

**Policies and Procedures**  
**of the**  
**Mississippi University for Women**  
**Alumni Association**

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1100 College Street, MUW-10  
Columbus MS 39701-5800  
(662) 241-7483

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with Association Bylaws, the Board of Directors may, from time to time, establish Policies and Procedures which shall be binding upon the membership. Policies and procedures may be amended or rescinded by a two-thirds margin of the Board of Directors votes cast without previous notice or by a majority vote with such notice. Any policy and procedure that restricts or imposes obligations or responsibilities on the membership must be approved by a majority margin of votes by the general membership.

**II. POLICIES**

- A. Terms of office. The Association President shall serve a one-year term.
- B. Resolution of Commendation. The board may issue a Resolution of Commendation to congratulate University Alumni upon unique personal or professional achievement. Nominations for the Resolution of Commendation may come from the Membership, with the approval authority delegated to the Association President and Director of Alumni Relations & Donor Engagement. A report to the board is required for each issued Resolution of Commendation.
- C. Recognition of Departing Members. Board members whose terms have expired will be presented with a token of gratitude for their service to the association.
- D. Alumni Awards. The Association has four approved Alumni Awards: Distinguished, Alumni Achievement Award, Distinguished Achievement Award, Alumni Service Award, and Outstanding Recent Graduate Award. See Appendix C, Alumni Awards.
- E. Scholarships/Grants. The Association has seven approved scholarships/grants: the Legacy Scholarship, the Culinary Arts Advisory Board Scholarship, the Southern Grace Scholarship, Faculty Enhancement Grants and New Faculty Awards, the MUWAA First Generation College Student Scholarship, and the Long Blue Line Undergraduate Research Grant. See Appendix D, Scholarships/Grants.
- F. Definition of "Annual Contribution": "Annual Contribution" means a (July 1-June 30) monetary donation by a member to the Foundation in an amount to the best of the member's means and at a level that the member considers generous. An annual contribution (made in the fiscal year for that fiscal year) is required for Active and Associate Memberships in the Association.

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### III. PROCEDURES

A. Board of Directors Meetings. The following procedures apply:

1. Manner of Acting. The Board of Directors shall operate with the customs and courtesies of a “small board” as defined by Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised. See Appendix A, Manner of Acting.
2. Roll Call Voting for Telephonic Participants. Members of the Board of Directors participating in board proceedings via telephonic means (conference call, etc.) will cast their voice vote via roll call to ensure their vote is recorded correctly.
3. Open Forum. The Order of Business at every regular board meeting will include an Open Forum with the intent that Members of the Association may address the board. If a member plans to discuss a complex issue, they should notify either the President or MUW Director of Alumni Relations of their intent and topic at least 48 hours in advance, unless waived.
4. Posting of Order of Business. The Order of Business and supporting documents shall be posted online 14 days prior to Board of Directors meetings.
5. Posting of Minutes. Within 14 days following a Board of Directors meeting, a draft copy of the minutes shall be distributed to the Members of the Board for their feedback. Members shall have one week to respond. After recommended corrections are addressed and upon affirmative response from a majority of the Board, a copy of the draft minutes shall be posted to the Association website. The draft minutes shall be marked as “draft” and include the statement, “These minutes are presented as a draft and may be changed, perhaps substantially, upon review at the next Board of Directors meeting.”
6. Oath of Office. The Oath of Office for the Members of the Board shall be:

I, (state your name), do solemnly promise that I will support the bylaws and affiliation agreement and all other laws thereof, and the policies of the Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of Director according to the best of my ability.

- B. Funds Management. The procedures used by the Association Office to manage funds are specified in Appendix B, Funds Management.

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- C. University Consent of Proposed By-Laws Changes. Following preliminary approval by the board of directors, the association president shall forward proposed changes to the by-laws to the university for its consent. Any recommendations or feedback from the University other than consent to the proposed changes shall cause said changes to be returned to the By-Laws Committee for further consideration.
- D. Advocacy Procedures. Public action is defined as any official statement. The Association shall understand the following: i.) That action shall grow out of a careful study of the subject, which would be relevant to the Association's purpose, mission, and objectives in supporting the University, and shall not conflict with the Bylaws, Policies, or Affiliation Agreement of the Association; ii.) That action shall result from a study by the Association's Advocacy Committee, with review and approval by the Board, and should involve situations affecting the Association and its mission; iii.) That action shall not support or oppose candidates for public office; iv.) The many aspects of an issue, both pro and con, should be presented to the association membership after careful study; v.) That the action shall be approved by two-thirds of votes cast by the voting members, and vi.) That the President of the Board or Board designee shall then serve as the spokesperson in advocating the action supported by the Association.

#### IV. Summary of Changes

Changes are listed in the order in which they occurred.

