Bone Scholarship Nominee Workshop

Wednesday, February 12; 4 – 5 pm
Thursday, February 13; 4 – 5 pm
Friday, February 14; 2 – 3 pm

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Our time together...

- What is the Bone Scholarship?
- What does the application entail?
- What makes an application exceptional?
What is the Bone Scholarship?

- Named after Robert G. Bone
  - 9th President of Illinois State University;
    1960 – 1967
- Highest honor an undergraduate can receive
What is the Bone Scholarship?

• First scholarships were awarded in 1967
• Recognizes and celebrates outstanding academic achievement and campus/community engagement
What is the Bone Scholarship?

• Financial award
• Commemorative medallion
• Framed certificate
• Display in the Bone Student Center
• Fall luncheon
Application Basics

• 60 nominees
• 14 Bone Scholars selected
• Submission deadline is 4:30 pm on Monday, March 2
• Materials submitted online
Online Application

• Submit two files
  • **File 1: Application materials**
    • PDF or Word documents only
  • **File 2: Project**
    • Any format
  • **File 3: Optional**
    • If needed (any format)
• Contact Julie Brooks for “not-digital” projects or materials
Letters of...

- **Nomination**
  - 2 letters were submitted with your formal nomination

- **Recommendation**
  - 2 additional letters acquired by the nominee
  - Academic and/or professional contacts
  - Preference is for the letters to be sent directly to the Honors Program
Letters of Recommendation

• Academic and/or professional contacts
• Refer to your strengths and character
• Provide examples of your achievements
• Share a resume or ask the letter writer to focus on something specific
Significant Courses

What intrigues, excites, or inspires you as a student?

- 4 courses from Illinois State
- 1 double-spaced page per course
- When taken, requirement fulfilled
- Why was the course significant to your personal and/or professional development?
Significant Courses

- Clear and compelling rationale as to the significance of the courses identified
- Examples/evidence of personal and/or professional development
- Make connections to:
  - Career path
  - Skills developed
  - Involvement
Activities and Organizations

Share the breadth and depth of your involvement.

• Up to 10 Activities/Organizations
• List that includes:
  • Brief description of the Activity/Organization
  • Dates and length of participation
  • Duties and/or responsibilities
  • Positions and/or offices held
  • Honors and/or awards received
Activities and Organizations

• Breadth and depth of experiences
• RSOs, volunteer experience, employment, social/civic involvement
• Are your roles and responsibilities clear and succinctly described?
• Leadership and membership
  ▪ You can lead. Can you follow?
  ▪ How do you encourage others to lead?
Activities and Organizations

3 “Most Meaningful”

• 1 double spaced page per “Most Meaningful”
• Consider the impact you had and growth you experienced
• Examples of initiative
• “Transformative”
  ▪ How did you leave your mark?
  ▪ Personal/professional growth
Project

• Your “best work”
  ▪ Culminating class projects
  ▪ Substantial assignments
  ▪ Not necessarily from a class
  ▪ Definitely from time at Illinois State

• 1 double-spaced page with a brief description and context
  ▪ Class title, semester taken
  ▪ Goals for the assignment
Project

• Apples and oranges
• Exceptional quality
• Significance of the project is evident
Project Critique

- 3 double-spaced pages
- Why is this your “best work?”
- How is this project significant to your academic and/or professional development?
- Critical analysis
  - What could have been improved or done differently?
Project Critique

• Connect to skills developed or professional aspirations
• Analysis should take the project to the next level
• Specific examples:
  ▪ Go beyond “more research” or “better sources”
Essay

- 4 double-spaced pages
- Reflect on your experiences
- Consider future goals and achievements
  - Not necessarily career focused
- Anticipate and overcome challenges
Essay

• Well-written narrative
• Specific examples and supporting details
• Clear goals; evidence of goal setting and planning
• Reference to challenges (anticipated or otherwise)
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<td>Activities and Organizations</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Project**</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Essay</td>
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*Assumes 5 pages to explain 10 activities.

**Project not included in total page count.
Technical things

• No errors; proofread like your life depends on it
• Standard margins
• Times New Roman or Arial (don’t get fancy)
• Label each section
• One file saved in Word or PDF format
Themes of Advice

• Show, don’t just tell:
  ▪ Be specific: examples and evidence
• Cohesive, compelling, well-written narratives
• Balance of academic excellence and leadership achievements
Good Luck!