

To: Montana State Library Commission
From: PEEL Advisory Committee
Date: June 4, 2004
Re: Final PEEL scholarship recommendations

Information was received from all eight remaining scholarship applicants concerning graduate library school admission status. One applicant, Erin Casey, has withdrawn from further consideration because she cannot start her degree program until fall 2005.

After receiving all applicant updates, the PEEL Advisory Committee discussed by email the awarding of scholarship funds. The Committee makes the following recommendations for the Commission's consideration:

1. Fund all seven remaining applicants, three fully and four partially.
2. The three candidates selected by the Advisory Committee in the first round of voting at the April 7 meeting are recommended to receive scholarships in the full amount requested: **Honore Bray** for \$20,000 (University of Chicago at Urbana-Champaign); **Marcia Lubick*** for \$15,216 (University of North Texas), and **Frederick Noel** for \$15,400 (University of North Texas). These awards total \$50,616.
3. The balance of \$69,384 would be awarded to the remaining four candidates at 90% of the amount requested:

Kathryn Holt -- requested \$20,000 (Drexel University); recommended award = \$18,000

Anne James -- requested \$20,000 (The College of St. Catherine); recommended award = \$18,000

Judith Brown McKenna -- requested \$20,000 (Texas Woman's University); recommended award = \$18,000

Lauren McMullen -- requested \$14,430 (University of North Texas); recommended award = \$13,000

These awards total \$67,000.

*Marcia Lubick has been accepted at UNT to begin her degree in fall 2005 and is on a waiting list to begin in fall 2004. If she is not able to start classes in 2004, the scholarship will not be awarded. The \$15,216 would then be available.

The recommended awards would expend a total of \$117,616 of the \$120,000 earmarked for scholarship funds, leaving a balance of \$2,384. This small balance could be used for another PEEL activity.

The Advisory Committee did consider reserving some of the scholarship funds for another round of applications in 2005. However, the members decided that the seven final applicants were all very strong and merited funding. Also taken into consideration was the possibility that MSL will apply for a second "Recruiting in the 21st Century" grant in December 2004 and having a balance of unused scholarship funds might weaken the request for additional grant money.