- Added Section II, F., Definition of "Minimum Annual Contribution," approved Nov. 16, 2011.
- Added Section II, E., and Appendix D, MUWAA Scholarships/Grants, approved July 28, 2012.
- Added Section III, A4, Posting of Order of Business, approved July 28, 2012.
- Added Section III, A3, Open Forum, approved July 28, 2012.
- Added Section III. A2. Roll Call Voting for Telephonic Participants, approved July 28, 2012.
- Added Section III. A1, Manner of Acting, approved July 28, 2012.
- Added Section II, C., Recognition of Departing Members, approved July 28, 2012
- Added Section II, B., Resolution of Commendation, approved July 28, 2012.
- Section III. C., Funds Management, approved January 21, 2012.
- Section II. A., Terms of Office, approved January 21, 2012.
- Section II. D., Alumni Awards Structure, written July 6, 2011, approved January 21, 2012.
- Section III. C., University Consent to Proposed By-Law Changes approved April 20, 2013.
- Section III.A.5, Posting of Minutes, approved April 20, 2013.
- Section III.A.6, Oath of Office, approved April 20, 2013.
- Appendix D., MUWAA Legacy Scholarship Changes approved October 26, 2013.
- Appendix D., New Faculty Awards Changes, approved January 11, 2014
- Appendix D., added Culinary Arts Advisory Board Scholarship, approved January 11, 2014
- Appendix D., added Southern Grace Scholarship, approved January 11, 2014
- Added Section III.D. Advocacy Procedures, approved July 14, 2014
- Appendix D., Southern Grace Scholarship change, approved September 7, 2014

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- Appendix C, Alumni Awards Amendments, approved October 24, 2014 (further by electronic vote November 19, 2014).
- Appendix E, added MUWAA Nominations and Elections Policies and Procedures, approved July 25, 2015.
- Appendix E amended the procedure for election by write-in candidacy, which was approved on April 1, 2016, and July 1, 2016 (ratified by membership on October 24, 2016).
- Appendix C amended the notification procedure for Alumni Awards, which was approved on January 28, 2017.
- Appendix E, amended nominations procedure by clarifying the notification process and adding a format for emails and reports, approved on March 22, 2018.
- Section II. E., number of scholarships listed, approved October 20, 2018.
- Appendix C, Alumni Awards, nominations by inactive members, approved October 20, 2018.
- Appendix D, Scholarships/Grants, title of committee chair changes, and MUW Foundation account number changes, approved October 20, 2018
- Appendix D, Faculty Enhancement Grant, award distribution change, approved October 20, 2018.
- Appendix F., Naming Rights for Special Events, was added and approved on February 2, 2019.
- Appendix C, which changes the award's name, the name of the intended recipient pool, and the language regarding the award process, was approved on October 24, 2020.
- Appendix D, add reference to “schools” throughout, approved October 24, 2020
- Appendix D, add the October 1 deadline for the faculty grant report, approved October 24, 2020.
- Appendix D, change of language to include library faculty, approved April 16, 2021.
- Appendix D, throughout change of language proposed by the D&I committee, approved on April 16, 2021
- Appendix E, amended language to revise the elections and nominations process, approved April 16, 2021
- Section II. E., the number of scholarships listed, approved, April 16, 2021
- Section II. E., the number of scholarships listed, approved, January 21, 2023
- Appendix G, adds a description of each MUWAA special committee currently operating as of 2023-2024, approved October 21, 2023
- Appendix D, adds the MUWAA First Generation College Student Scholarship description and application criteria, approved on January 20, 2024
- Appendix D, adds the Long Blue Line Undergraduate Research Grant, approved on June 25, 2024.
- Section II. E., the number of scholarships listed, approved, June 30, 2024
- Appendix C., Alumni Awards amended timeline for nominations window and voting for MUWAA Alumni Awards, approved April 4, 2024

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## **Appendix A: Manner of Acting**

**Procedure in Small Boards.** In a board meeting where there are not more than about a dozen members present, some of the formality that is necessary in a large assembly would hinder business. The rules governing such meetings are different from the rules that hold in other assemblies, in the following respects:

- Members may raise a hand instead of standing when seeking to obtain the floor, and may remain seated while making motions or speaking.
- Motions need not be seconded.
- There is no limit to the number of times a member can speak to a debatable question.\* Appeals, however, are debatable under the regular rules – that is, each member (except the chair) can speak only once in debate on them, while the chair may speak twice.
- Informal discussion of a subject is permitted while no motion is pending.
- When a proposal is perfectly clear to all present, a vote can be taken without a motion's having been introduced. Unless agreed to by unanimous consent, however, all proposed actions must be approved by a vote under the same rules as in larger meetings, except that a vote can be taken initially by a show of hands, which is often a better method in small meetings.
- The Chair need not rise while putting questions to a vote.
- If the Chair is a member, the Chair may, without leaving the seat, speak in informal discussions and in debate, and vote on all questions.\*\*

\*However, motions to close or limit debate, including motions to limit the number of times a member can speak to a question, are in order even in meetings of a small board (but not in meetings of a committee), although occasions where they are necessary or appropriate may be rarer than in larger assemblies.

\*\*Informal discussion may be initiated by the Chair, enabling the Chair to submit proposals without formally making a motion (although the Chair has the right to make a motion if needed).

