

December 5th, 2019: The USC met for the first time and discussed the criteria used to evaluate student applications. Committee members were supposed to receive training in Scholarship Universe during this meeting, but Financial Aid could not attend to offer training. We collaborated on solutions to improve our grading criteria for the upcoming scholarship applications we would review.

January 31st

Universe for the 9 previously decided scholarships and a list of 18 other scholarships, several of which were for incoming freshman or already decided by other entities. We were able to award 3 of those 18 scholarships.

April 24th – April 29th, 2020: USC members reviewed the 29 new scholarships and selected recipients for them remotely. Four scholarships did not have applicants, and one scholarship did not have any applicants meeting the donor's criteria (these scholarships are crossed off in the following list).

Scholarships Reviewed & Awarded:

1. AAA South Jersey
2. AFT - MLK Scholarship
3. AFT Retirees (FORCE)
4. AFT Retirees Scholarship (FORCE) Camden Campus student
5. Alumni Scholarship (2 Awards)
6. Amelia & Peter Kressler Scholarship
7. Charles Showers Memorial
8. Clifford V & Jane Gullet

34. Pauline Boykin Endowed Scholarship
35. Peter and Susan Hibbard Scholarship
36. Piazza Stubbs Family Scholarship
37. Robert A. Harris Memorial Scholarship (2 Awards)
38. Robert Collard Memorial Scholarship (2 Awards)
39. South Jersey Gas Scholarship (2 Awards)
40. Stanley and Betty Jane LaBruna Education Scholarship
41. Trymaine Lee Diversity in Media Scholarship

REVISITING PROGRESS ON THE COMMITTEE'S 2018-2019

RECOMMENDATIONS & SUGGESTIONS

2018-2019 SUGGESTIONS:

1. As the software system students use to apply for scholarships is changing in AY 2019-20, the USC has several suggestions on improvements that are needed to the elements of the student application and/or software:
 - a. The software system needs a better search function, that will allow the USC to search a student's name during our deliberation meetings to see what scholarships they have applied for. **This feature is available in Scholarship Universe.**
 - b. The student application needs to have clearer criteria on the Essay students write. In AY 2018-19, the Essay component was originally marked as "optional" in Awardspring. The USC identified this problem at our first meeting, but it is unclear how many students had already completed their applications at this point and opted not to complete the Essay.
 - i. There also needs to be a clearer definition of what the Essay on the application should look like in terms of the number of paragraphs, substance, etc.
 - ii. **Instead of listening to the committee's requests regarding the essay, the general application limited student's essays to 500 characters. No upload link was provided on the general application for students to provide more information. This was a severe limitation on the committee this year, as we were very**

restricted in how we could evaluate student essays. The Financial Aid Office has indicated we will meet in July to improve this component of the student application.

- c. A few scholarships require an applicant to

round of reviewing and scoring applications, the USC asked for additional fields to be added to our reviewing pane that appeared

new software system. **We were able to return several committee members**

4. The USC would like to review the application students will complete prior to the start of the application cycle for the 2020-21 continuing scholarships. There were several issues that need to be corrected in the application, particularly:

a.