

Judicial By-Law

Other Officers of the Court

The Chief Justice shall have the power to appoint such executive assistants as shall be deemed necessary for the proper execution of his duties, and have the power to remove such persons from their positions.

Provisional Appointments

The President may make temporary or provisional appointments of Justices to the Court if two-thirds of the Justices remaining on the Court so request. The President shall declare the length or provisions of such appointments at the time the appointments are made.

Proceedings of the Court

1. The Court shall conduct sessions only when a quorum of at least two-thirds of the Justices are present.
2. The concurrence of a majority of the Justices shall be necessary to render a decision or judgment.
3. All votes must be taken by roll call.
4. No member of the Judiciary may take participate in any activity of the Court in which he might be suspected to have private interests, prejudice, or conflicting sympathies. In such circumstances, a Justice may voluntarily withdraw from participation in an activity of the Court or may be recused by a unanimous vote of the other members of the Court.
5. The Chief Justice shall keep accurate records of the meetings of the Court. Such records shall include a resume of any testimony given during a trial, a resume of all the deliberations of the Court, and a record of the balloting pursuant to each decision.
6. The Chief Justice shall provide copies of the records of the Court for the Masters' files and the files of the college and shall present copies of the records of the Court to the Secretary of the College for distribution to the Members of the College.
7. All trials shall by default be open to the public. However, at the request of a defendant or plaintiff, or of the Ombudsman, or of a majority of the members of the Court, the Court may conduct a closed session:
 - a. Closed sessions shall be attended by the Court, the defendant(s), the plaintiff(s), the Ombudsman, and witnesses as they are called.

- b. Records of closed trials shall have names deleted before archival or publication.
8. Witnesses may be called by the Court, the defendant(s), or the plaintiff(s), and shall be subject to recall at any time. Any person who refuses to testify when called as a witness or who perjures himself shall be held in contempt of the Court and shall be subject to Court action.
9. No person may be compelled to incriminate himself.

Section Four: Majority and Minority Opinions

1. The Chief Justice shall ensure that decisions and rulings of the Court are transmitted in writing to Diet and other appropriate bodies.
2. If the Chief Justice is not on the side of the majority in a decision or ruling, he must allow a representative of the majority opinion, elected by the majority, to deliver the majority opinion. A representative of the minority opinion shall also deliver a report of the minority opinion.

Awards By-Law

Presentation of College Awards

1. All awards, with the exception of the *Zevi and Bertha Salsburg Award*, shall be given annually at the College Awards Night ceremony in the spring semester.
2. Each award shall cause the name of the recipient to be engraved on a plaque to be permanently displayed in the Commons.

Proceedings of Nominations and Selections

1. If any member of a selection committee for an award is a candidate for that award, he shall forfeit his position on that committee.
2. The Secretary of the College shall ensure adequate publication of the criteria for awards and the procedures for selection of candidates and recipients.

The Worden Endowed Award

The *Worden Endowed Award* was established in 1980 by Mr. and Mrs. Sam P. Worden, the first community associates of the College and amended by Mrs. Worden in September 1998.

1. The recipient of the award shall be a member of the senior class who during his or her years at Will Rice has made the most meritorious impact on the College through outstanding leadership, academic achievement, assistance to others and service to the college. (Service rendered to the university and/or community may also be considered.)
2. The dates for accepting nominations shall be announced at least two weeks in advance of the deadline for submitting nominations. Anyone associated with the college, including Members and Associates, may submit nominations. Nominations should be in writing and should include a list of the nominee's qualifications, signed by the nominator and submitted to the College Coordinator.
3. An *ad-hoc* committee consisting of the outgoing Executive Officers, the Head Fellows, the Master(s), the Resident Associate(s), and the College Coordinator, shall carefully screen the nominees and choose no more than five candidates with the highest qualifications.
4. A secret ballot, which shall include the candidates' qualifications, shall be issued to all members of a voting committee: the incoming and outgoing members of the Diet, the Will Rice Fellows, the Master(s), the Resident Associate(s), and the College Coordinator.

5. The Parliamentarian, or his designate, along with the Chairperson of the Awards Committee, or his designate, shall count votes of the voting committee.
6. The recipient will be announced at the spring College Awards Night.
7. The annual prize of \$1000 shall be paid by the Treasurer of the University from the earnings of the Worden Will Rice College Endowment.

