

NUFA Scholarship Committee Annual Report 2011-2012

Members: Jeff Nicol (Chair), Rhiannon Don, Adam Adler, Natalya Brown (Angela Fera regularly attends meetings)

Meetings: 6 (Sept 30, Oct 28, Nov 25, Jan 20, Feb 28, April 24)

Topics Discussed and Decided:

- Our meetings are comprised mainly of reviewing applications and making decisions about Learning Opportunity Awards (LOAs) and textbook bursaries. We also spend some of our time discussing how the application processes for the awards can be facilitated from both an applicant and administration perspective
- Numerous LOAs were awarded to students presenting research at, or attending, conferences and workshops provincially, nationally, and internationally. Awards were given to students that engaged in learning opportunities in: Toronto, Halifax, Victoria, Atlanta, Chicago, Washington, Stockholm, and Cameroon
- Throughout the year we discussed the development of a Group application for the LOAs. We have concluded that while it is tedious to approve and distribute funds to several applications to the same event, that a group-based application would dilute the spirit of the award (i.e., applicants receiving an award with little knowledge/appreciation of the source)
- It was also determined that the textbook bursaries were underutilized this academic year. Presently, posters are put up around campus and a general notice is posted on Blackboard about the bursaries, but we feel these efforts are ill timed. It was decided that we would begin the advertising campaign for the bursary during Orientation (i.e., bookmarks in orientation packages, bookmarks in the bookstore in September and January)
- Angela Fera made major revisions to the application forms for the LOAs and the Textbook bursaries. As a result application forms have improved significantly
- We are in the process of getting an FAQ section added to the NUFA website that is intended to provide students with more information about the application processes for awards and bursaries
- Angela is now publishing the names of LOA recipients on the NUFA website

Monies Awarded

- Textbook bursary - \$2,896.62 (\$5,000 to start with \$2,103.38 remaining)
- LOAs - \$11,029.55 (\$12,955 to start with \$1,925.45 remaining)

Members returning next year: Jeff Nicol, Adam Adler, Natalya Brown

Names of members for other committees: Natalya Brown (Social Committee), Adam Adler