The Recognition and Development Committee met a total of three times during the academic year. The committee reviewed two applications for the Big Twelve Faculty Fellowship Program, recommending that both applicants be awarded a fellowship. Three nominations for the Regent’s Excellence Award were received and the committee recommended that all three nominees should receive an award. The committee received a total of 121 foreign travel grant applications, up from 94 during the previous year, and was able to fund 82 of those applications.

A major responsibility of the committee is to review, rank, and select foreign travel grant applications for funding. This year the Faculty Senate contributed $27,840 to the fund, the Provost’s Office $15,000 and President’s Office $20,000, for a total of $62,840. This is the first time in five years that the President’s Office has contributed to the fund and the contribution significantly affected our program, especially in light of the increase of applicants from the previous year.

The foreign travel grants represent a major part of ISU’s international outreach program. These resources ease the burden of faculty traveling the globe as invited experts delivering keynote addresses, top researchers contributing their results with the world and our brightest scholars sharing their gifts. What is gained by the individual faculty member is extremely valuable for their professional development. These foreign travel experiences are the catalyst for opening future opportunities for collaborations in joint research efforts and potential agreements between institutions. Iowa State University receives from this investment the type of recognition worthy of our research institution.

It is important to maintain this funding and preferably increase the level of support for the foreign travel grant program.

Submitted by

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