Scholarships & Awards – 2014

The English department at NMSU awards a number of scholarships and prizes to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students in our programs.

The following are the 2014 award winners:

*Undergraduate Awards*

**Paideia Documented Argument Contest**

*Students enrolled in ENGL 111 in the summer or fall of the year the award is given are eligible to win. Three Documented Arguments will be selected as winners with a monetary prize and will have the opportunity to be published in the upcoming Paideia issue. Awards will be decided by the Writing Program Administrators.*

- **1st place:** Jessica Smith, “Creating Success for Students with Disabilities” (Cathilia Flores, instructor)
- **2nd place:** Sylina Williamson, “Why Mothers Deserve the Choice of Vaginal Birth after Cesarean” (Luke Luna, instructor)
- **3rd place:** Morgan Anne Beasley, “Domestic Violence in Otero Country” (Phillip Bode, instructor)

**Robert A. Wichert Endowed Memorial Award for Creative Writing**

*Two awards will be given to undergraduate students who have written an outstanding piece of fiction, poetry, or drama in an English class. The winners of this award are determined by the Creative Writing faculty.*

- Sherilyn Smith (prose)

**Dr. Larry L. Wilson Endowed Memorial Scholarship**

*This award is given to a New Mexico resident majoring in English with a GPA of 3.0 or better who demonstrates financial need, but does not qualify for aid. Determined by the Department Head in consultation with Financial Aid. Preference is to returning students.*

- Rebecca Correa
Elizabeth Jean Wichert Endowed Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is given to one or more seniors majoring in English.

- Arthur Tillbrook

Joseph H. Forsyth Endowed Memorial Scholarship

One or more native New Mexican juniors majoring in English with a 3.5 GPA or better can be awarded this scholarship. The Department Head determines the winner.

- Andrea Gutierrez

Marion P. Hardman Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Two awards will be given to outstanding juniors or seniors majoring in English. Students must have completed 80 credits to be eligible. The Undergraduate Studies Committee determines the winners.

- Arthur Tillbrook

Mary Powell Ambrose Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Award to an outstanding junior or senior English major, the winner of this scholarship is selected by the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

- Desiree Gomez

Sutherland-McManus Memorial English Scholarships

Two awards are given to undergraduate students who have submitted a piece of work that was originally written for an English class. The categories are: 1) the best literary critical essay and 2) the best work of nonfiction prose (including essays, reports, and electronic documents). This award is decided by the Undergraduate Studies Committee. From these two winners, the Emerson Award winner will be determined.

- Rebecca Correa (nonfiction)
- Sherilyn Smith (nonfiction)

Verna Newman Rule Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Determined by the Department Head, this award is given to a junior or senior student with the highest GPA. If there is a GPA tie, the number of credit hours will be used as a criterion. No applications accepted.

- Rachel Oestreich (junior)
- Angeline Taylor (senior)

Corinne Robison Peterson Creative Writing Scholarship
**Graduate Awards**

**Elizabeth Jean Wichert Scholarship**

*This scholarship is given to one or more English Department graduate students.*

- Rebecca Correa

**Frank Waters Fiction Lectureships**

*Awarded to three outstanding graduate students enrolled in the MFA in Creative Writing program. This award is decided by an outside judge and the Creative Writing faculty.*

- Jennifer England

**Harris-Kunz Endowed Award in Poetry**

- Paul French
- Laura Terry

**Keith Wilson & Joe Somoza Poetry Prize**

*In honor of retired NMSU faculty members Keith Wilson and Joe Somoza. Three awards are decided by an outside judge in cooperation with the Creative Writing faculty, and are awarded to outstanding graduate students enrolled in the MFA in Creative Writing program.*

- 1st place: Ross Howerton, “How Moos the Honey”
- 2nd place: Sarah Gzemski, “Parable”
- 3rd place: Madeline Vardell, “Bird in L IM B O”
- Honorable Mentions: Naima Woods, “Necropsy”

**Mary L. and Ellis Wright Endowed Writing Scholarship**

- Alexander Hallwyler
- David Reyes

**Mercedes Delos Jacobs Book Prize**

- Carrie Tafoya (poetry)
- Robert Mills (fiction)

