

Whole Person Scholarship Program

Update August 3, 2011

Entering Year Three of the Program

- 640 students received Whole Person Scholarships last year, including 50 full tuition recipients
- Having had over 750 prospective students participate in the program in five events in 2010-11, we are expecting a large group to enter ORU this fall (it looks like it could be 450 - 500 students), including 25 winners of the top prize, bringing the number top prize winners on campus to 75.
- We'll have our first graduates this year.

Meeting the Standard

- Students who've won scholarships greater than \$15,000 per year must maintain a WPA of 3.5.
- Students who've won scholarships less than \$15,000 must maintain a WPA of 3.0.
- The Whole Person Assessment Committee reviews the scores of those who do not meet the standard after the WPA scores come in following the Spring semester.

Introducing a GPA requirement

- For those students whose WPA scores do not meet the standard, based on the input of current scholarship recipients, a secondary criteria for evaluation has been adopted by the WPA Committee:
 - $(WPA + GPA) / 2$
 - We call this the "sliding scale"

$(WPA + GPA) / 2$

- Students who've won scholarships greater than \$15,000 per year have a score on the sliding scale of 3.0 or greater.
- Students who've won scholarships less than \$15,000 must have a score on the sliding scale of 2.5 or greater.

Effect of the Sliding Scale

- Adopting this secondary criteria has been successful thus far.
 - Including the GPA was the students' suggestion as they felt it was a fair and rigorous means of looking at their effort if for some reason the WPA standard was not met.
 - It reduced the number of students who needed to be considered for probation to just over 20 this year, which helped the WPA Committee focus its efforts.

As a result...

- The WPA Committee placed eight students on probation for the coming year, and three of them must improve their scores in the fall semester to continue to receive their awards in the spring.
- All of the students on probation are required to take University Success in addition to other requirements specific to the individual, such as meeting regularly with their faculty advisor in some cases, with Student Success & Retention in other cases, etc.

Fall 2011 Recipients

- In addition to the WPA Standard, Fall 2011 recipients will have a minimum GPA requirement as well as a requirement to serve in the co-curricular opportunity of their choice for at least two years.

Competition v/s Program

- We have begun intentionally referring to Whole Person as a Scholarship *Program* instead of a Competition, because the students who are admitted to ORU, nominated to the program, subsequently invited to participate and who attend have won scholarships at that point, guaranteed.
- The Scholarship event including the interview and the essay are the basis for determining the amount of the scholarship.

2011-12 WPS Events

- Thursday, November 3 (immediately preceding College Weekend)
- Friday, January 20
- Thursday, March 1 (immediately preceding College Weekend)
- Early May....we held an event in May 2011 that exceeded expectations in terms of attendance, so we will likely schedule one again in 2011.

Thank You!

- *Thank you so much* for engaging these students in interviews when they visit campus and for continuing to dialogue with them as they make their college decision.
- The Program is working, and your participation is essential to its success!