

Faculty Economic Welfare and Retirement Committee

2014-2015 Annual Report

DATE: July 13, 2015
TO: Mike Bailey, President
OSU Faculty Senate
FROM: JoAnne Bunnage, Chair
SUBJECT: Student Recognition and Awards Committee Annual Report 2014-2015

2014-2015 Committee Members

Faculty Representatives:

JoAnne Bunnage, Chair '16, Public Health & Human Sciences
Scott Akins '16, Sociology
Mike Cieri (v. McAloney) '16, Business
Nick Fleury (v. Allan) '15, International Degree & Education Abroad
Adrian Gombart '15, Linus Pauling Institute
Patricia Lacey '15, ASOSU
Kari Miller '15, Recreational Sports
Ramesh Sagili '16, Horticulture
Amy Riley '17, Extended Campus
Faith Vawter '17, Public Health & Human Sciences

Student Representatives:

Emily Chamberland, Human Development and Family Sciences
Joshua Kaufman, Pre-Business
Anesat Leon-Guerrero, Sociology
Tabitha Pitzer, Political Science
Rose Barbour, Public Health, Policy & Management

Ex-Officio Member:

Patricia Brady-Glassman, Financial Aid & Scholarship

Executive Committee Liaison:

Alix Gitelman, Statistics

Student Recognition and Awards Committee Standing Rules

The Student Recognition and Awards Committee coordinates awards that are university-wide in nature and that are awarded by faculty to students. The Committee also plans and conducts, with the support of the ex-officio, an assembly or other appropriate program for the presentation of these awards to their recipients. The ex-officio works closely with the Committee and is responsible for the tasks associated with the university-wide recognition and awards program. The Committee is responsible for selecting the recipients of the Drucilla Shepard Smith Scholastic Awards, the Clara H. Waldo and E.A. Cummings Outstanding Student Awards, and the AAUW Senior Woman of the Year Award. The committee consists of nine faculty, up to eight students and a representative from Financial Aid & Scholarship.

Student Recognition and Awards Committee Activities and Actions

As stated in the Standing Rules, the Student Recognition and Awards Committee (SRAC) is responsible for receiving applications and selecting recipients for the Clara H. Waldo and E.A. Cummings Outstanding Student Awards, and coordinating the Drucilla Shepard Smith

Scholastic Awards. The AAUW Senior Woman of the Year Award had not been managed through the committee in recent years and was not on the award roster for AY 2014-2015. The Committee Chair met with the committee on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 and Friday, February 27, 2015 to plan the committee's work for the Clara H. Waldo and E.A. Cummings Outstanding Student Awards selection process. During the November meeting, the committee reviewed the Standing Rules, developed a timeline of committee activities, discussed the development of an SRAC Handbook, brainstormed ways to recruit student members, and discussed the election of a co-chair. During the February meeting, the members reviewed and voted on a proposal to change which Waldo Cummings Award finalist (awardees and/or honorable mentions) would be invited to the *All-University Student Recognition and Awards Dinner*; reviewed SRAC responsibilities; agreed upon the 1) type of information requested of the students, 2) evaluation of applicant files, and 3) selection of finalists and interview process. Committee meeting agendas and the proposal are available at [Appendix A](#).

Patricia (Patti) Brady-Glassman, Ex-Officio, supported the committee in providing the student data following winter term grade posting for both the Waldo-Cummings Outstanding Student Award and Drucilla Shepard Smith Award. She and Kirk Lind, Assistant Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships, coordinated the *All-University Student Recognition and Awards Dinner* in partnership with University Events. University Events designed and provided the framed awards for presentation to Waldo-Cummings awardees at the event. The recipients of the Drucilla Shepard Smith Award had their names listed in the program, and the seniors were recognized during the Awards Dinner.

The *All-University Student Recognition and Awards Dinner* was held on Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at the Memorial Union Ballroom. Award winners and their guests (academic mentor, family member or friend), as well as many university leaders, were present. Members of the SRAC presented Waldo-Cummings awardees with a framed award as biographical information about each was read by the emcee, Vice Provost Susie Brubaker-Cole. A copy of the program from the All-University Student Recognition and Awards Dinner, with a list of the Awardees and Honorable mentions, is available at [Appendix B](#).

Junior Subcommittee Members:

Scott Akins, Sociology
Patricia Lacey, ASOSU (Chair)
Ramesh Sagili, Horticulture
Joshua Kaufman, Student Representative

Senior Subcommittee Members:

Nick Fleury, International Degree & Education Abroad
Kari Miller, Recreational Sports (Chair)
Mike Cieri, Business
Emily Chamberland, Student Representative

The SRAC is broken into four subcommittees; their primary responsibilities are to review applications and select recipients for the Waldo-Cummings Award. The subcommittee chairs gather their members, coordinate the student interviews, and make final selection decisions. The subcommittee chairs provide the SRAC chair the list of Awardees and Honorable Mentions.