The James Street Fulton Prize

The *James Street Fulton Prize* was established in 1981 by Mr. Edward Hinders, a distinguished alumnus of Will Rice College, class of 1971, in honor of the first master of Will Rice College.

1. The *James Street Fulton Prize* shall be awarded to the Will Rice student who has distinguished himself or herself above all others in utilizing the educational opportunities of the University in the face of personal or financial hardship, and who has set an example of personal achievement and community service.
2. The dates for accepting nominations shall be announced at least two weeks in advance of the deadline for submitting nominations. Anyone associated with the college, including Members and Associates, may submit nominations. Nominations should be in writing and should include a list of the nominee's qualifications, signed by the nominator and submitted to the College Coordinator.
3. An *ad-hoc* committee consisting of the outgoing Executive Officers, the Master(s), the Resident Associate(s), and the College Coordinator, shall carefully screen the nominees and choose no more than five candidates with the highest qualifications.
4. The selected nominees shall be announced to the Members of the College.
5. The winner of the award shall be chosen from the selected nominees by secret ballot by the same *ad-hoc* committee.
6. The annual prize of \$500 shall be paid by the University from funds donated by Mr. Hinders.

J.S. Fulton Service Award

1. The *J.S. Fulton Service Award* shall be given to that person, other than the College President, who has been most exemplary in his or her service to the College during the year preceding the award.

2. The recipient shall be selected by a committee comprised of the College President, the Masters(s), the Resident Associate(s), the College Coordinator and the members of the outgoing Diet.

Diet Appreciation Award

1. *The Diet Appreciation Award* shall be given to that person who, in the opinion of the Diet, has made the most outstanding contributions to the college and its Members.
2. The recipient shall be selected by the members of the outgoing Diet.

Zevi and Bertha Salsburg Award

The *Zevi and Bertha Salsburg Award* was established in 1972 by Mrs. Bertha Salsburg in memory of her husband.

1. The *Zevi and Bertha Salsburg Award* shall be given for academic excellence to the freshman member of the College with the highest grade-point average at the conclusion of his or her freshman year.
2. The Master(s) of the College shall administer the selection and presentation of this award.
3. The award shall be presented to the recipient at the Associates Night in the fall semester of his or her sophomore year.
4. A cash prize of \$300 shall be given to the recipient from funds of the Chemistry Department's Salsburg Endowment.

Dale and Elise Sawyer Outstanding New Student Award

The *Dale and Elise Sawyer Outstanding New Student Award* was established in 2003 by former masters Dale and Elise Sawyer.

1. The *Dale and Elise Sawyer Outstanding New Student Award* shall be awarded to the new student who is most distinguished in his overall contributions to Will Rice and to Rice University.
2. The recipient shall be selected by a committee comprised of the outgoing Orientation Week Coordinators, the outgoing President of the College, the Master(s), the Resident Associate(s), and the College Coordinator.

Corrine and Radoslav Tsanoff Sophomore Prize

The *Corrine and Radoslav Tsanoff Sophomore Prize* was established in 1974 by Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Brown in honor of her parents who were original Will Rice Faculty Associates.

1. The *Corrine and Radoslav Tsanoff Sophomore Prize* shall be awarded to the sophomore who has made the most excellent use of his opportunities in the College and who has contributed most significantly to the further fulfillment of the Mission of the College.
2. The recipient shall be selected by a committee comprised of the previous winners of the award, the previous recipients of the *Corrine and Radoslav Tsanoff Junior Prize*, the Master(s), and the Resident Associate(s).
3. The annual prize of \$300 shall be paid by the University from a fund donated by Mrs. Brown.

Corrine and Radoslav Tsanoff Junior Prize

The *Corrine and Radoslav Tsanoff Junior Prize* was established in 1974 by Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Brown in honor of her parents who were original Will Rice Faculty Associates.

