

ANNUAL REPORT
LECTURES COMMITTEE
June, 2015

During the 2014-2015 academic year, the Lectures Committee approved a total of 18 requests to support scholars coming to the MU campus for a variety of lectures. Although the maximum amount allowed per lecture is \$500, sometimes less was requested. We were able to offer funding for all of the requests. In one case, since the committee decided not to fund the request immediately, the event was not held. In the course of the year, when we received third and subsequent applications from the same unit, we decided to hold funding for those events until March 1, thereby allowing the committee to spread our limited funding as widely as possible across campus. We ended the year with \$237 in the budget.

The committee met initially in person at the beginning of the fall semester. At this meeting, the prior year's annual report was approved. Additionally, we discussed general procedures and finances.

With the exception of that initial meeting and one end-of-year face-to-face meeting, the remainder of committee business was conducted electronically. This approach proved to be very efficient, made more so by the continued excellent staff support from Linda Kaufman.

Discussion during the course of the year centered primarily on three issues:

- Should the committee be funding events (for example, master classes in music) that have a limited audience.
- How carefully should the committee be monitoring the proposed budgets that come before us.
- How strictly should we enforce the provision on the application that the committee "may be unable to support more than two requests originating from the same academic unit".

The end-of-year meeting focused on those issues, with these decisions:

- Revise #2 on the application form, to request a brief description of the event.
- Retain the essence of the instructions on the application form, but enhance clarity by presenting them as bullet points.
- Continue to publicize the Lectures Committee as widely as possible in an attempt to attract a broad range of applications.

There were no serious issues or problems in the functioning of the committee during the course of the year. Many excellent lectures were supported to the benefit of students, staff, faculty and the community at large.

Members of the Lectures Committee for 2014/15 were: Faculty - Rainer Glaser, Colleen Heflin, David Schenker (chair), Ines Segert, Victoria Vieira Potter; Staff –

Douglas Clark, Elizabeth key; Missouri Students Association members – Kelly Moyers, Jacob Otto, Cale Sears; Ex Officio - Linda Cupp; Support - Linda Kaufman.

As always, it has been a pleasure serving on this committee.

Submitted by: David Schenker, Chair