**Ruth Scott Academy of American Poets Prize**

*A graduate student poet enrolled in the MFA in Creative Writing program is awarded this prize which is decided by an outside judge and the Creative Writing faculty. For more information, contact the Creative Writing faculty chair.*
• Sarah Gzemski, “Pocketwatch”

**Charles & Pamela Sphar Scholarship**

*For an outstanding female English Department graduate student with a GPA of 3.0 or better in need of financial assistance, this scholarship is selected by the English Department Head in consultation with the Graduate Studies Committee and Financial Aid Office.*

• Michelle Granger

**Emerson Award**

*Selected from the Sutherland-McManus Memorial English Scholarship winners, this award recognizes outstanding writing by a graduate student in English. This award is decided by the Graduate Studies Committee. No applications accepted*

• Savannah Johnston

**English Department Research & Creative Activities Award**

*One or more small awards will be awarded in support of expenses related to their academic research or creative activities. The Graduate Studies Committee makes recommendations to the Department Head.*

• Genvieve DesGeorges
• Kefaya Diab
• Karen Trujillo
• Naima Woods

**Stuart C. Brown Award for Excellence in Writing and Teaching**

*Awarded annually to one or more outstanding graduate students in Rhetoric and Professional Communication.*

• Karen Trujillo

**Sutherland-McManus Scholarships**

*Two awards are given to graduate students who have submitted a piece of work that was originally written for an English class. The categories are: 1) the best literary critical essay and 2) the best work of nonfiction prose (including essays, reports, and electronic documents). This award is decided by the Graduate Studies Committee. From these two winners, the Emerson Award winner will be determined.*

• Emily Haymans, “Debbie’s and Kenny’s Fish Fry” (nonfiction)
• Savannah Johnston, “Fry Bread Power(less): Food and Gender in Sherman Alexie’s ‘Every Little Hurricane’ and Smoke Signals” (literary criticism)

**Verna Newman Rule Scholarship**
Determined by the Department Head, this award is given to an outstanding master’s and doctoral student with the highest GPA. No applications accepted.

- Electra Rich
- Rachel Gallagher

**Kevin McIlvoy Endowed Fellowship**

- Savannah Johnston

**Outstanding Writing Center Consultant Award**

- Felicita Arzu
- Justin Lewis

**Outstanding Rhetoric and Composition Instructor**

- Karen Trujillo

**Outstanding Writing in the Humanities and Social Sciences Instructor**

- Jennifer England
- Kelly Medina-Lopez

**Outstanding Instructor: Professional Development**

- Jennifer England
- Nancy Hastings
- Sessily Watt

**Committed Writing Instructor: Professional Development**

- Kefaya Diab
- Niki Mott
- Dylan Retzinger
- Shawanda Stewart
- Anthony Tome
- Karen Trujillo
- Kelly Whitney

**Graduate Student Travel Awards**

- Jennifer England
- Kefaya Diab
- Rachelle Wales
- Naima Woods

**Preparing Future Faculty Graduate Assistantship Award**
• Ross Howerton
• Terese Mailhot

**Outstanding Graduate Assistantship Award**

• Lindsey Brown
• Dylan Retzinger
• Anthony Tome

**NM Higher Education Department Fellowship Award**

• Jeannette Monsivais
• Karen Trujillo

**Diversity Graduate Assistantships**

• Cameo Contreras

**Graduate School's Tuition Fellowship**

• Felicita Arzu
• Robert Cannella
• Cameo Contreras
• Genvieve DesGeorge
• Allison Field-Bell
• Sarah Gzemski
• Rebecca Hoffman
• Savannah Johnston
• Ashley McGuire
• Kelly Medina
• Sean Miller
• Jeannette Monsivais
• Amanda Munoz
• Dominique Salas
• Anthony Tome
• Karen Trujillo

**Graduate School's Merit-Based Enhancement Fellowship**

• Mais Al-Khateeb
• Genvieve DesGeorge
• Barry Pearce