Richmond Scholars Program Steering Committee

Annual Report 2013-14

The Richmond Scholars Program (RSP) administers various merit scholarships to undergraduates, each of which has a minimum award equivalent to full tuition. In addition, some scholarships include awards of room and board. The RSP designations are the Artist Scholars (tuition), Boatwright Scholars (tuition), Oldham Scholars (tuition, room, board (T, R, B)), Robins Science Scholars (T, R, B), and Science Scholars (tuition). A number of Richmond Scholars also participate in the Oliver Hill Scholars Program. The Richmond Scholars Program is managed by a director who also chairs the Richmond Scholars Steering Committee. Most members of the Steering Committee serve on the RSP selection committees. The RSP Steering Committee meets at least once in the fall and spring semesters respectively, while also responding to issues that concern the Richmond Scholars Program throughout the academic year.

Committee Membership: Ted Bunn, Jennifer Cable (chair and ex officio), Tina Cade (ex officio), Cindy Deffenbaugh (ex officio), Al Goethals, Laura Knouse, Barry Lawson, Walter Schoen, Gil Villanueva (ex officio)

Our committee met on May 20, 2013, to review the previous academic year and consider topics for 2013-14; the discussion items for that meeting included:
> Review and discuss RSP annual report data
> Review finalist survey results
> Review minimum GPA policy and status of Richmond Scholar (RS) and Presidential Scholar (PS) students on probation
> General debrief re: RSP 2013 selection process, including issues related to the first paperless review process

The Steering Committee met on September 25, 2013 with the following discussion items:
> Introduce new committee members and review committee charge
> Review 2012-13 RSP annual report and 2012-13 RSP Steering Committee annual report
> Update RSP plans for 2013-14, including student gatherings/programming efforts.
> Richmond Scholars Program Speaker Series update for 2013-14
> Other updates concerning scholar students (both RS and PS) that occurred during 2012-13:
   a. Scholarships removed due to failure to maintain a cumulative GPA (CGPA) of 3.0 (0)
   b. Scholar students who transferred over the summer of 2013 (2)
   c. Scholar students suspending enrollment (leaving the university for one year and intending to return) (1)
> Report on RSP events that had taken place during the first few weeks of the semester.
A look ahead concerning the recruitment of Richmond Scholars for 2013-2014

In addition to our meetings, the committee engaged in extensive electronic discussions over the course of the academic year:

1. During October: Science Scholar seeking permission to major in cognitive science; approved
2. Over winter break: concerning students whose scholarships were on probation due to repeated semesters with a CGPA under the 3.0 minimum required of all Richmond and Presidential Scholars. Two scholarships were removed (both PS) and three were approved for a fourth semester of scholarship (all three RS).
3. During the spring semester: approve new language for the Richmond Scholar and Presidential Scholar offer letters that addresses student code of conduct probation and impact on RS or PS student. New text as follows: “In addition, Richmond Scholars must continue to display the traits of character, good citizenship, leadership, and scholarship that characterized their performance prior to matriculation. Richmond Scholars must comply with the Standards of Student Conduct set forth in the University of Richmond Student Handbook. If a Richmond Scholar is placed on conduct probation, the student shall also be placed on probation within the Richmond Scholars Program for a period of time corresponding to the Conduct Probation, but not to exceed two semesters. Continued conduct issues may result in a decision by the Richmond Scholars Steering Committee to terminate an award. If a Richmond Scholar is subject to more serious disciplinary action by the University, his or her award may be terminated at the reasonable discretion of the University.”

Our final meeting of the semester will be held on May 16, 2014; during that meeting we will review all student appeals under the CGPA policy, review the annual report of the Richmond Scholars Program, and address any new business.

For Fall 2014, our goal is to enroll 45 Richmond Scholars. The Candidate Reply Date is May 1, 2014. As of today’s date, 4/29/14, our enrollment is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Enrollment Goal</th>
<th>Offered</th>
<th>Enrolled</th>
<th>Yield</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oldham</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artist</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boatwright</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robins Science (T,R,B)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Tuition Only</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RS Total</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver Hill</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I would like to sincerely thank the members of the Richmond Scholars Program Steering Committee for their exceptional service throughout the academic year, as they were unstinting in sharing their time and expertise.

Respectfully submitted, April 29, 2014

Jennifer Cable
Chair, Richmond Scholars Program Steering Committee
Director, Richmond Scholars Program

Richmond Scholars Program Steering Committee
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