

The Don and Barbara “Bobbie” Siegal Endowed Scholarship

In honor of Dr. John L. Blackburn and Dr. Robert E. Witt and in memory of Dr. James Hood and Vivian Malone-Jones

This scholarship will be awarded annually to a student who has demonstrated an interest in and a concern for the promotion of cultural understanding while maintaining active participation in the Blackburn Institute and showing a devotion to the Institute's purpose.

Applications for the 2019-20 scholarship must be received by 11:59pm on Thursday, July 25, 2019 by U.S. mail (Blackburn Institute, Box 870167, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0167) or email (mac.griswold@ua.edu).

The scholarship recipient will be announced at the 2019 Blackburn Annual Symposium on August 23-24, 2019.

Please TYPE or PRINT.

Full Name:

Last

First

Middle

Mailing Address:

Street

City

State

Zip

Cell: _____ Email: _____ CWID: _____

Major(s): _____ Minor(s): _____

2019-20 Class Standing: _____ Undergraduate Student
_____ Graduate / Professional / Law Student

Anticipated Graduation: _____
Month Year

My signature verifies that the above information is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please attach a separate essay that addresses the five core areas listed below. Please limit your essay to no more than five pages and use 12-point Times New Roman font with double-spacing. Please provide specific examples to address the following areas:

1. Past Experience – Describe your involvement or leadership that encouraged diversity and inclusion within the Blackburn Institute and/or on the UA campus. *Example - As you were running for a campus office, you reached out in specific ways to ensure confidence in many different types of groups to gain their support for your campaign.*
2. Present Experience – Describe recent proactive actions to foster common ground and mutual respect among people of different economic, social, religious, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, ethnic/national origin, backgrounds, interests and perspectives. *Example - You are a democrat/republican (whichever applies) and you are at a Blackburn Institute or other gathering where the topic of politics takes center stage. Some students are forcing their beliefs on others. You take time to listen to both sides of the debate, then raise a related topic on which everyone can agree such as suggesting that the beauty to dialogue is the freedom to speak our beliefs. You also point out that each individual has valid ideas and should be respected and that you enjoyed the opportunity to hear such a vigorous and passionate encounter.*
3. Living by Example – Describe specific situations in which you believe you are leading an exemplary life of understanding and caring about issues facing people of different ethnic, racial, religious, and socioeconomic circumstances. *Example - You implement a Hispanic pre-school reading program in cooperation with a local school to teach English to young Hispanic children so they enter kindergarten on an even field of study. Or, you annually plan a food and dance cultural program on the campus or in your local community center to celebrate different cultures and foster understanding. Or, you invite someone to an event to which he or she might not be included due to social, religious or economic reasons.*
4. Stepping Outside Your Comfort Zone – Describe situations where you have taken risks in order to show your respect of the worth and dignity of individuals and your willingness to encourage others to do so as well. *Example - You arrive at a Blackburn or other event and discover that you are in the minority as a white female. Rather than sit next to the other few white females in the room, you introduce yourself to students who appear to be of a different ethnic culture and engage in conversation with them. Or, you take an active and effective stance against acts of discrimination that you witness or to dispel stereotypes.*
5. Describing Your Philosophy on The Importance of Diversity – Describe your personal philosophy by explaining why you are dedicated to a life of understanding and respect in a diverse population. *Example – You capture all opportunities afforded to you to create a meaningful exchange of respect and understanding. You seek cultural experiences to motivate you to discover ways in which to promote an active and lifelong commitment to efforts to incorporate all persons in creative endeavors making for a better world.*