

SENATE BILL: **S088-020796-090496-110597-03272002-12032003-01212004-04282004-09012004**

TITLE: **James J. Rhatigan Leadership Scholarship**

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate of the University that the following statute shall govern the establishment and operation of the James J. Rhatigan Leadership Scholarship, hereinafter referred to as the Scholarship.

Section 1. Purpose of the Scholarship

- 1.1 The purpose of the scholarship shall be to provide tuition and cost of living assistance to eligible the University students on a yearly basis.
- 1.2 The scholarship honors Dr. James J. Rhatigan for his many years of service as Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, and the model of leadership his past tenure as such represents.
- 1.3 The scholarship shall reward those University students who have demonstrated consistent leadership, service, and academic merit within the University Community.
- 1.4 The scholarship shall also be a tool to promote scholastic and personal leadership at the University.

Section 2. Funding

- 2.1 The scholarship monies shall be derived from a fund endowed through the WSU Foundation.
- 2.2 All funds allocated for a fiscal year are to be awarded for that fiscal year, with any unused, unallocated, or forfeited money being rolled over into reserves.

Section 3. Scholarship Committee and Allocation

- 3.1 A committee shall be established to oversee and award the scholarship monies. The committee shall be comprised of the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs or his/her designee, the Director of Student Financial Aid or her/his designee, the Vice President of the Association, the Director of Public Relations of the Association, and one (1) student appointed by the President of the Association. The Director of Public Relations of the Association shall serve as chairperson of this committee. Each member shall have one (1) vote.
 - 3.1.1 The one (1) student member shall be appointed pursuant to the guidelines in S034.
- 3.2 The committee shall have applications available no later than the first week of February. Applications will be accepted for a minimum of four weeks, with the official deadline to be announced by the Director of Public Relations of the Association a minimum of seven days before said deadline.
 - 3.2.1 All publicity and advertising is to be done by the Director of Public Relations of the Association in coordination with the Vice President of the Association.
- 3.3 The scholarship shall be divided equally into two (2) scholarships. They shall be awarded to one (1) male and one (1) female student.
- 3.4 The scholarships shall be dispersed for the Fall and Spring semesters with half (1/2)

of the award given in each semester.

3.5 The scholarship shall be awarded no later than the last week of April.

3.6 No member of the committee shall be eligible to apply for the Scholarship.

Section 4. Qualifications and Requirements

4.1 Applicants must be able to show a balance of leadership skills, academic merit, financial need, and University or community service. The scholarship committee will determine the weight each element shall carry for consideration.

4.2 Applicants must be registered University students. Applicants may be undergraduate or graduate students.

4.2.1 Undergraduate students must have at least sixty (60) undergraduate credit hours by the start of the fall semester during which the scholarship is awarded.

4.2.3 Graduate students must have at least twelve (12) graduate credit hours by the start of the fall semester during which the scholarship is awarded.

4.2.3 At least half of the applicant's cumulative credit hours toward their current degree must have been taken at the University.

4.3 The recipients of the scholarship must be full-time students during the period they receive the award. The recipients must also have a 3.0 cumulative grade point average at the time of application and must maintain the 3.0 cumulative grade point average throughout the award period.

4.4 Scholarship applicants must submit two (2) written recommendations at the time of application or soon thereafter. One (1) recommendation must be from a member of the University faculty and one (1) from outside the University.

4.5 Recipients of the scholarship must continue their involvement as leaders, excel scholastically, and continue commitment to serving worthwhile causes while a recipient of the award.

4.6 The Scholarship Committee shall have the power to take necessary action against a recipient if he or she fails to meet the specified qualifications in Section 4.3. Meeting the requirements of Section 4.5 are interpreted at the discretion of the committee.

4.7 All applicants will be screened initially by the Scholarship Committee. Finalists will be selected by the Scholarship Committee and interviews will be conducted with the finalists.

4.8 Scholarship winners are not eligible to compete for further Rhatigan Scholarships.