Faculty Senate Scholarship Committee  
Fall 2011 Report  
Submitted by Deborah Young, Chair

Members Present:  
Marianne Buehler, Scott Hansen, Margaret Harp, Mary Hausch, Sahjendra Singh, Deborah Young (c) Absent: Kimberly Charron, Hasan Deniz, Georgia Dounis, Carola Raab, Terry Spell  
Financial Aid & Scholarships Staff: Angel Poe, Shae Deschutter, Sanae El Ibrahimi

1. The committee functions as outlined in the Faculty Senate By Laws were reviewed.
2. Additionally, Deborah would like the committee to serve as a review board for scholarships for which award guidelines are unclear, or for which there are criteria that are no longer appropriate or relevant. These would be forwarded to the committee when there are no available donor contacts with which to consult. The committee would establish a process, and review/approve changes. Deborah will request that the Faculty Senate add this charge to the committee’s responsibilities. FAS staff is in agreement that this would be helpful to both FAS and other awarding units.
3. Angel Poe reviewed changes in the Board of Regents award criteria. There are primarily two changes that will impact awarding: the change in the minimum number of credits required for graduate students to receive scholarships (from 9 credits to 6 credits per semester) and elimination of the provision allowing departments to award scholarships based solely on “participation.”
4. Deborah asked the committee if they thought it would be helpful to have an orientation for the campus on the scholarship awarding process. Committee members thought that this was a good idea, so an orientation will be planned prior to the 2012-2013 awarding cycle (February 2012.)
5. The committee agreed that a scholarship committee presence on the faculty senate website would be helpful to awarding units and could be just a simple description with a link to FAS for the scholarship handbook and a link to the UNLV Foundation for scholarship giving.
6. A schedule of committee meetings will be developed for the academic year. The committee will meet tentatively next in November, so that financial aid can better meet its goal of early awarding for top undergraduate recruits. (Angel to check with undergraduate recruiting on when they suggest this should happen.)
7. The committee approved approximately $265,000 in privately-funded awards for 2011-2012. Together with the awards approved this past June, the total approved for 2011 2012 is $430,000.