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**Appendix B: Funds Management: Procedures for Receiving Checks or Cash for the MUW Foundation**

1. Mail is opened in the Office of Development and Alumni by an Office of Development and Alumni employee.
2. The Office of Development and Alumni employee who opened mail presents checks or cash to the Office of Development and Alumni employee, preparing them for delivery to the MUW Foundation.
3. Each check and/or cash received is recorded in a log. The log includes the date, contributor's name, amount, source of funds (cash or check number), and designation (Foundation fund name). The log is kept on file in the Office of Development and Alumni.
4. Funds are secured for delivery to the MUW Foundation within one business day of receipt in the Office of Development and Alumni. If funds are received by an Office of Development and Alumni employee off-campus, funds should be delivered to the MUW Foundation within one business day of the employee's return to campus.
5. Funds are delivered to the MUW Foundation, and the amount and designation of funds are clearly noted.
6. A delivery receipt has been received from the MUW Foundation.
7. Contributions recorded in the log are verified upon review of MUW Foundation fund reports.

**Procedures for Requesting Disbursements from MUW Foundation Funds**

1. The necessary documentation of expenses, such as an invoice or receipt, is obtained and attached to the MUW Foundation's Check Request Form.
2. The MUW Foundation's Check Request Form is completed with all necessary information, including the name of the Foundation fund from which disbursement is requested.
3. Appropriate approval(s) for MUW Foundation's Check Request Form is obtained as determined by the individual Foundation fund agreement. For example, if a board, club, or committee must approve expenditures according to the fund restrictions, documentation of the board, club, or committee action approving an expenditure must be attached to the MUW Foundation's Check Request Form.
4. The signature of the Foundation fund's designated signatory authority is obtained on the Check Request Form.
5. A copy of the completed MUW Foundation Check Request Form, expense documentation, and any additional required documentation is made and kept on file in the Office of Development and Alumni.
6. MUW Foundation's Check Request Form with all supporting documentation is submitted to the MUW Foundation for approval and payment.
7. Payments are verified upon review of MUW Foundation fund reports.

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## **Appendix C: Alumni Awards**

### **Alumni Achievement Award**

This award is extended to university alumni who have achieved professional distinction and made significant community service contributions at the local, national, and/or international level, bringing distinction and honor to the university. Alumni may receive this award more than once in a lifetime.

### **Distinguished Achievement Award**

This award is extended to faculty, staff, and friends of the university who have achieved professional distinction and made significant community service contributions at the local, national, and/or international level, bringing distinction and honor to the university. A recipient may only receive this award once in a lifetime.

### **Alumni Service Award**

This award is presented to alumni of the university who have consistently demonstrated outstanding commitment, dedication, leadership, and service to the advancement of the **university and alumni association**. Nominees must have attended the university for a minimum of one semester and must be members of the MUW Alumni Association. Alumni may only receive this award once in a lifetime.

### **Outstanding Recent Graduate Award**

This award recognizes recent graduates for outstanding service and contributions in their careers and to the university within 15 years of graduation. Nominees must have attended the university for a minimum of one semester and must be members of the MUW Alumni Association. Alumni may only receive this award once in a lifetime.

Voting Board Members are not eligible for an Alumni Award while serving on the MUWAA Board. However, the MUWAA President may award a board member an Outstanding Achievement Award if that board member has achieved professional distinction and/or made significant community service contributions at the local, national, and/or international level, bringing distinction and honor to the university.

All active members of the MUW Alumni Association, the University Cabinet, and the University Deans may make nominations using the standard nomination form provided. Inactive members who wish to make a nomination may do so by joining the MUW Alumni Association at the time of nomination.



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Selection is made by a vote of the MUW Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Nominations will be submitted beginning in the first week of October and remain open for three weeks. The nominees will be notified via call and/or email by the MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee by the first Sunday in November.

The board will vote via email ballot beginning the third Monday of November and closing the first Sunday of December. The MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee will notify the recipients and non-recipients on or before the second Monday of December.

The MUWAA Board of Directors may select up to 5 recipients for the Alumni Achievement Award.

Nominees who are not selected in their first year will automatically be considered nominated for the following two (2) years and will be given an opportunity to update their nomination forms.

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## **Appendix D: Scholarships/Grants**

### **Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship**

**Purpose:** The Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association's Legacy Scholarship is awarded to one family member of an alum who has been admitted to MUW as a new, full-time student. The MUWAA Legacy Scholarship selection is based on the student's potential for academic and leadership success at MUW. Criteria should not include student's financial need.

**Amount:** The amount of the MUWAA Legacy Scholarship is \$2,500 (divided equally between fall and spring).

**Criteria:**

To be considered for this scholarship, a student must be entering their first semester at MUW.

Those eligible for the MUWAA Legacy Scholarship will be considered in this order:

1. The child, grandchild, or great-grandchild of an alum.\*
2. The niece, nephew, great-niece/nephew, cousin, or sibling\* of an alum.

*\* Child includes step-children; sibling includes half or step-siblings.*

To maintain eligibility, Legacy Scholars must maintain full-time enrollment and a MUW GPA of 3.0 or better.

