

Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Committee

Staff Report

August 22, 2012

- I. There are three concerns that the Committee needs to consider. The first pertains to the need to amend the Committee's Policies to address awards to graduate students who are not required by their institutions to attend classes while engaged in writing their theses. Preliminary information indicates that each institution of higher education has different requirements. The award covers tuition and fees, and provides a maximum book allowance. Inasmuch as some graduate students may not be required to cover the cost of such expenses while others may encounter the costs, the Committee needs to determine (i) whether awards will be made to graduate students whose institutions do not levy costs during the writing of the theses, and (ii) how the award will be distributed and should be used by graduate students whose institutions do charge certain costs.
- II. The second matter pertains to how online courses are paid from the award for students enrolled at Liberty University. The online programs are organized on the block system (e.g. series of weeks), which results in students being billed for several blocks of instruction, depending upon the program requirements, throughout a term. Students are concerned about exhausting their awards before the end of the academic year. It is requested that the staff be authorized to approve payment of programs throughout the academic year.
- III. The third issue concerns whether an exception/waiver should be granted to a student to permit continuation in his academic program. This matter will be discussed during executive session.

#