Following Winter Term 2015, 4,506 undergraduate students had 3.50+ GPAs and were invited to apply for the Waldo-Cummings Award. Additionally, 218 undergraduate students had 4.00 GPAs and received the Drucilla Shepard Smith Scholastic Award. The committee received and reviewed application materials from 39 first-year students, 56 sophomore students, 101 junior students and 212 senior students for the Waldo-Cummings Outstanding Student Award. From the 408 total number of applications, 64 students were advanced to the interview phase, including 12 first-year students, 12 sophomores, 20

juniors and 20 seniors. The Drucilla Shepard-Smith received 218 eligible recipients, including 27 first-year students, 66 sophomores, 62 juniors and 63 seniors.

Feedback & Recommendations for 2015-2016 Chair and Faculty Senate President

In this section, committee feedback and recommendations for the 2015-2016 Committee Chair and Faculty Senate President are detailed.

Waldo-Cummings Student Application: The increase in the number of applicants for the Waldo-Cummings Award may be partially attributed to better communication with eligible students. The Committee spent much time revising application materials and developing multiple communication messages. Using Qualtrics, eligible students were emailed twice – once on March 27th and a reminder on April 6th. Wording needs to be added about when applicants will be contacted if they are or are not moving to the interview phase.

Clarification of Class Standing: There is a need to revisit the class standing of students who have credits earned before matriculating at OSU. Often times, Advanced Placement and college credits earned in high school move students into a higher class standing. This means the junior and senior Subcommittees evaluate a vast number of applications.

Student Representation: Representation of student peers on the committee was something we made great strides with this year. All five of the student representatives will be asked to serve again next year. We will contact ASOSU late-summer and again early-fall. Additionally, we will continue to work with the Faculty Senate Office to fill the student seats on the committee if ASOSU is not responsive to our requests.

Student Recognition and Awards Committee: Committee members are very dedicated and thoughtful in their review and selection of applicants for the Waldo-Cummings Award. Most of the time dedicated to this Committee is within a four to five-week period at the beginning of spring term. There is a need to have a Co-Chair who can help to manage Committee logistics and work with the Chair and Subcommittee members. Additionally, the Co-Chair and other members can help to develop a SRAC Handbook to pass along each year. See [Appendix C](#) for the 2014-2015 Timeline of activities.

Summary of Recommendations:

- Update text of the messages sent to qualified students about when they will learn if they moved to the interview phase of the selection process.
- Revisit class standing and credit range for each class.
- Continue discussion with ASOSU in timely identification of student representatives for service on the SRAC.
- Elect a Co-Chair and development of an SRAC Handbook.

Implementation Status of Recommendations from 2014-2015 Annual Report

In this section, implementation of recommendations from the 2014-2015 Annual Report is provided.

Waldo-Cummings Student Application – *Consider the design and implementation of a standardized application form that will result in more efficient data format for committee review. A downloadable format to Word vs Excel is preferred.*

Implemented – The committee reviewed the application format and agreed the Qualtrics-based application was the best platform for developing, sending, gathering, and managing student information. Committee members had the option to download data in either Word or Excel, but most used Excel. To make the process easier for committee members, the chair sorted applications and provided trouble shooting support when needed.

Student Representation – *Continue discussion with ASOSU in timely identification of student representatives for service on the SRAC.*

Implemented – Communication with ASOSU about our need for eight (8) student representatives began fall term. SRAC members also communicated our need for student representatives through their networks. Finally, the Faculty Senate Office was diligent in their efforts to fill the student seats on the committee. This year the SRAC had five (5) student representatives, one of which was recruited by a committee member.

Award Document – *Obtain official copy of award document for clarification of rationale in selection of awardee and honorable mention recipients.*

Partially Implemented – Working closely with Patricia Brady-Glassman, the Committee investigated obtaining official copies of criteria for the Waldo-Cummings Award. We were not able to find historical documents which include the application criteria and rationale of selection for awardees and honorable mentions. However, Patty provided valuable insights that guided decisions and communication with students. A question that still remains is whether there is a small reserve of funds for a monetary award for Waldo-Cummings recipients.

Application & Event Timeline – *Discussion with University Events on moving the awards dinner to the third week in May.*

Implemented – Shelly Signs from University Events was contacted mid-July 2014 and asked if the date of the Student Awards Recognition Dinner could be moved later in May 2015. She responded positively and had already scheduled the event for Wednesday, May 27, 2015.