**Application Process:** The priority deadline for submitting applications to the MUWAA is April 1 for the following fall semester. Applications must be postmarked by that date. Applications should include:

1. Student's complete résumé, including academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and work and volunteer activities;
2. A statement describing why the student has decided to attend MUW and
3. Letter of recommendation from a high school teacher or counselor.

Mail applications to: MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair  
Legacy Scholarship  
1100 College Street  
MUW Box 10  
Columbus, MS 39701

Funds for this scholarship are held in a restricted account in the MUW Foundation for distribution to the winner's account with the Comptroller upon receipt of a letter from the MUWAA President accompanied by the association minutes approving the dispersal of funds. This letter and attachment should be kept on file in the Office of Development and Alumni, the Foundation office, and with the President of the MUWAA.

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**MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair's Responsibilities and Selection**

**Process:** The MUWAA President notifies the MUW Director of Admissions of scholarship availability and its criteria in a letter or email accompanied by the association minutes approving the dispersal of funds. The MUW Director of Admissions will notify eligible students and direct them to the online application form. Applications are mailed to the Office of Development and Alumni and checked for compliance. The MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair selects a faculty member to lead a campus committee of four (4) faculty and/or staff members (with preference given to alumni) in the selection process. The MUW Director of Alumni Relations will serve as an ex-officio committee member. The committee reviews applications, ranks eligible applicants, and sends the list to the MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair through the MUW Director of Alumni Relations. If the first student on the list declines the scholarship for any reason, the scholarship will be awarded to the next name on the list. If feasible, a representative from the MUWAA will make the presentation at the recipient's awards day. Appropriate publicity should be arranged through the Public Affairs office.

The MUW Alumni Association President will send a letter to the applicants who did not receive the scholarship.

The current year recipient will be announced each year at Homecoming.

**MUW Foundation Account ID: 38051**

**Name:** Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship

**Annual Statements:** Copies to MUWAA President, MUWAA Treasurer, and MUW Director of Alumni Relations.

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## **CULINARY ARTS ADVISORY BOARD SCHOLARSHIP**

**Purpose:** The Culinary Arts Institute has two departmental scholarships which can be awarded each fall semester. The annual awards are supported by funds from two endowed scholarships funded by the MUW Alumni Association from the proceeds of the Southern Grace cookbook and through contributions to the scholarship.

**Criteria:**

1. Culinary Arts major enrolled full-time as a first- or second-year student with a GPA of 2.5 or above based on high school, transfer, or MUW grades (if applicable)
2. ACT of 21 or above

**Application Process:** For consideration, applicants should submit the following. The priority deadline is April 1 of each year.

1. MUWAA Scholarship Application
2. Student-issued transcript and documentation of ACT score;
3. Student's complete résumé, including academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and work and volunteer activities;
4. A 250-word essay addressing "why you deserve the scholarship and overall career goals;"
5. Two faculty letters of recommendation addressing the student's leadership and volunteerism

### **MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair's Responsibilities and Selection**

**Process:** The MUWAA President notifies the MUW Director of Admissions and the Director of the Culinary Arts Institute of scholarship availability and its criteria in a letter or email accompanied by the association minutes approving the dispersal of funds. The MUW Director of Admissions and the Director of the Culinary Arts Institute will notify eligible students and direct them to the online application form. Applications are mailed to the Office of Development and Alumni and checked for compliance. The MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair selects a faculty member to lead a campus committee of four (4) faculty and/or staff members (with preference given to alumni) in the selection process. The MUW Director of Alumni Relations will serve as an ex-officio committee member. The committee reviews applications, ranks eligible applicants, and sends the list to the MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair through the MUW Director of Alumni Relations. If the first student on the list declines the scholarship for any reason, the scholarship will be awarded to the next name on the list. If the recipient is a freshman and it is feasible, a representative from the MUWAA will present the award on the recipient's awards day. Appropriate publicity should be arranged through the Public Affairs office.

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The MUW Alumni Association President will send a letter to the applicants who did not receive the scholarship.

The current year recipient will be announced each year at Homecoming.

**MUW Foundation Account Number:** 35287

**Name:** Culinary Arts Advisory Board Scholarship

**Annual Statements:** Copies to MUWAA President, MUWAA Treasurer, and MUW Director of Alumni Relations.

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## **SOUTHERN GRACE SCHOLARSHIP**

**Purpose:** The Culinary Arts Institute has two departmental scholarships which can be awarded each fall semester. The annual awards are supported by funds from two endowed scholarships funded by the MUW Alumni Association from the proceeds of the Southern Grace cookbook and through contributions to the scholarship.

**Criteria:**

1. Culinary Arts major enrolled full-time with junior or senior standing
2. Overall 2.75 GPA
3. Culinary Arts course GPA of 3.0 or above

**Application Process:** For consideration, applicants should submit the following. The priority deadline is April 1 of each year.

