

## Scholarship Commission

“...The Scholarship Commission is charged with oversight of the annual NAVUB scholarship competition. This commission shall select NAVUB Scholarship winners based on established criteria approved by the Board of Directors and the membership of the Association.” (NAVUB Bylaws Article VI(2)(j))

### Co-Chairs

Michelle Ciesielski, Gerard Laborde

### Members

Sarah Aultman, Michael Gloschat, Frances Knight, Ken Holliday, George Mayes, Allison Sims, Elisa Washington, Janet Young

### Goals

The goals developed out of the April and July 2022 Commission meetings were as follow

1. Provide a timely award season for the membership that includes communication
2. Engage and support programs searching for applicants to ensure a competitive competition.
3. Engage scholarship winners and utilize stories for conference, Policy Seminar, etc.
4. Develop a hall-of-fame on website to showcase scholarship winners
5. Collaborate with other appropriate commissions (Technology, Development, Public Relations etc) as opportunity arises.

### Highlights

The scholarship commission met formally two times in 2022 (April and July) to discuss opportunities, goals, timelines, and processes for the 2022 year. Co-chairs also hosted a reader assistance office hour via Zoom in August to support readers and answer unresolved questions or concerns.

We had a successful scholarship commission year. We had 15 applicants. That is a 200% increase from 2021! Winners are below:

| <b>Recipient Name</b> | <b>VUB Program Institution</b>     | <b>Amount</b>                            |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Thomas Underwood      | Davis & Elkins College             | \$2000<br><i>Combat Tracker Designee</i> |
| Manuel Tsosie         | University of New Mexico – Taos    | \$1000                                   |
| Enrique Gamoba        | University of Texas Arlington      | \$1000                                   |
| Daniel Brown          | Gadsden State Community College    | \$1000                                   |
| Cassandra Shiflett    | University of Kansas               | \$1000                                   |
| Colin Lawson          | Ozarks Technical Community College | \$1000                                   |

We were also able to use scholarship stories as video for the Eagle Luncheon and highlight them in the NAVUB Policy Factbook.

## Challenges

We had one award winner who dropped classes and was not able to confirm enrollment, thus it was decided with board input to move down the slate. Also, we had two readers drop off the committee without earlier notice, which caused a delay in reading and awards.

## Recommendations/Lessons Learned

It is recommended to keep the same timeline for scholarship – Open award applications after conference with an August deadline, review, announce winners, and confirm enrollment in September or October with checks to follow.

There is still more opportunity to expand and utilize the scholarship winner stories, invite them to NAVUB conference when they live close or it is in the approved budget to share their stories of success, invite to Policy Seminar if they are close or in the budget, or better utilize their voices in Policy, such as sending stories to legislators of their states/programs.