

## **UK Institutional Research Brief:**

### ***An Analysis of Institutional Scholarships and Gifts Awarded in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math***

Fall 2005

The University of Kentucky offers a wide range of scholarships to outstanding students who show great academic promise. In its administration of the scholarship program, the Office of Academic Scholarships selects worthy students without consideration of their financial status, race, sex or religious preference. The Office uses a variety of criteria in evaluating academic scholarship applications, including: writing ability, academic achievement, leadership experiences, class rank, extracurricular activities, work experience, awards and recognition, and community service. Student competition for UK's academic scholarships is often intense. (See Appendix A for a list of academic scholarships for incoming freshmen.) In addition to scholarships awarded at the University level, several departments and colleges at UK administer their own scholarship programs.

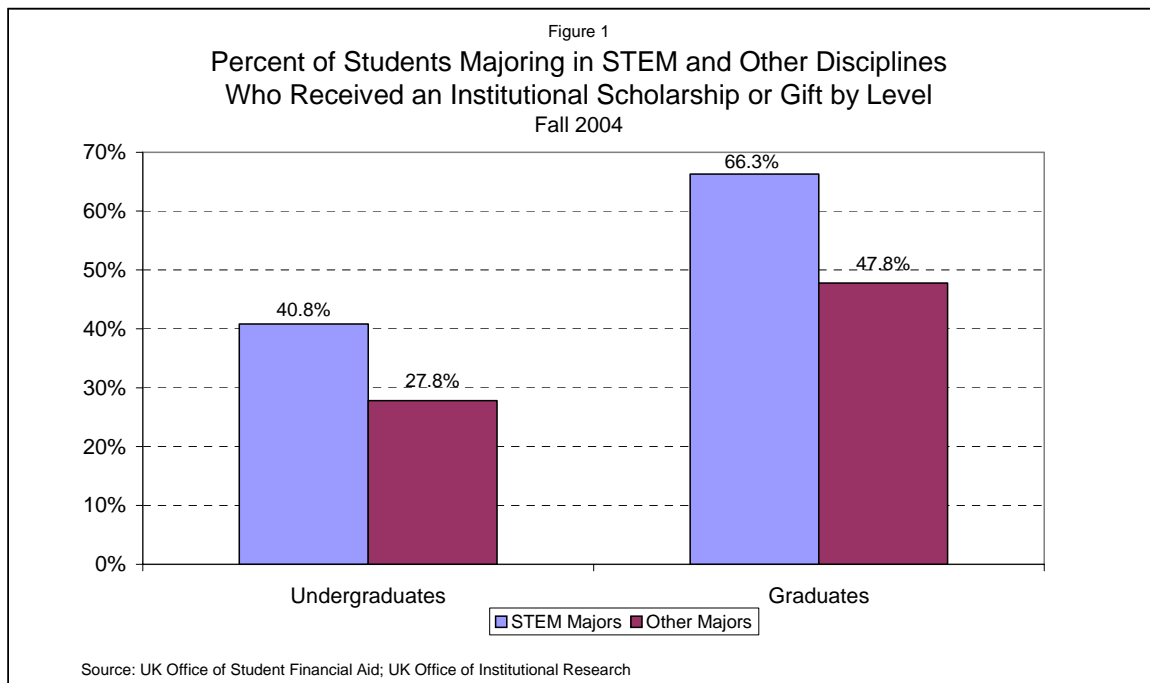
The Office of Institutional Research obtained records on nearly 9,000 institutional scholarships and gifts awarded during fall 2004 from the Office of Academic Scholarships and the Office of Student Financial Aid. IR staff matched the records provided by these offices with data in the Student Information System to obtain information on students' majors. Students' fields of study were then sorted into Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)-related disciplines and other majors. The major findings of the IR staff's analysis are presented below.

#### **Highlights of the Analysis of Students Receiving Institutional Scholarships and Gifts during the Fall 2004 Semester**

- During fall 2004, the University of Kentucky awarded \$24,139,261 in institutional scholarships and gifts to students.
- A total of 8,935 students, one-third (33.7%) of all students attending UK, received an institutional scholarship or gift during the fall 2004 semester.
- Undergraduates received \$12,095,219, one-half (50.1%) of the funds expended in institutional scholarships and gifts. Graduate students received \$11,292,557, just under half (46.8%) of the funds expended. First-professional and post-doctoral students, as well as house staff, claimed the remaining 3.1 percent of funds expended toward institutional scholarships and gifts.
- Undergraduates constituted 69.7 percent of the total headcount, but received a somewhat smaller proportion (62.5%) of the *number* of institutional scholarships and