1. MUWAA Scholarship Application
2. Student-issued transcript;
3. Student's complete résumé, including academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and work and volunteer activities;
4. A 250-word essay addressing "why you deserve the scholarship and overall career goals;"
5. Two faculty letters of recommendation (address leadership and volunteerism)

### **MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair's Responsibilities and Selection**

**Process:** The MUWAA President notifies the MUW Director of Admissions and the Director of the Culinary Arts Institute of scholarship availability and its criteria in a letter or email accompanied by the association minutes approving the dispersal of funds. The MUW Director of Admissions and the Director of the Culinary Arts Institute will notify eligible students and direct them to the online application form. Applications are mailed to the Office of Development and Alumni and checked for compliance. The MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair selects a faculty member to lead a campus committee of four (4) faculty and/or staff members (with preference given to alumni) in the selection process. The MUW Director of Alumni Relations will serve as an ex-officio committee member. The committee reviews applications, ranks eligible applicants, and sends the list to the MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair through the MUW Director of Alumni Relations. If the first student on the list declines the scholarship for any reason, the scholarship will be awarded to the next name on the list. Appropriate publicity should be arranged through the Public Affairs office.

The MUW Alumni Association President will send a letter to the applicants who did not receive the scholarship.

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The current year recipient will be announced each year at Homecoming.

**MUW Foundation Account Number:** 36062

**Name:** Southern Grace Scholarship

**Annual Statements:** Copies to MUWAA President, MUWAA Treasurer, and MUW Director of Alumni Relatio

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## **MUWAA FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP**

**Purpose:** The Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association's First Generation College Student Scholarship was established to support a first-generation college student and to help alleviate some of the financial concerns associated with furthering the student's education at MUW. The University recognizes a first-generation student by using a student's eligibility for the federal Pell Grant (meaning that if a student qualifies for Pell, that will equate to first-generation status) and/or having the student attest that neither of their parents has completed a 4-year degree.

**Amount:** \$1,000 yearly will be awarded by the MUWAA First Generation College Student Scholarship.

**Criteria:** To be considered for this scholarship, a student must be a first-generation college student enrolled full-time and have a GPA of 2.5 or above based on high school, transfer, or MUW grades (if applicable).

**Application Process:** For consideration, applicants should submit the following information by the priority deadline of April 1 each year:

1. MUWAA Scholarship Application, including photo.
2. Most current version of student-issued transcript(s).
3. The student's complete résumé, including academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and work and volunteer activities.
4. A statement that describes what being a first-generation college student means to the applicant and how this scholarship will impact the student's educational journey at MUW.

Funds for this scholarship shall be held in a restricted account in the MUW Foundation for distribution to the winner's university account with the Comptroller upon receipt of a letter from the MUWAA President accompanied by the association minutes, which approve the disbursement of funds. This letter and attachment should be kept on file in the Office of Development and Alumni, the Foundation office, and with the MUWAA president and given to the student for record keeping.

**MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair's Responsibilities and Selection Process:** The MUWAA President notifies the MUW Director of Admissions of scholarship availability and its criteria in a letter or email accompanied by the association minutes approving the dispersal of funds. The MUW Director of Admissions will notify eligible students and direct them to the online application form. Applications are sent to the Office of Development and Alumni and checked there for compliance. The MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair selects a faculty member to lead a campus committee of four (4) faculty and/or staff members (with preference given to alumni) in the selection process. The MUW Director of Alumni

Relations will serve as an ex-officio committee member. The committee reviews applications, ranks



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eligible applicants, and sends the list to the MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair through the MUW Director of Alumni Relations. If the first student on the list declines the scholarship for any reason, the scholarship will be awarded to the next name on the list. Appropriate publicity should be arranged through the Public Affairs office. The MUW Alumni Association President will send a letter to the applicants who did not receive the scholarship. The current year recipient(s) will be announced yearly at Homecoming.

**MUW Foundation Account Number:** 28523

**Name:** MUWAA First-Generation College Student Scholarship

**Annual Statements:** Copies to MUWAA President, MUWAA Treasurer, and MUW Director of Alumni Relations

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**Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association  
Grants/Awards for Mississippi University for Women (MUW) Faculty**

**Faculty Enhancement Grants**

(\$1000 to be split evenly among faculty representing each college, school, or the library)

**Purpose:** To enhance the educational/professional activities of faculty members.

**Eligibility:** All tenured/tenure track faculty (includes deans and department chairs who teach).

**Application:** Interested faculty should submit a 1-2 page proposal detailing how the grant will enhance their activity in one or more of the following areas to their deans. The provost will set the deadline.

1. Instruction: purchase of classroom materials, etc.
2. Educational programming: Enable students to go on field trips, participate in off-campus programming (in person or online), etc.
3. Research: Enable the collection of data or access to information (archives, etc.) to further scholarly pursuits intended for publication.
4. Conferences: Help defray the costs of travel to academic conferences to present a paper or poster, participate in workshops or panels for scholarly or pedagogical purposes, or preside over the conference itself.

