Jira Scholarship Committee Report

Submitted by Holly J. Hudson

1. Committee Members
   1. Holly Hudson (chair)
   2. Graham Stephenson
   3. Stacey Knight-Davis
   4. Jonna Peterson
   5. Christine Weber
   6. Eric Edwards (ex-officio)
2. Current Report: August 2023 – April 2024
   1. The committee has met 6 times and has implemented various changes to the scholarship for the 2024-2025 cycle. We attempted to incorporate feedback received throughout the 2023-2024 cycle from judges, board members, and committee members. Significant changes are as follows
      1. The committee decided to grant 2 (two) scholarships this year to the top-scoring applicants.
         1. The scholarships are the same amount: 5,000 each
      2. The committee is requiring the applicant to have more significant interaction with the HSLI community
         1. The scholarship will be broken into two different disbursal amounts; the first will be received at the time of the award, the second will be received after completing one of the following activities:
            1. Attend and provide a brief presentation at the annual conference in October
            2. Attend a virtual event, such as a coffee conversation gathering, where they will be expected to provide an update on their schooling and how the scholarship will impact them
            3. Provide a written statement (around 500 words) discussing their schooling/learning/scholarship impact
      3. The judging rubric has been modified slightly based on feedback from last year's judging panel
         1. The committee has also created a judge manual with additional explanation and guidance for judges
3. Board action requested
   1. We request the Board approve the money movement of 2,000 dollars for the initial award
   2. We will need additional Board approval for the remaining 8,000 dollars in awards later in the year once the recipients complete all requirements.