THE ASSOCIATION OF RICE ALUMNI

I am writing to second George and Susannah Webb's nomination of Mel and Susie Glasscock for the Gold Medal Award. I find it difficult to add many details to their well-researched nomination. It is obvious that, from the Webbs' remarks, there is no job too large for the Glasscocks to tackle.

What I would like to emphasize, however, is that there is no task too SMALL for them to undertake either. This indicates to me that they will do whatever it takes to support Rice University with no interest in any glory or recognition their efforts will bring them.

Some examples of the less-recognized responsibilities include serving on athletic advisory boards and friends' groups like the Friends of Fondren Library and graciously opening their home to Rice Historical events like the holiday party and book-signing.

That said, it really is impossible to overlook their generous philanthropic activity and their long-standing commitment to Rice in the many ways George and Susannah put forth. Susie's willingness to co-chair the Centennial Campaign, an incredibly labor-intensive (and probably stressful) undertaking, is just short of heroic.

What makes the Glasscocks' contributions (time and treasure, both) even more striking is the fact that they also have strong ties to Texas A & M, an institution that has honored them in the past. It seems like it is time for Rice to honor them with this really meaningful award.

Sincerely, Karen Hess Rogers '68