**Selection:** Deans of each college, school, or library will forward the submitted proposals to the Faculty Research Committee (FRC), which will notify the applicant of receipt. A copy of each proposal will also be forwarded to the MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair. The FRC will select no more than four winners and forward the winners' names to the MUWAA. Upon receipt, the MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair will notify the nominees of their selection/non-selection. The grant awards will be made before the close of the Spring Semester. Funds for the grants are held in a restricted account in the MUW Foundation for distribution to winners upon receipt of a letter from the President of the MUWAA accompanied by the association minutes approving the dispersal of funds.

**Report:** Each recipient is requested to submit to the FRC and MUWAA a one-page description (plus any supplementary materials attached, if one so wishes) of how the money was spent to fulfill the activity described in the proposal and how the award supported the academic life of MUW overall. Deadline: October 1.

**MUW Foundation Account Number:** 28108

**Name:** Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association Faculty Enhancement Grant

**Annual Statements:** Copies to MUWAA President, MUWAA Treasurer, and MUW Director of Alumni Relations.

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**New Faculty Award  
(\$1,000 to one newer faculty member at the University)**

**Purpose:** To reward the hard work of a newer faculty member in supporting the academic mission of MUW.

**Eligibility:** Faculty members at the rank of Assistant Professor (tenure track) who have been at MUW for no more than five years.

**Nomination:** Each department chair may nominate no more than one faculty member. Nomination will be in the form of a letter (by the chair) detailing the nominee's contribution to MUW's academic mission. The chair will submit the letter to their respective dean by the date set by the Provost.

**Selection:** Deans of each college, school, or library forward the nomination letters to the Faculty Research Committee (FRC), which will officially notify each applicant of his/her nomination. The MUWAA will also receive a copy of the nominations. The FRC will select one winner and forward the name to the MUWAA. Upon receipt, the MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair will notify the nominees of their selection/non-selection. The award will be made before the close of the Spring Semester. Funds for the award are held in a restricted account in the MUW Foundation, and they will be distributed to the winner upon receipt of a letter from the MUWAA president accompanied by the association minutes approving the dispersal of funds.

**Use:** The grant will be used to enhance the recipient's activity in one or more of the following areas:

1. Instruction: purchase of classroom materials, etc.
2. Educational programming: enable students to go on field trips, participate in off-campus programming (in person or online), etc.
3. Research: Enable the collection of data or access to information (archives, etc.) to further scholarly pursuits intended for publication.
4. Conferences: Help defray the costs of travel to academic conferences to present a paper or poster, participate in workshops or panels for scholarly or pedagogical purposes, or preside over the conference itself.

**Report:** The recipient is requested to submit to the FRC and MUWAA a one-page description (plus any supplementary materials attached, if one so wishes) of how the money was spent to fulfill the activity and how the award supported the academic life of MUW overall. Deadline: October 1.

**MUW Foundation Account ID:** 28109

**Name:** Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association Faculty Award Fund

**Quarterly Statement:** Copies to MUWAA President, MUWAA Treasurer, and MUW Alumni Director.

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## **LONG BLUE LINE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH GRANT**

**Purpose:** The Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association's Long Blue Line Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) Grant is established to support a student or students' research needs. This support can be utilized for presenting or conducting research with the intent to present. Research support for student presenters could fund expenses such as travel, lodging, meals, and/or conference registration. Research support for students in an ongoing project could fund such expenses as supplies, housing, and/or travel.

**Amount:** The amount of the Long Blue Line OUR Grant is up to \$1,000.

**Criteria:** To be considered for this scholarship, you must be a full-time enrolled student and an undergraduate in the process or beginning the research process. This scholarship could apply to more than one student, depending on the requests presented.

**Application Process:** Applicants should email their applications to [our@muw.edu](mailto:our@muw.edu) for consideration. There is no deadline to apply through the Office of Undergraduate Research.

MUWAA Research Grant Applicants should submit interest with the following:

1. Name, Class, and Major
2. 300-500 word statement on a research project that requires funding
3. Faculty advisor name and email
4. 1-page letter of support from the faculty advisor for the project
5. An itemized budget for the request to include item(s), description(s), cost(s), and total amount.

**MUWAA Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair's Responsibilities and Selection Process:** The MUWAA President notifies the MUW Coordinator of Undergraduate Research of scholarship availability and its criteria in a letter or email accompanied by the association minutes approving the dispersal of funds. The MUW Coordinator of Undergraduate Research will ensure the promotion of the program for students and direct them to the OUR website: [www.muw.edu/our/funding](http://www.muw.edu/our/funding) for application. Completed applications sent to the OUR office will be reviewed and approved by the OUR Advisory Committee. Approved applicants will be forwarded to the Office of Development and Alumni to be checked for full-time status. The MUW Director of Alumni Relations will serve as an ex-officio committee member. The MUW Coordinator of OUR should provide student names and a brief report to be shared with the MUWAA Board of Directors for future MUWAA publicity. MUW Alumni Office will extend an invitation to recognize each recipient during the current year at the Homecoming Convocation.

The OUR Advisory Committee will send a letter to the applicants who have not received the grant.