1. The *Corrine and Radoslav Tsanoff Sophomore Prize* shall be awarded to the sophomore who has made the most excellent use of his opportunities in the College and who has contributed most significantly to the further fulfillment of the Mission of the College.
2. The recipient shall be selected by a committee comprised of the previous winners of the award, the previous recipients of the *Corrine and Radoslav Tsanoff Sophomore Prize*, the Master(s), and the Resident Associate(s).
3. The annual prize of \$300 shall be paid by the University from a fund donated by Mrs. Brown.

James A. Castañeda Award

The *James A. Castañeda Award* is named in honour of the second master of Will Rice College.

1. The *James A. Castañeda Award* shall be given to a most outstanding member of the senior class based on service and dedication to the College.
2. The College Fellows shall select the recipient.

Barbara Willis Service Award

The *Barbara Willis Service Award* was established in 1991 by Mr. Moses Scheinfeld, the Will Rice President 1988-1989 in honour of former College Coordinator Barbara “Babs” Willis.

1. The *Barbara Willis Service Award* shall be given to a student who has displayed most selfless devotion to the Members of the College and who has displayed an outstanding interest in all fields of knowledge.
2. Mrs. Barbara Willis, or her designate, shall choose the recipient.
3. The annual cash prize of \$250 shall be paid by the Treasurer from funds donated each year by Mr. Moses Scheinfeld.

Gilbert Cuthbertson Service Award

The *Gilbert Cuthbertson Service Award* was established in 1991 by Mr. Moses Scheinfeld, the Will Rice president 1988-1989, in honour of long-time Resident Associate Gilbert “Doc C” Cuthbertson.

1. The *Gilbert Cuthbertson Service Award* shall be given to a student who has displayed most selfless devotion to the members of Will Rice College and who has displayed an outstanding interest in all fields of knowledge.
2. Dr. Gilbert Cuthbertson, or his designate, shall choose the recipient.
3. The annual cash prize of \$250 shall be paid by the Treasurer from funds donated each year by Mr. Moses Scheinfeld.

Ed and Andrea Doughtie Outstanding Associate Award

The *Ed and Andrea Doughtie Outstanding Associate Award* was established in 1993 by the Senior Class in honor of their former Masters (1987-1992).

1. The *Ed and Andrea Doughtie Outstanding Associate Award* shall be given to that Associate of the College (a Faculty, University or Community Associate) other than the Master(s) or Resident Associate(s), who has best exemplified the role of a College Associate through service, spirit and dedication to the College. The recipient shall be an associate who is active and visible in the life of the College.
2. The recipient shall be selected by the Associates Committee.

Will Rice College Outstanding Faculty Associate Award

The Will Rice College Outstanding Faculty Associate Award is established and funded by Rice University.

1. The *Will Rice College Outstanding Faculty Associate Award* shall be awarded to the faculty associate who has best served Will Rice College through service.
2. The recipient shall be selected by the Associates Committee.

Sport Awards

1. The Sports Award shall be given to one male and one female student who have served the College in an outstanding fashion in both intramural and college sports.
2. The recipients shall be selected by the Committee(s) on College and IM Sports.

Peter and Doug Absolutely Arbitrary Award

1. The *Peter and Doug Absolutely Arbitrary Award* may be given to any Will Rice student for any reason.
2. The outgoing President and his roommate(s) shall select the recipient.

Los Tres Amigos Award

1. The *Los Tres Amigos Award* shall be given to the Will Rice upper-class student who has formed most significant friendships with the freshmen class.
2. The outgoing President and his roommate(s) shall select the recipient.

Finance and Funding By-Law

Budgeted Funds

1. Funds approved by Diet for use by committee(s) or set aside in the Budget for other specific purposes shall be considered as budgeted funds.
2. Budgeted funds may not be used for any purposes or by any persons other than those for which the funds are budgeted.
3. Budgeted funds may only be reallocated by two-thirds vote of the Diet or by Budget Slush as defined in this By-Law.

Unbudgeted Funds

1. Unbudgeted funds shall be considered as being in the Discretionary Reserve of the Diet.
2. A majority vote of Diet shall be required to approve an appropriation, budget allocation, or payment of funds from the Discretionary Reserve.
3. No disbursement of unbudgeted funds shall be made without the oversight and consent of Diet.

