

Faculty Senate

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Student Recognition & Awards Committee

Annual Report 2006-2007

Submitted by:

Cindy Empey, Chair
Ben Fisher, Ex-Officio Member
Student Recognition and Awards Committee

DATE: June 22, 2007

RE: Annual Report of the Student Recognition and Awards Committee

The Student Recognition and Awards Committee (SRAC) met several times throughout the year to outline, organize and conduct the work of selecting and awarding the Waldo-Cummings Awards, Drucilla Shepard Smith Awards and AAUW Woman of the Year award. In addition, while not outlined in the committee charge, the SRAC also organizes and hosts the All-University Student Awards Event – typically held in late May. This event is a major portion of the work of the Committee Chair(s) and Ex-Officio member and should be included in the Charge for the Committee.

The All-University Student Recognition Awards Event honors the following award categories:

Waldo Cummings Awards

Drucilla Shepard Awards

Other 'Special Awards' including:

- AAUW Senior Woman Recognition Award:
- EC Allworth Leadership Award
- EC Allworth Cultural Awareness Leadership Award
- Student Alumni Association Legacy Scholars
- Robert MacVicker Exceptional Service Award
- Mortar Board Jameson Award
- Michael J. Palmer Award
- Provost's Literary Prize
- Clara L. Simmerville Award
- Dr. JoAnne Trow Woman of Distinction Award
- Charles E. Wicks Award
- Grace Wu Memorial Award

This year the Student Alumni Association awards were not given nor was the Charles E Wicks award since word was received from those who manage the awards selection that the two awards would not be offered this year.

The All University Student Award Banquet was held on Wednesday, 5/23/07 at the OSU CH2M HILL Alumni Center. Award winners, their families and many campus dignitaries were at the banquet including President Ray, Provost Randhawa, Larry Roper and many college Dean's or their designates. An initial invite was sent to all Campus dignitaries in early January to hold the date for this important event.

A few distinguishing highlights/accomplishments this year include the following:

1. In response to recommendations from last year's committee we implemented strategies to get more students to apply for the awards and then attend the awards banquet, how to lessen the paperwork of the class committee chairs and looking into another function to present the awards. This year the awards applications for WALDO CUMMINGS were available via a BSG web application. While this proved efficient for student access to the applications – yielding many more completed applications than in the past – the nature of the on-line data was very cumbersome for review by committee members, there were some significant problems with the information download, and we did not receive the quality of applications that we have in the past. The information received from applicants was barely adequate (and sometimes not adequate at all) to help differentiate between the students. We thought that there's a benefit in asking students to put a little more effort and energy into producing a solid application rather than just quickly filling out an online form. We thought that some kind of a compromise with something like the HR job application where students are asked to format a document and their resume and post them online, rather than filling out an online survey type of thing which seemed to make them think that relatively informal and kind of sloppy was ok. The committee recommends that we return to a paper process or to a process similar to the HR application format for the future. We saved many trees this year – but the team of faculty and student reviewers was unduly taxed in the process.
2. Record numbers of applications for the Waldo-Cummings Awards
3. Development of scoring rubrics for the applications
4. Ticketless event
5. Web-based RSVP process for the event
6. Implemented a dessert event with a reception per recommendations from last year's committee.

Through the course of conducting the work of the committee, several recommendations are being made regarding the work of the committee and the nature of the event that is organized by the Committee.

- While the 2005-06 committee made and accepted the recommendation that the SRAC Committee was to have Co-Chairs - due to the departure of one of the co-chairs the committee was again chaired by just one individual. [The hope for 2007-08 is that the committee will be co-chaired – with the most recent past senior chair serving as an advisor to the incoming chair.](#) This will provide more continuity and a share in the workload.
- As in past years, this committee continued to struggle with the assignment of student members. Due to the committee assignment structure, students are required to go through the ASOSU committee application process. [The SRAC committee recommends that this practice be suspended and that student members be assigned to the committee after application to Faculty committee members.](#)
- Further recommendations for the future from members of the committee are in regards determination of "class" for student award applicants. In years past, if a student applied and said they were a sophomore but they only had one term of credits at OSU and other credits were AP and/or Junior College credits, then their application was bumped back to the freshman class. The chair and/or the ex-officio member of the committee (who has access to Banner data) determined this and moved students around accordingly. We were told that this was done because, in order to be eligible to apply for the Waldo Cummings Award, students had to earn the 3.5 GPA at OSU, so only OSU credit hours should be considered. We again worked as a team (the Chair and the Ex-Officio Liaison) to make appropriate determinations of class standing for applications this year. This continued to be a very messy situation – and mistakes were again made. [For next year, we will work with the committee at an early meeting to interpret the award criteria more clearly so that we know exactly how to determine which class students really belong in. We will develop more clear written guidelines with the committee to aid in this work.](#)
- Faculty Committee members recognized that student members of the committee need additional structure and direction for their involvement in the work of the Committee. [As such, it is recommended that a basic outline of the responsibilities for student members be developed.](#)
- As a result of the dessert reception, the Committee received feedback from Faculty/Staff at the MU who felt that the dessert was not a worthy recognition for the outstanding students who were receiving awards during the event. The suggestion was made to move the event back to the MU and to move back to a more formal dinner event. [It is recommended that the MU have a perpetual seat on the SRAC – to provide historical perspective and knowledge and assistance with funding for the event.](#) The

event has been scheduled for May 21, 2008 at the MU – start time 6:00 p.m.

- Because the All-University Student Awards event is organized by the SRAC committee the recommendation is that the Provost and/or President's Office provide on-going funding to ensure that this event meets the needs of the university for the appropriate recognition of excellence in scholarship, service and student engagement.

Summary of recommendations:

- The 2007-08 committee will be co-chaired – with the most recent past senior chair serving as an advisor to the incoming chair.
- The SRAC committee recommends that the practice of approval of student representatives by ASOSU be suspended and that student members be assigned to the committee after application to Faculty committee members.
- Next year, the committee will work at an early meeting to interpret the award criteria more clearly so that we know exactly how to determine which class students really belong in. We will develop more clear written guidelines with the committee to aid in this work.
- The on-line application format for the Waldo Cummings awards will be further refined.
- A basic outline of the responsibilities for student members will be developed.
- It is recommended that the MU have a perpetual seat on the SRAC – to provide historical perspective and knowledge and assistance with funding for the event.
- It is recommended that the Provost and/or President's Office provide on-going funding to ensure that this event meets the needs of the university for the appropriate recognition of excellence in scholarship, service and student engagement.

All University Student Award Banquet Budget

Beginning balance:	\$1,834.86
Revenue:	\$5,188.43
Expenses	\$3,703.68
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Balance:	\$3,319.61

Facility Deposit, '08 - \$250.00

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Final Balance:	\$3,069.61

Committee Members:

Cindy Empey '08, Chair - University Housing and Dining Services
Troy Snow '09 - Recreational Sports
Jackie Balzer '07 - Dean of Students
Jeanne Davidson '07 - Valley Library
Janet Nishihara '07 - Educational Opportunities Program
Bill Brennan '08 (Ret) - Dean of Students
Michael Boock '08 - Valley Library
Cori Hall '09 – Smile Program
Richard Sapon-White '09 – Valley Library
Skip Rochefort '09 – Chemical Engineering

Ex-Officio: Ben Fisher – Financial Aid

Student Members -

Dorris Huth
Lindsey Johnson
Jabin Kahl
Jason Kniss
Kim Konrad
Kalysta McClaughry
Ben Misley

Trever Palin
Greg Purdy
MacKenzie Taylor

Executive Committee Liaison: Goran Jovanovic

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