**MUW Foundation Account ID:** 28224

**Name:** Long Blue Line (LBL) Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) Grant

**OUR Annual Report & Statement:** Copies to MUWAA President, MUWAA Treasurer, and MUW Director of Alumni Relations.

## **Appendix E: MUWAA Nominations and Elections Policies and Procedures**

### **1. Purpose and Use**

These Policies and Procedures are intended to guide the orderly, fair, and consistent conduct of the MUWAA Nominations and Elections Committee of the Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association. They are available to all members of the Association and comply with the MUWAA Bylaws, which take precedence.

### **2. Functions of the Nomination and Elections Committee**

The Nominations and Elections Committee is responsible for:

- a. Identifying a slate of one or more qualified candidates for each open MUWAA office that is to be submitted to the voting members of the Association in an annual election (Open positions include President-Elect and five (5) Directors)
- b. And compiling a slate of no more than ten (10) qualified candidates for next year's Nominations and Elections Committee, which will be submitted to the MUWAA President for election by the Board of Directors.

The standards, composition, and chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee are detailed in the MUWAA Bylaws. The Nominations Committee shall manage the nomination processes in a fair, consistent, and unbiased manner.

### **3. Recommended Timeline for the Nominations and Elections Committee Process**

The timeline for generating a slate of candidates for President-Election and Directors is approximately as follows:

Nominations/ Elections Timeline

Before the End of the MUWAA Fiscal Year

“Last Call” for MUWAA Membership for the coming year.

The Nominations and Elections Chair emails all current Board committee members a “Board Service Interest Survey” to help identify potential candidates interested in serving on the MUWAA Board of Directors/ MUWAA President-Elect. The survey will be open for one week, and results will be presented to the Nominations and Elections Committee Chair after that time period.

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**The first week in January (Weeks 1 and 2)**

Call for recommendations from alumni to serve as directors and president-elect. (See Dropbox for sample communication)

As the Director of Alumni Relations receives recommendations, a “vetting” process immediately begins:

The MUW Alumni Office confirms that the alumni submitting names are active members of the MUWAA and that the alumni recommended are eligible to serve according to the eligibility criteria outlined in the MUWAA Bylaws.

Nominations and Elections Committee confirms those willing to accept nomination if selected by the Nominations and Elections Committee and to serve if elected. This is done by email/letter written by the Nominations and Elections Chair and sent by the Director of Alumni Relations. (See Dropbox for sample communication)

All candidates determined to be eligible for consideration will be contacted and asked to complete a Candidate Information Form (See Dropbox for sample communication)

**The Third week in January (Weeks 3 & 4)**

Submission Process Closes

The Nominations and Elections Committee reviews all nominations, vets the candidates further as necessary, and deliberates. After committee discussions, deliberations, and a decision based on a majority vote, the slate of nominated candidates for the offices of President-Elect and Board of Directors will be conveyed in writing to the MUWAA President.

Timely and clear communication with all members participating in the nominations process is important. As recommendations are received and vetted by the Alumni Office, those not eligible for nomination will be notified via email of their ineligibility and the reason, encouraging them to become fully active so they may be nominated for future service. (See Dropbox for sample communication)

Once the committee has chosen the slate, all candidates should be notified of the results as soon as possible. A phone call by the Nominations and Elections Chair is recommended for each candidate, whether chosen or not. Special encouragement should be given to those candidates not chosen to consider a future nomination. (See Dropbox for sample communications)

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**The First Week in February (Weeks 5 & 6)**

The Nominations and Elections Committee report is prepared by the Nominations and Elections Chair, submitted to the MUWAA President, and copied to the elected members of the Nominations and Elections Committee and the MUW Director of Alumni Relations. (See Dropbox for sample communication)

**The Third Week of February (Weeks 7 & 8)**

The election window opens via transmission of the ballot to eligible voters. Two weeks after balloting opens, voting/tabulation closes at midnight and is conducted by the Director of Alumni Relations and staff.

**The First Week of March (Week 9)**

The Nominations and Elections Committee reviews the election results to determine if any write-in candidate received a majority of the votes cast and needs to be determined eligible to serve. The Committee will send the name of any write-in candidate who received a majority of the votes cast to the Director of Alumni Relations, who will confirm whether the write-in candidate is eligible to serve. If an eligible candidate does not receive a majority of the votes cast, the eligible candidate with the next highest number of votes cast in the election will be selected.

The Nominations and Elections Committee Report is then prepared by the Nominations and Elections Chair, submitted to the MUWAA President, and copied to the Nominations and Elections Committee members and the MUW Director of Alumni Relations.

Notify Nominees and the MUWAA Board of the results

**The Second Week of March (Week 10)**

Inform Members of Election Results

End of March- Mid-April (Dates to TBD and set by the University) -Homecoming/Annual Meeting

**4. Recommended Timeline for Selection of Nominations and Elections Committee Members**

The timeline for generating a slate of candidates for Nominations and Elections Committee Members is approximately as follows:

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**Six Weeks in Advance of the First Meeting of the New MUWAA Board**

A submission survey was sent out to all Incoming Board Members to nominate prospective candidates for the Incoming Nominations and Elections Committee. The submission survey is open for one calendar week.

