2017-18 Report of the Scholarships/Fellowships committee

In the realm of nationally competitive scholarships and fellowships, it was a highly successful year for A&S undergraduates, and for Tufts overall. We continue our strong standing in the Fulbright competition, with 12 students poised to begin Fulbright placements in 2017-18 and 2 listed as alternates. We had a student win the highly prestigious Knight-Hennessy Scholarship in its inaugural year, as well as a Truman Scholar, a James M. Gaither Junior Fellow, an Astronaut Scholar and a Coro Junior Fellow. Eleven current students and alumni received the highly competitive NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program. We also had an alternate for the Schwarzman Scholarship, a national finalist for the Marshall Scholarship, and an honorable mention for the Goldwater Scholarship. All told, 31 students and recent alumni received nationally competitive awards this year.

Some highlights of the year include having three students go on to the finalist level for the Truman Scholarship. Anne Hall of South Dakota, who went on to win the award, is president of the first-gen student council and is majoring in a self-designed interdisciplinary program focusing on pre-med and religion, taking a holistic, community-based view of human health and medical practice. She plans to use her scholarship money to get a joint JD/MD degree.

Our yield for Fulbright was another highlight of this year’s scholarship cycle. Of the 44 total applicants this year, 12 were selected as Fulbright recipients—a yield of 27%. This group includes Samantha Berman, who was selected to attend a taught Master’s program in Psychology at the University of Bristol. Sammy is the first Tufts student to win a UK Fulbright since 1994.

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 Undergraduate Studies, Chair
Anne Moore, Program Specialist, Scholar Development
Thomas Abowd, American Studies
Michael Beckley, Economics
Clay Bennett, Chemistry
Harry Bernheim, Biology
Steven Cohen, Education
Richard Eichenberg, Political Science
George Ellmore, Biology
Ioannis Evrigenis, Classics
Eulogio Guzman, SMFA
Anna Hardman, Economics
Daniele Lantagne, Civil and Environmental Engineering
John Lurz, English
Kelly McLaughlin, Biology
Mitch McVey, Biology
Heather Nathans, Drama and Dance
Sarah Pinto, Anthropology
David Proctor, History
Todd Quinto, Math
Anne-Christine Rice, French
Oxana Shevel, Political Science
David Smyth, Math Cristiane Soares, Portuguese
Cathy Stanton, Anthropology
Adam Storeygard, Economics
Shalini Tendulkar, Community Health
Brian Timko, Biomedical Engineering
Man Xu, History

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 interesting in joining should contact Anne Moore in Undergraduate Studies.