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Robert G. Bone  
**SCHOLARSHIP**

# Bone Scholarship Nominee Workshop

Wednesday, February 7; 4 – 5 pm

Thursday, February 8; 4 – 5 pm

Friday, February 9; 2 – 3 pm

Christie Martin

Honors Program Associate Director

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## Our time together...

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



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# Robert G. Bone SCHOLARSHIP

## What is the Bone Scholarship?

- Named after Robert G. Bone
  - 9<sup>th</sup> President of Illinois State University;  
1960 – 1967
- Highest honor an undergraduate can receive





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# What is the Bone Scholarship?

- First scholarships were awarded in 1967
- Recognizes and celebrates outstanding academic achievement and campus/community engagement



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# What is the Bone Scholarship?

- Financial award
- Commemorative medallion
- Framed certificate
- Display in the Bone Student Center
- Fall luncheon



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# Application Basics

- 56 nominees
- 14 Bone Scholars selected
- Submission deadline is 4:30 pm on Friday, March 1
- Materials submitted online



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## **Selection Committee**

- 1 faculty member from each college (6 total)
- Current Bone Scholar
- Foundation Association Representative
- Alumni Association Representative



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# Online Application

- Submit two files
- **File 1: Application materials**
  - PDF or Word documents only
- **File 2: Academic Product**
  - Any format
- **File 3: Optional**
  - If needed (any format)
- Contact Julie Brooks for “not-digital” products or materials





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## Letters of...

- **Nomination**
  - 2 letters were submitted with your formal nomination
- **Recommendation**
  - 2 additional letters acquired by the nominee
  - Academic and/or professional contacts
  - Letters should be sent directly to the Honors Program



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# 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

**Guidance for Letters of Recommendation**



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## Themes of Advice

- Meaning and significance
- Growth and transformation as a student, scholar, person
- Future oriented
- Be specific: examples and evidence
- Cohesive, compelling, well-written narratives
- Balance of academic excellence and leadership achievements



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# Significant Courses

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

- 4 courses from Illinois State
- 1 double-spaced page per course
- Briefly: when taken, requirement fulfilled
- Why was the course significant to your development as a student?



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## Significant Courses

- Clear and compelling rationale as to the significance of the courses identified
- Examples/evidence of your development as a student
- Make connections to:
  - Skills developed
  - Involvement
  - Career path



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# Activities and Organizations

Share the breadth and depth of your involvement.

- Up to 7 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



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# Activities and Organizations

- Breadth and depth of experiences
- RSOs, volunteer experience, employment, family/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?



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# 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





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# 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.



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# Academic Product

- Influential; not necessarily big
  - Sophomore or junior year
  - Showcase your abilities as a student/scholar
  - Substantial assignments
  - Not necessarily from a class
- 1 double-spaced page with a brief description and context
  - Class title, semester taken
  - Goals for the assignment



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# Academic Product Reflection

- 2 double-spaced pages
- Why are you proud of this product?
  - Academic mindset
  - Growth as a student/scholar
- What is the significance of the product?
  - Skills developed
  - Important outcomes
  - Abilities as a student/scholar



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# Academic Product Reflection

- Self-Reflection
- What did you learn?
- How did you grow?
- Ability to find meaning



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# Essay

Consider Illinois State University's core values.

1. In what ways has your undergraduate experience encompassed these values?
  - Limit your discussion to no more than three core values. Provide examples of how your experiences connect to these values.
2. How might your future goals include engaging with these values?



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## Essay

- 3 double-spaced pages
- Reflect on your experiences
- Consider future goals and achievements
- Express yourself in writing



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## Essay

- Well-written narrative
- Specific examples and supporting details
- Clear connection to no more than three core values
- Consideration for future goals



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# Page Count

	<b>Section</b>	<b>Total</b>
Significant Courses	4	4
Activities and Organizations	List (4*) + 3	11
Academic Product**	Product + 1	12
Academic Product Reflection	2	14
Essay	3	17
	Total pages	17 (ish)

\*Assumes 4 pages to explain 7 activities.

\*\*Product not included in total page count.





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## Technical things

- Do NOT include a picture
- No errors; proofread like your life depends on it
- One file saved in Word or PDF format
- Standard margins
- Times New Roman or Arial (don't get fancy)
- No less than 11 point font
- Label each section

**Significant Courses**

*Introduction to Basket Weaving (BWV 100)*

Page number in the header

Section title

Name in the footer



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**Good Luck!**