

2020-2021
UNIVERSITY SENATE ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Name: University Scholarship Committee

Number of Meetings Held this Year: 3

Committee Chair: Jennifer A. Espinosa

Committee Members: (list here)

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--|
| Melanie Alverio | Nadia Rahin | |
| Normal Beil | Cass Sherman | |
| Aimee Burgin | | |
| Christina Davidson-Tucci | | |
| DeLithea Davis | | |
| Heather Doblou | | |
| Bethany Gummo | | |
| Juming Pan | | |

Purpose of/Charge to Committee:

The University Scholarship Committee (USC) is responsible for reviewing the scholarship application process for University-awarded scholarships and generating criteria to evaluate student applications. After thoroughly reviewing the submitted applications, the committee selects recipients for University-awarded scholarships based on the specific requirements for each scholarship, such as academic achievement, financial need, and involvement with the university community.

Summary of Activities this Year:

- September 2020: The USC received updates from Financial Aid about revisions made to the Scholarship Universe platform based on our recommendations from last awarding cycle. In addition, the USC was provided a preliminary list of the scholarships to be awarded for the 20-21 cycle, which was very helpful.
- December 7th, 2020: The USC met for the first time and discussed the criteria used to evaluate student applications. We collaborated with representatives from

Financial Aid, and as a committee brainstormed on solutions to improve our grading criteria for the upcoming scholarship applications we would review.

- January 31st, 2021: Scholarship applications closed.
- February 2021 – April 2021: USC members reviewed scholarship applications, and scored the applications according to the criteria agreed upon at our December meeting. 100% of applications were reviewed by committee members prior to our first deliberation meeting. We reviewed 58 total scholarships during this period out of a possible 78 to award. 20 scholarships unfortunately had no applicants for us to review.
- April 9th and 16th, 2021: USC members met to deliberate and select recipients for the 58 scholarships with applicants.

Scholarships Reviewed & Awarded:

1. AAA South Jersey Scholarship
2. AFT Margaret Cagney
3. AFT Paul Tong
4. AFT Retirees Non-Traditional Scholarship
5. AFT Retirees Traditional Scholarship
6. AFT Graduate Scholarship
7. AFT Schaub
8. Agnes Shornock Brus
9. Albert Bortnick Memorial Scholarship
10. Anthony Daniel DeNofio Cultural Award
11. Boykin, Pauline Endowed Scholarship
12. Brooks, Tianna
13. Broomall, Lawrence
14. Burgin Leadership Scholarship
15. Charlesworth Secondary Education Scholarship
16. Class of 1961 Scholarship
17. Class of 1962 Scholarship
18. Class of 1965 Scholarship
19. Collard, Robert & Arlene
20. DiMedio, Anthony Memorial Scholarship
21. Doris V. Broome Undergraduate
22. Eynon, Sally Scholarship
23. Fasulo Family Scholarship in Business
24. Foundation Continuing Scholarship
25. Gardiner, Dickinson and Frances
26. Gemmell, Marie Ann Memorial
27. Governor's Scholarship

28. Greany Scholarship
29. Grossman, Doris Theatre Scholarship
30. Hanley, Erin Marie Scholarship
31. Harris Family
32. Harris, Robert A.
33. Hemighaus, Chrissy Gladney Memorial Scholarship
34. Hilton, Paul A. Memorial Scholarship
35. Hoffman, Matt Courage Scholarship
36. Jackson, George
37. James & Agnes shornock
38. James John Shornick Jr
39. Kressler, Amelia & Peter
40. LaBruna, Stanley & Betty
41. LaCrosse, Jonathan Annual Scholarship in Business
42. Lewis, H.V./Florence
43. Matteo Family Scholarship
44. Maxwell, Sandy Education Scholarships
45. May Funeral Home Scholarship
46. Mozee-Smith, Sandra Scholarship in Accounting
47. Nardone, Darlene Scholarship
48. Piazza-Stubbs
49. Presser, Clifford & Jane
50. Reardon Bailey, Harriett
51. Renzulli Ferrar and Joseph Scholarship
52. Robinson, Thomas & Margaret
53. Schwab, Dorothy and William
54. South Jersey Gas
55. Vanguard Adjustors Group Scholarship
56. Visceglia, John
57. Warner, Mabel S.
58. Yovnello, Nicholas Scholarship

Scholarships Without Applicants:

1. AFT MLK
2. Blaisé Iaconelli Management Information Systems Scholarship
3. Brooks, Susan Davenport
4. Cafiero, Judge & Mrs Anthony
5. Culotta, Thomas & Deborah
6. Faison, Gwendoyln Ashford
7. Gemmell, Cole Memorial
8. James John Shornick Sr
9. Kramer, Melvin
10. McMullen, Leonard A & Seniz U international Scholarship in Science & Engineering
11. Michals, Edward & Stella Memorial Scholarship
12. Moore, Charles & Joyce Scholarship for Urban Excellence

13. Mullen, Isaac & Anna
14. Murry, Kathleen
15. Palmer, Bob and Deana Scholarship in Business
16. PROS Outstanding Scholar award
17. Richie, Frank and Helen
18. Showers, Charles
19. Spinelli, Mark
20. Terry, John Elizabeth

RECOMMENDATIONS & SUGESTIONS

1. In the Fall of 2021, the committee chair would like to have a meeting with the Foundation Scholarship Coordinator to learn more about donors' preferences in terms of scholarship criteria and award selection.
2. Prior to December 2021, the committee would like to receive more detailed information about the breakdown of the Expected Family Contribution figures for the 2021-2022 awarding cycle. Specifically, it would be helpful for the committee to know what the maximum amount of Pell grant students can receive for the 2021-2022 cycle is in comparison to Rowan's cost of attendance. Having this information will help the committee make improvements in how we review scholarships.
3. The revised essay box worked well this cycle and allowed students enough space to write a proper essay. The settings for the essay box for the Anthony DeNofio Cultural Award need to be adjusted similarly, so students have more space to describe the life of a typical Italian American immigrant.
4. For the scholarship application, it would be helpful to add a question asking students when they expect to apply for graduation to help the committee better gauge class standing.
5. Reaching students and encouraging them to apply for scholarships continues to be a challenge. While it is unclear if remote classes and the pandemic have made it harder to reach students due to a larger amount of emails in general, there were 20 scholarships that had no applicants and could not be awarded this cycle. Particularly in the College of Education, several scholarships had a very small number of applicants. Looking for new ways to reach students and notify them about scholarship opportunities is recommended. Perhaps a survey should

be sent out to students to determine the best ways to communicate scholarship information to them, or determine if issues with Scholarship Universe prevented students from completing applications.

6. The list of scholarships provided to the committee was extremely helpful in organizing our deliberation meetings this cycle. Continuing to receive this list will help us continue to improve our processes in future cycles and have productive deliberation meetings.
7. At least one representative from the Financial Aid office was present at all of our meetings this cycle, which was also very helpful. The committee was able to get answers to questions about Scholarship Universe, student applications, and FASFA info right away. This helped our meetings run more smoothly, and we hope to continue this positive collaboration next cycle.
8. This cycle, the committee was notified of scholarships that needed to be re-assigned due to over awards or the initial recipient not meeting the criteria for the scholarship (e.g., graduating before receiving the full scholarship value). This re-review process has been very beneficial in identifying the need for a way to track students' expected graduation date in Scholarship Universe, so that can be considered during USC deliberation meetings. The committee requests this practice continue, as it provides good feedback and insight on how to better deliberate and award scholarships.