Bone Scholarship Nominee Workshop

Wednesday, February 10; 4 – 5 pm
Thursday, February 11; 4 – 5 pm
Friday, February 12; 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

• 58 nominees
• 14 Bone Scholars selected
• Submission deadline is 4:30 pm on Monday, March 1
• 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
Themes of Advice

- Meaning and transformation
- Be specific: examples and evidence
- Cohesive, compelling, well-written narratives
- Balance of academic excellence and leadership achievements
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/community/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
Activities and Organizations

Covid-19 Response

Your description of your Activities and Organizations, including your discussion of the three most meaningful, may include how Covid-19 affected your involvement and may have altered your ability to pursue your past activities.
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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<thead>
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<th>Section</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Significant Courses</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities and Organizations</td>
<td>List (5*) + 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project**</td>
<td>Project + 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Critique</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total pages</strong></td>
<td><strong>20 (ish)</strong></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)
• No less than 11 point font
• Label each section
• One file saved in Word or PDF format
Themes of Advice

- Meaning and transformation
- Be specific: examples and evidence
- Cohesive, compelling, well-written narratives
- Balance of academic excellence and leadership achievements
Good Luck!