

Minutes for Service and Partnerships Committee Meeting

Spring 2016 Meeting

2 March 2016

Present: Helwig, Stammer, Gabriel, Wendelin, Fitzpatrick, Crafton, Byrd, Brown (chair)

Charge

To encourage and publicize service activities of chapters, particularly activities on literacy, broadly defined. To work toward an acceptance of service as a major component of the Sigma Tau Delta experience. To work with the Convention Chair to develop convention roundtables on service. To explore possibilities for Society partnerships with organizations, foundations, and businesses.

Focus	Deadline
Review and discuss more effective means of promoting, publicizing, and marketing Student Leadership Awards, Project Grants, and Service Awards, and review rubrics for judging of those awards/grants.	Fall 2015 to Spring 2016
Examine any potential sponsored internships, national service projects, and other partnerships and present proposal(s) to the Board.	Fall 2015 to Spring 2016
Accept applications for and recommend winners of Chapter Project Grants and Service Awards and recommend winners of Student Leadership Awards.	Fall 2015 to Spring 2016
With NEHS and SKD, discuss partnerships with organizations committed to literacy and to protection of intellectual freedom and First Amendment rights.	Spring 2016
Judge Penguin Internship applications.	Spring 2016
Judge and distribute Summer Internship Stipends.	Spring 2016
Plan, with the Convention Committee, panels on service opportunities and issues.	Spring 2016
Discuss how the Society can publicize, facilitate, and support NEHS/Sigma Tau Delta partnerships at the chapter level, such as a sponsorship initiative.	Spring 2016

Project Grants

This past fall we moved the deadline to early November after receiving only 1 application. That move led to a rise in submissions to 12. Thus, we will move the deadline for project grants to early November.

Student Leadership Award

We only received one nomination this past year, and that person was given that award. We discussed how to increase applications and came up with a change to the nomination process: the sponsor will nominate a student; the student will then be asked to turn in a 500-word letter showing their leadership; sponsors will nominate by April 10, and the students must respond by April 17.

Penguin Internship Applications

The judging for the Penguin Internship applications was rather uneven this year, partly because we had a high number of people who had never judged before. One solution is to put up a couple of sample applications that have been marked up with comments, showing what makes them strong or weak applications. We will also examine the rubric to make sure it covers what we need to make the best decision.

Membership Fee Initiatives with NEHS and SKD

In order to pursue some sort of fee initiative with NEHS and SKD, we need to begin gathering information. Thus, we took a motion to the Board:

The Service and Partnerships Committee moves that we move toward a rate reduction incentive for students moving from NEHS to SKD or STD and from SKD to STD by 1) investigate data concerning the number of people who move from NEHS to SKD or STD and from SKD to STD in 2016; 2) pilot rate reductions for SKD to STD and NEHS to SKD or STD in 2017; then 3) implement rate reduction by 2018.

That motion passed, so we will begin gathering data later this year.

Summer Internship Stipend

We had a large group of submissions last year, so we decided to split the stipend into two, one in the fall and one in the spring. We took a motion to the Board to make this change:

The Service and Partnerships Committee moves that we split the current summer internship stipend into two internships, one to be awarded in the fall, the other to be awarded in the spring, working around other deadlines in consultation with the Central Office and other committee, as needed.

The Board offered a friendly amendment, giving us two internships each submission period, for a total of four. That motion passed.

Service Awards

We briefly discussed the upcoming Service Awards, reminding people that we will need judges, though there are fewer applications for this award than many others.

Better World Books Internship

A question came up about the Better World Books internship, and Elfi went over the history of it to provide some background.