**Five Weeks in Advance of the First Meeting of the New MUWAA Board**

Prospective Nominations and Elections Committee Members are identified and determined eligible for consideration for MUWAA committee service. Candidates are contacted and requested to fill out a “Candidate Information Form” and return the form to the Office of Development and Alumni within one calendar week.

**Three-Four Weeks in Advance of the First Meeting of the New MUWAA Board**

Suppose more than ten (10) eligible potential candidates are submitted for nomination. In that case, the Nominations and Elections Committee will meet to determine the ten (10) who best fit the service criteria as outlined by the MUWAA Bylaws. It would ensure equitable representation of our diverse alumni base.

**Two Weeks in Advance of the First Meeting of the New MUWAA Board:**

The Nominations and Elections Committee receives all Candidate Information Forms and headshots and compiles no more than a 2-paragraph bio for each candidate. The bio should include, at minimum, the MUW Class Year, City/State of Residence, Major areas of study while at MUW, current professional role(s), and a summary of previous MUWAA service (if applicable). The final Prospective Candidate Packet should be submitted to the Incoming MUWAA President for review and approval no later than ten days before the planned distribution.

**One Week in Advance of the First Meeting of the New MUWAA Board:**

The Incoming MUWAA President will distribute the Prospective Candidate Information Packet, including a headshot and short bio of each candidate, to the Incoming MUWAA Board no later than seven days before the scheduled Board meeting.

**At the First Meeting of the New MUWAA Board:**

The MUWAA Board of Directors holds a formal vote to elect the four Nominations and Elections Committee members. The individual receiving the next highest number of votes will be the named alternate for committee service.



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**5. Procedure for Filling Board Vacancies**

Nominations and Elections Committee should identify an alternate nominee or plus one (1) in addition to the slate of one or more qualified candidates for President-Elect and five (5) Directors during the nominations cycle. The alternate nominee should be identified from within the most current pool of eligible nominees as vetted through the Office of Alumni Relations and deliberated on by the Nominations and Elections Committee in the most recent nominations cycle. This alternate nominee shall possess the next highest number of votes as determined by Nominations and Elections Committee members during the processes laid out in section 3 of this document. The alternate nominee shall be designated and called upon if/when a vacancy arises during the board year due to a vacated board director seat by way of resignation or through the election process (i.e., President-Elect) to fulfill the remaining term left on vacated position.

In the event an inadequate/insufficient number of eligible candidates is presented to the Nominations and Elections Committee for Board of Directors positions, the Nominations and Elections Committee may confer with a designated group of advisers to include the MUWAA President, MUWAA President-Elect, and Director of Alumni Relations to determine eligible candidates for nomination. This/These candidate(s) shall be determined using a pool of eligible board committee members and/or association members. After approval from the Nominations and Elections Committee, the candidate will be presented for approval to the Board of Directors.

**6. Privacy in Confirmation of Candidates and Announcements of Results**

All meetings of the Nominations and Elections Committee shall be held in Executive Session, and the strictest confidentiality shall be maintained by all committee members. Committee deliberations and discussions are not to be shared outside the Committee and the Director of Alumni Relations. Candidate names shall be released once the final slates are officially distributed for voting purposes.

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**Appendix F: NAMING  
RIGHTS**

The Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association (MUWAA) shall maintain exclusive ownership of any and all designated naming rights for any and/or all special events it proposes, develops, promotes, and maintains on behalf of the benefactor, Mississippi University for Women. This includes, but is not limited to, The MUWAA Long Blue Line Auction and the MUWAA B.L.U.E. Event.

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## **Appendix G: SPECIAL COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS**

The Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association (MUWAA) lists special committee descriptions, but they are not limited to the below list. These are meant to give a roadmap with a committee objective and potential annual goals. As noted in the Bylaws (Section IV, Committees, Part C), The President or the Board of Directors shall determine the need for special committees as circumstances warrant. Special Committees are created at the discretion of the MUWAA President in a given fiscal year.

1. The **Membership Recruitment Committee** aims to grow membership and encourage participation in the Association and University activities by educating new graduates about the Association, hosting a membership drive to re-engage current alumni and recruit new members, and supporting University activities and events as needed.
2. The **Mentoring Committee** will strengthen relationships with current students and cultivate them for active Association membership upon graduation. The committee will be tasked with planning and executing events or programs directly related to this mission.
3. The **Strategy and Support Committee**, led by the Association's President-Elect and composed of 4-5 MUWAA Board Members appointed by the Association's President, capitalizes on the University's strategic planning process. Its goals are to maximize volunteer support for the University's mission and vision and, if members concur, focus on collaboration with institutional initiatives.
4. The **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Committee** will strive to cultivate stronger relationships with minority group alumni and emphasize creating a culture of diversity and inclusion to encourage interest in active participation in the Association.
5. The **Digital Marketing Committee** shall, in coordination with the University's Director of Alumni Relations and in alignment with the MUWAA Public Relations Committee, create, produce, and disseminate digital and social media information on behalf of the Association and work to project a positive image of the University, the Association, and former students. The Committee will also help ensure all information maintains the University and Association's brand standards.