

## Honors Convocation Committee Report Academic Year 2013-2014

**September 2013.** The committee agreed to keep Robert Luttrell (myself) as the elected chair of the committee for the 2013-2014 academic year.

**February 2014.** Kimberley Myer, Project Manager, Provost's Office, sent an email to the committee that included several proposed changes to the process of how students are honored at Honors Convocation. Below is a list of the proposed changes along with comments (in blue) indicating the outcome of each item.

1. Clearly define the Honors Convocation recognition timeframe as the current academic year only. For example, for the May 2014 ceremony we will honor those students who received academic scholarships for the Fall 2013 – Spring 2014 academic year. **Yes, this is our wish as the committee. However, some departments (i.e., Nursing) elected to continue to recognize next year's scholarship winners.** Awardee names will be provided by Barri Zimmerman in Financial Aid, thereby eliminating the submission of names from each department. **This proved impractical, so departments are still submitting the names of the awardees.**
2. Honors Convocation will include winners of departmental awards that are academic in nature (i.e., Outstanding Senior Awards). **This did not pass. Mathematics & Computer Science's service awards are still included.**
3. Donors will be invited to the ceremony by the Office of Advancement. **Advancement declined to participate in the process, so donors are still invited by each department.**

**March 27, 2014 Meeting.** The committee met to discuss requests for new awards and logistics/planning for the May 2<sup>nd</sup> ceremony. The committee reviewed and accepted 5 new awards including:

1. Terry D. Allen Memorial Award for Veterans or Active Military Persons (General Award)
2. William H. Wroten Jr. Scholarship in History (Fulton – History Department)
3. Ruby Aileen Anderson Award in Acting Performance (Fulton – Theatre Department)
4. Thomas Gordon Anderson Award in Design and Technology (Fulton – Theatre Department)
5. FMA @ SU Leadership Award (Perdue)

**April 2014.** Manav Ratti agreed to serve as chair of the committee for the 2014-2015 academic year.

**Honors Convocation Ceremony May 2, 2014.** The entire committee will participate in the planning, rehearsal, and execution of the ceremony.

**Future Goals.** During our March 2014 meeting, a discussion was held regarding the need for establishing a list of clear and distinct criteria that all future awards must meet in order to be recognized at the Honors Convocation Ceremony. Once created, this list will be included in the email sent out each year to all faculty, staff, and administration requesting new award petitions. The committee plans to revisit this topic and to prepare such a list next Fall 2014 semester.

Submitted by Robert Luttrell and Kimberly Meyer  
April 28, 2014