

Faculty Senate Resolution on National Fellowships for students at  
The University of Texas at Tyler

Context

National Fellowships are competitive awards for which students (graduate and undergraduate) can apply, including recognizable names such as the Fulbright, Truman, Rhodes, and Goldwater. Each year thousands of students from across the nation apply, hoping for the opportunity to further their research, study abroad, or jumpstart their career. The process of applying for one of these awards can be daunting for students, full of complicated and unfamiliar territory. Yet the reward and benefits for students who can participate in one of these prestigious opportunities lasts beyond the experience itself. Students remain part of the fellowship network, continuing to profit from the prestige and experience in innumerable ways. Furthermore, The University of Texas at Tyler (UT Tyler) can benefit from students winning these awards, by garnering national recognition that can attract top tier students to attend UT Tyler.

Statement

**Whereas** the UT Tyler Faculty Senate has had presentations on creating greater awareness of student Fellowships during the 2020-2021 academic year

**Whereas** students and faculty at UT Tyler lack awareness of Fellowships and the processes involved. In the last 3 years only three undergraduate students have applied for either the Truman Fellowship or the UK Fulbright and all were unsuccessful in being awarded a fellowship.

**Whereas** UT Tyler students are at a disadvantage in being competitive for Fellowships due to a lack of a centralized group to mentor and advise students on the complexity of the process

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Faculty Senate of UT Tyler endorses a Fellowship Advisory Committee

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Faculty Senate of UT Tyler recommends that the Fellowship Advisory Committee shall be composed of select faculty that have been through the process of applying for Fellowships as a student (undergraduate or graduate) and/or faculty member

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Faculty Senate of UT Tyler recommends that the Fellowship Advisory Committee shall have representation from each of the Colleges on the academic campus and Branches at the Health Science Center