2014-2015 Report of the Scholarships/Fellowships Committee

Carmen Lowe, Dean of Academic Advising & Undergraduate Studies

In the realm of prestigious nationally-competitive scholarships and fellowships, it was an extremely successful year for Tufts undergraduates, and for Tufts overall. In fact, on the basis of sheer numbers, this was our most successful year on record, with 41 students receiving nationally competitive awards. Our previous record was 37, so this is a significant increase.

We had our first Udall Scholar since 2008 this year, when junior Luke Sherman (Environmental Studies, French) won this nationally competitive award. This scholarship awards leadership potential in the field of Environmental Studies.

Sophomore Erin Fong (Astrophysics) was awarded the highly prestigious Goldwater Scholarship as well as the Astronaut Scholarship. Her victory with the Goldwater is especially noteworthy since it is quite rare for sophomores to be awarded this prize.

One place where Tufts particularly shone this year was in the arena of international awards. We continue our strong standing in the Fulbright competition with 11 students being offered grants, including our first-ever Fulbright-Clinton winner, MPH student Martine Prompt. We also had a student win a Humanity in Action Fellowship (Jennine Sawwann A ’15) and a student win the highly prestigious Soros Fellowship for New Americans (Katherine Trujillo, F ’14). Tufts will also be well represented in the U.S. Foreign Service in future years, since we had winners for both the Pickering (Juan Clar, F ’15) and Rangel Fellowships (Tessa Henry, A ’10); both of these scholarships come with service requirements in the Foreign Service.

We had two finalists each in the race for the Truman Scholarship (Joyce Harduvel and Sophia Goodfriend, both American Studies’16) and the Carnegie Junior Fellows Program (Yufei Du A ’15 International Relations and Jeremy Ravinsky A ’14 Political Science). While it is of course disappointing for students to get so close to these awards and not win the prize, the experience of being a finalist offers them immeasurable opportunities for personal and professional development, and we are very proud of how these students represented the university on the national stage.

Continuing a historical strength, one Tufts student (Onika Williams, A ’07) has been offered the Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs. We had a record-setting year in another important competition: 14 current and former Tufts undergraduates won National Science Foundation Fellowships for graduate study.

The following faculty served on the committee, helping students with their applications, selecting Tufts nominees for various external competitions, selecting winners of internal competitions and preparing students for interviews. We are grateful for their participation.
Carmen Lowe, Dean of Academic Advising & Undergraduate Studies, *Chair*
Anne Moore, Program Specialist, Scholar Development

Agyeman, Julian; Professor, Urban and Environmental Studies
Barker, John; Dean of Undergraduate and Graduate Students
Beckley, Michael; Associate Professor, Political Science
Bennett, Clay; Assistant Professor, Chemistry
Bernheim, Harry; Professor, Biology
Cohen, Steven; Senior Lecturer, Education
Ellmore, George; Associate Professor, Biology
Evrigenis, Ioannis; Associate Professor, Political Science
Fuchs, Steven; Assistant Professor, Biology
Ghosh, Partha; Professor of the Practice, Gordon Institute
Gute, David; Associate Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering
Hardman, Anna; Senior Lecturer, Economics
Hescott, Benjamin; Assistant Professor, Computer Science
Kritzer, Joshua; Associate Professor, Chemistry
Lantagne, Danielle; Assistant Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering
Levine, Peter; Professor, Tisch College
Liggero, Samuel; Professor of the Practice, Gordon Institute
Lowe, Lisa; Professor, English and American Studies
Lurz, John; Assistant Professor, English
Manos, Chris; Professor of the Practice, Economics
McMahon, Mary Pat; Dean of Student Affairs
Manjapra, Kris; Assistant Professor, History
Palou, Pedro Angel; Associate Professor, Romance Languages (Spanish)
Proctor, David; Lecturer, History
Quinto, Eric Todd; Professor, Mathematics
Soares, Cristiane; Lecturer, Romance Languages (Portuguese)
Stoessel, Saskia; Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, German, Russian, & Asian Languages (German)
Sullivan, Vickie; Professor, Classics
Urry, Heather; Associate Professor, Psychology
Williams, Darryl; Associate Dean of Recruitment and Retention, Engineering

We also thank the following staff members for their service to the committee:
Robin Olinsky, Associate Director of the Academic Resource Center
Kristina Aikens, Assistant Director of the Academic Resource Center
Laura Doane, Associate Dean of Orientation and Student Transition

This is a very rewarding committee to serve on. When students win major awards, it can be life-changing for them and it is great for the university. Service typically involves just one or two selection/nomination sub-committees during the academic year. Any faculty member who is interested in joining should contact Anne Moore in Undergraduate Studies.