



BOARD OF REGENTS

SUMMARY OF ITEM FOR ACTION, INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION

TOPIC: University System of Maryland Board of Regents Student Service Award

COMMITTEE: Education Policy

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: June 6, 2012

SUMMARY: The current USM Student Regent and the USM Student Council propose that the Regents make one annual award to a student group to recognize significant contributions through service to either their community, their institution, and/or the advancement of higher education. This award would be handled much the same way as the current Regents awards for faculty and staff are handled, including presentation of the award at a meeting of the Board of Regents and the provision of a monetary prize as well as a certificate or plaque.

Attached are a proposal outlining the purpose of the award and the process for selecting the awardee, a rationale statement, and a letter of support from the current chair of the System Student Council.

Mr. Wojciechowski has discussed the proposal with USM Office staff and with the members of the Chancellor's Council; he will present the item to his fellow Committee members.

ALTERNATIVE(S): The Committee could recommend that some aspect of the process or the award itself be modified.

FISCAL IMPACT: The award carries a monetary prize of \$1,000; only one award will be given annually.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee on Education Policy recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposal to create a University System of Maryland Board of Regents Student Service Award, and that the first award be given during the 2012-2013 academic year.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approval.

DATE: June 6, 2012

BOARD ACTION:

DATE:

SUBMITTED BY: Irwin L. Goldstein

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Board of Regents

University System of Maryland Board of Regents Student Service Award

Proposal

- An annual award, modeled after those facilitated by CUSS and CUSF, to be presented to one student group within the University System of Maryland that has made a significant contribution through service to either their community, their institution, and/or the advancement of higher education.
- Like the CUSS and CUSF awards, the USMBOR Student Service Award would carry with it a \$1000 stipend to be used by the student group and a commemorative plaque/certificate presented to the student group by the Board.
- Again, like the CUSS and CUSF awards, the USMBOR Student Service Award would constitute the “highest honor bestowed by the Board of Regents” to students within the University System of Maryland.
- Award would aim to promote service to others and teamwork.

Logistics

- Each September nomination packets would be sent to the Vice President for Student Affairs office at each institution and the student affairs director at the two regional centers, which would be responsible for coordinating with the Student Government Association at said institution or regional center to select one student group that fits the qualifications. Many VPSA offices within the USM already have a “Group of the Year” award they bestow each spring which they could forward the following September as their nominee. (Campus could have discretion to nominate the student group however they saw fit.).
- Due to the time frame, the scope of the activities to be considered for the award would be those completed in the previous academic year.
- Each nomination packet would be due to the chair of the University System of Maryland Student Council by the council’s November meeting.
- The council would review the applications and select one student group to submit for the Board’s review by January.
- The Board would present the Award to the student group at or before their June meeting.

Notes

- Student Government Associations would be prohibited from applying for the award, as they are involved in the selection process.

- This is different from the USMBOR “Regents Scholarships” presented to incoming students. This award would be for active student groups at a USM institution or regional center.

University System of Maryland Board of Regents Student Service Award Rationale Statement

Currently, the Board of Regents has several awards, which recognize some of the phenomenal accomplishments of the constituencies of two of the Chancellors advisory councils, the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) and the Council of University System Staff (CUSS). However, the constituency of a third advisory council, the University System of Maryland Student Council (USMSC), does not receive the same recognition from the Board of Regents for its equally impressive accomplishments.

The “University System of Maryland Board of Regents Student Service Award” would allow for recognition of the constituencies of all three advisory councils by creating an award that would recognize outstanding service achievements of students from across the USM in the same fashion of the CUSF and CUSS awards annually presented by the Board.

The Student Service Award would be presented to one student group at any USM institution or regional higher education center, which has made significant contributions through service to their community, their institution and/or the advancement of higher education. The aim of the award is to promote and recognize student accomplishments working for the greater good and taking place outside of the classroom.

Each year, each campus Student Government Association would partner with the office of the Vice President for Student Affairs to choose one student group to compete at the system level.^{1 2 3} Then, in the same fashion as CUSS and CUSF, the award process will be facilitated by the USMSC, which would select one winner to be approved by the Board. The USMSC would establish its own criteria to account for factors such as size and funding of the student group, scope of outreach, and longevity of service.

The USM Board of Regents Student Service Award would carry with it a \$1000 stipend to be used by the student group and a commemorative plaque presented to the student group by the Board at the appropriate time.

¹ The Regional Centers would facilitate this process through their student councils and the appropriate staff member who assists the council at the Regional Center.

² The Council of VPSA’s has already reviewed and endorsed this proposal.

³ Student Government Associations would be prohibited from receiving the award because of their involvement of the student group selection on the campus level.



STUDENT COUNCIL

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Vice Chair

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Eastern Shore

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University College

Universities at Shady Grove

University System of
Maryland at Hagerstown

April 15, 2012

Members of the Board of Regents
University System of Maryland
3300 Metzerott Road
Adelphi, Maryland 20783

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Board:

The University System of Maryland Student Council wishes to express its strong support for the creation of Board of Regents student awards. Regent Wojciechowski's proposal would enable the USM to recognize student leaders who have made exceptional contributions to their institutions and their communities. Under Regent Wojciechowski's proposal, the Student Council would establish a nominating process similar to the existing processes for the Faculty and Staff Awards.

We urge your support for the Board of Regents Student Awards. The USM is fortunate to have outstanding student leaders in our institutions and the establishment of this Award will ensure that their efforts to improve their campuses and their communities do not go unnoticed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. M. Welsh".

Emmanuel M. Welsh
Chairman

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