

Report of the Scholarship Committee
General Commission on Communication
September 17, 2005

Present:

Domingos Antonio, Arnie Rhodes, Paul Black, Michael McCurry, Thomas Clemow, Devin Mauney
Staff: Amelia Tucker-Shaw, Barbara Nissen
Excused: Olivia Schwartz, chair

The Scholarship Committee recommends approval of the following action items:

ACTION ITEMS

1. Updated Committee Officers:
 V. Chr. Pro Tem: Paul Black
2. Review of Committee Charter:
 Current membership list revised.
3. Promotion of Scholarship Opportunities by Committee Members (Brainstorming Session):
 Advertising through Conference Committees on Higher Education; Campus Ministry; Student Forum; individuals using opportunity to go “face to face” with Students (Committee Member circulation of the application materials or share responsibility of representing the program at various Colleges and Universities); through UMC Youth and Young Adult Ministry Staff; Exploration for Ministry Events; Sharing & Partnership w/other UMC Agencies with UMCom staff support for logistical arrangements; through Annual Conference Communication Committees; using the existing religious journalism networks as a place for lifting up the opportunities.
4. Selection Process Review:
 Suggestions for the selection process – a) can we create a secure Web site location to access the application materials instead of printing them? b) post-meeting committee conversations regarding application criteria.
5. Other:
 Creating scholarship opportunities for non-English speaking students from Central Conferences - e.g. Central Conference Communications Initiative and/or with Africa University.
6. We recommend a grant from the Foundation of \$2,500 next year for the Leonard M. Perryman Scholarship to increase the value of the award to stimulate more applicants. Rationale: larger awards needed to meet current education costs; would justify seeking new monies through the Foundation to underwrite communication scholarship.

The Scholarship Committee recommends approval of the following information items:

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Reviewed contents of our folders.

2. Update on Scholarship/Fellowship Recipients Past and Present:
 - Byron Minor current REM Fellow
 - Jenielle Wong current Leonard M. Perryman scholarship winner.
(Viewed a video in which the widow of Leonard Perryman was recognized for the scholarship presented in his honor.)
3. Update on CRT/UMCom Marketing Strategies:
e.g. the new poster to be placed in the Black Colleges to contain an information tear-off.
4. Discussion of Possible Funding Sources to Share with UMCom Foundation:
We want to know the current investment picture with regard to the investments undergirding the current awards. Our concern is growing the corpus to index the grants to meet current economic realities in the cost of higher education. Suggested approaching Annual Conference Foundations which may be aware of sources committed to the communications field and compiling a list of local or regional individuals (or their foundations) who established their wealth in the communications industry and may have a connection to the church.
5. Other

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM by the V. Chairperson, Pro Tem with appreciation expressed to the staff for the preparation they made.