Fiat Authority

Committee Chairpersons and other administrators of budgeted funds shall each be construed to have authority to approve spending from the funds budgeted expressly for the committees, events, and projects under their authority:

1. Spending of budgeted funds shall be approved by Diet retroactively, except in cases of gross negligence, abusive irresponsibility, or purposeful illegitimacy.
2. If the Diet deems an appropriation of budgeted funds to be grossly negligent, abusively irresponsible, or purposefully illegitimate, the individual(s) by whose authority the offending appropriation was approved shall be personally liable to the College for unapproved spending and shall reimburse the College for the appropriated funds.

Prerogative to Refer Appropriation Requests

Diet shall, where appropriate, refer requests for appropriations from the Discretionary Reserve to an appropriate committee or Division Chair for further review and action:

1. A referral of this kind does not constitute that a request for appropriation is refused, deferred, or tabled.

2. The appropriate committee or Division Chair shall, upon such a referral, review the request for appropriation, evaluate the logistical details of the appropriation and the prudence of assimilating its execution into the regular operations of the committee, and make a report to the Diet at the next regular Diet meeting as to the recommendation and action of the committee or Chair.

Budget Slush

The timely and prudent review and reallocation of budgeted funds, hereafter referred to as the [Budget] Slush, shall be conducted by the Treasurer in the Spring semester:

1. The Slush shall begin before the Changeover of office to a newly elected Treasurer but shall not begin before the first class day of the Spring semester.
2. During the Slush, unused budgeted funds shall be reallocated (“slushed”) to the Discretionary Reserve.
3. The Treasurer shall give ten days advance notice of the Slush to the Diet, and Committee Chairpersons.
4. Committee Chairpersons may submit requests to the Treasurer that the budget of a committee be frozen. The Treasurer and overseeing Division Chair shall together decide whether or not to allow a committee budget to be frozen. Funds in frozen budgets shall not be reallocated by the Slush.

Invested Funds

1. Unused and surplus funds shall, at the end of each every budget year, be removed from the operating budget of the College and placed into a separate savings or investment account held by the College. All such accounts shall together constitute the Invested Funds of the College.
2. The Treasurer shall pursue and oversee the growth of the Invested Funds through prudent low-risk investment.
3. The growth of invested funds shall be ensured and protected to a minimum value of \$15,000. (If the net value of the Invested Funds is or becomes less than \$15,000, the entire principal and interest of those funds shall not be spent, appropriated, or otherwise allocated.)
4. The Invested Funds shall be reserved for use in facilitating major capital improvements to the College. The Diet shall make all reasonable efforts to ensure that all available operating funds of the College are expended before authorizing spending from the Invested Funds.
5. The Invested Funds shall be spent only upon unanimous consent of the Diet and the Masters(s), except:

- a. as compelled by superceding legal authority, after having exhausted all other possible alternatives.
- b. in case of financial calamity or crisis, if the Diet cannot be assembled after all responsible efforts are exhausted, at the direction of the Master(s) and the President, after having exhausted all other possible alternatives.

Protection of Invested Funds

The Invested Funds shall not be dissolved, nor shall any amendment be made to this By-Law that allows the Invested Funds to be disbursed or dissolved, except by unanimous consent of the Diet and the Master(s).

McMurtry By-Law

Term and Limitations

1. The provisions of this By-Law shall remain in effect until the completion of the University Commencement Exercises in the Spring semester of 2009, or until there are no members of Will Rice College residing in McMurtry College, whichever comes first.
2. Whereupon the provisions of this By-Law are no longer in effect, the By-Law shall be entirely struck from the By-Laws to the Will Rice Constitution.

Amendment to Allow McMurtry Vote in Diet

Article III, Section 1, paragraph 4 of the Will Rice Constitution is amended to read as follows:

Only members of the College shall be eligible for election to the Legislative Offices of the College, except as warranted by uniquely extenuating circumstances and prescribed by By-Law.

Identification and Empowerment of the Freshman Representative

There shall be a McMurtry Freshman Representative, elected from and by the newly matriculated students of McMurtry College no later than the fifth week of the Fall semester of 2009. The McMurtry Freshman Representative shall represent the opinions and concerns of newly matriculated members of McMurtry College to the Diet of Will Rice College. Especially, they shall work to ensure that freshmen and other newly matriculated members of McMurtry College remain aware of and active in College programs and initiatives.