**Scholarships and Awards Committee Report for 2015-2016**

**Members:** Courtney Nagle, Chair (SCI); Kerry Adzima (BUS); Mary Grace Galinato (SCI); David Kahl (HSS); Ihab Ragai (ENG); Eric Robbins (BUS); Joshua Shaw (HSS); Leo Sun (ENG)

**Overview:** The committee solicited nominations for both university-wide and campus-wide awards. The committee screened, interviewed, and selected the winners for the campus-wide awards. The committee also implemented some changes to facilitate the process of interviewing and selecting candidates.

1. (Standing Charge) Review student awards applications and nominations and recommend award recipients.

2. Change or make improvements to the nomination process to encourage more faculty and staff to give recommendations.

3. Determine criteria for awarding Chancellor’s Scholarship Fund and determine monetary value.

**Charges:**

1. Review student awards applications and nominations and recommend award recipients

Background:

* Standing charge

Status:

* Received 26 overall nominations for university/campus-wide awards. Selected a winner for each of the five campus awards.

Recommendations/Notes:

* The number of nominations was up from 18 in 2014-2015.
* Winners were selected for all awards.
* There was some confusion as to what was meant by an “underclassmen” in the award descriptions. We recommend that the descriptions are clarified to help nominators and the committee during the process.

 2. Change or make improvements to the nomination process to encourage more faculty and staff to give recommendations.

Background:

* Charge suggested by last year’s committee.

Status:

* On-going.

Recommendations/Notes:

* The committee placed a lot of emphasis on encouraging faculty to make nominations. The representatives from each school followed-up with faculty from within their school and sent emails or put flyers in mail boxes to encourage nominations.
* Only two students were nominated for the First-Year award. Although verbiage was included in emails to encourage faculty to nominate underclassmen, the response was still low. Additional emphasis should be placed on encouraging nominations of underclassmen in the future. One idea is to target the instructors of first-year seminars for soliciting more nominations

3. Determine criteria for awarding Chancellor’s Scholarship Fund and determine monetary value.

Background:

* Continuation from last year’s committee.

Status:

* Done

Recommendation/Notes:

* The committee touched base with Tera VanDooren to discuss this charge. Tera confirmed that the committee’s work was done with regard to this scholarship. The committee does not need to do anything further related to this charge.

**Future Recommended Charges:**

1. (Standing Charge) Review student awards applications and nominations and recommend award recipients.

2. Work with Student Activities to rewrite award descriptions (as necessary) to make criteria clear to committee and faculty nominators.

3. Make changes and recommendations for changes to improve the process of receiving nominations and selecting award recipients.