

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

University Standing Committee \_\_\_\_\_ Commencement \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Year Covered by Report 2014-2015

Date Report Submitted 06/12/15

Report Submitted by Sandra Stallings

Number of times committee met 2

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Ten applications were received for the December 2014 graduation Ceremony. The committee met and selected Bethany Lewis.

Ten applications were received for the May 2015 Commencement Ceremony. The committee selected Lela Johnston.

## **SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION ITEMS/ACTIVITIES OF COMMITTEE**

- The committee met on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and March 23, 2015 to select the student speaker for the fall and spring main commencement ceremony.
- Committee members began exploration of possible changes to the sequence of events at the Commencement Ceremony. Continued reflection was recommended.
- Questions related to the “publicity” efforts of recruiting students for the Commencement Speaker were shared. Current efforts – use of the *Technician*, postings on the Commencement webpage, and email announcements were commended. The Committee considered the possible impact of more students on the audition list. Would this necessitate 2 audition evenings? Under further thought.
- One student last year had asked for a music clip to precede his speech. Given the timing of his request, the March before May, it was denied. The Committee agreed that a request for music could present problems judging appropriateness, and so concluded that student request of this nature would be denied.
- Committee members queried how much change in a student speaker’s remarks might be anticipated as a result of the student’s work with the faculty mentor prior to graduation. As the remarks that are delivered at the Graduation Ceremony rest ultimately with the speaker, committee members should not expect significant differences between the remarks and the delivery at the auditions and the remarks and delivery at the Commencement Ceremony.

## **RECOMMENDATION FOR REVISION OF CHARGE AND/OR MEMBERSHIP CONFIGURATION (if applicable)**

There are no recommendations for changes to the committee’s charge or configuration.