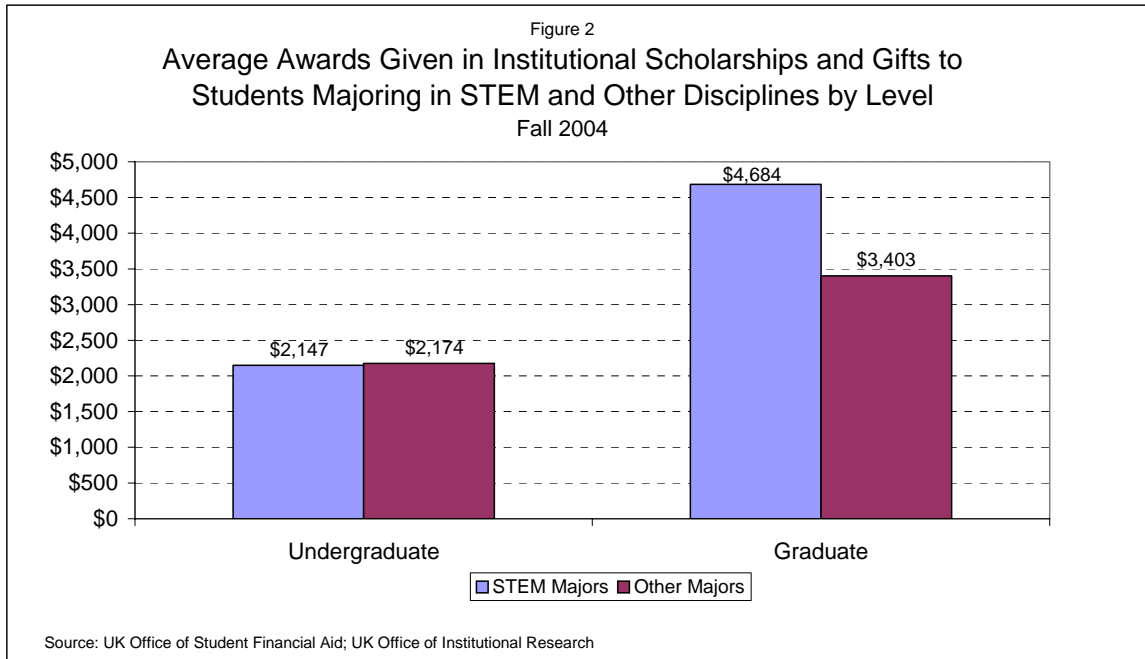
gifts awarded. Graduate students comprised 21.9% of the student body, but were awarded a slightly larger share (33.7 %) of institutional scholarships and gifts.<sup>1</sup>

- One of five (undergraduate: 18.2%; graduate: 21.1%) students was enrolled at UK in a Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math (STEM) program. However, students enrolled in STEM-related disciplines received approximately one-fourth (undergraduate: 24.6%; graduate: 27.1%) of the *number* of institutional gifts and scholarships awarded during fall 2004.
- Of the 3,364 undergraduates majoring in a STEM-related discipline, two of five (40.8%) received an institutional award, compared to only one in four (27.8%) students majoring in other disciplines (see Figure 1).
- Of the 1,231 graduate students studying in a STEM-related program, two-thirds (66.3%) received an institutional award, compared to just under half (47.8%) of the students pursuing degrees in other disciplines (see Figure 1).



<sup>1</sup> First-professional students comprised 5.4% of the total headcount and received 3.7% of institutional scholarships and gifts. Post-doctoral students and house staff constituted 1.1% and 1.9%, respectively, of the student body; five post-doctoral students and 11 house staff were awarded institutional scholarships or gifts during fall 2004.

- Undergraduates who majored in a STEM discipline received scholarships and gifts averaging \$2,147. The average scholarship or gift awarded to undergraduates in other disciplines was \$2,174 (see Figure 2).
- Graduates enrolled in a STEM-related program were awarded an average of \$4,684. The average scholarship or gift awarded to graduate students in other disciplines was \$3,403 (see Figure 2).



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## Appendix A: Scholarships for First-Year Students

Source: Office of Academic Scholarship Programs

***The Otis A. Singletary Scholarship*** - A four-year (eight semesters) award covering the approximate total cost each year of educational expenses, including tuition, allowances for room, board, and books, plus a yearly stipend of \$500. Requires a minimum composite test score of 31 on the ACT or 1360 on the SAT (M+CR) and a minimum un-weighted 3.75 GPA (4.00 scale). Singletary Scholars are selected on the basis of academic performance, leadership abilities, and the potential of being a leader in their academic field. Twenty freshmen are named Singletary Scholars each year.

***The Presidential Scholarship*** - A four-year (eight semesters) award covering the cost of in-state tuition. Priority is given to Singletary Scholarship candidates.

***The Commonwealth Scholarship*** - A four-year (eight semesters) award of \$2,500 per year. Only Kentucky applicants are considered. Priority is given to Singletary Scholarship candidates.

***The Bluegrass Scholarship*** - A four-year (eight semesters) award covering the cost of in-state tuition during the freshman year; \$1,500 per sophomore, junior, and senior years.

***The Provost Scholarship*** - A four-year (eight semesters) award of \$1,500 per year.

***The Freshman Academic Excellence Scholarship*** - A one-year award in the amount of \$1,500 for the freshman year

***The Governor's Scholars and Governor's School for the Art Alumni Scholarship*** - The University of Kentucky offers special scholarships to students that complete the Kentucky Governor's Scholars and/or Governor's School for the Arts summer programs. The Governor's Scholars/School for the Arts Scholarships are for incoming freshmen only. A scholarship application is required to be submitted to the Academic Scholarship. Students applying with a minimum 1360 SAT (M+CR) or 31 ACT and a 3.75 un-weighted high school grade point average will receive a **Presidential Scholarship**, which provides instate tuition and mandatory registration fees for up to four years of undergraduate study.

Students applying with a minimum 1240 SAT (M+CR) or 28 ACT and a 3.30 un-weighted high school grade point average (not receiving a Presidential Scholarship) will receive a **University Excellence Scholarship**, which provides \$4500 per year, for up to four years of undergraduate study.

All other eligible students will receive a **Provost Scholarship**, which provides \$1500 per year, for up to four years of undergraduate study.

If a student is awarded a Singletary Scholarship or a National Merit/Achievement Finalist Patterson Scholarship, that award will replace the Presidential, University Excellence, or

Provost Scholarship. Students may receive only one scholarship from the Office of Academic Scholarships.

***National Merit®/Achievement® Finalist Patterson Scholarship*** - National Merit® or Achievement® Finalists who designate UK as their college choice with the National Merit Scholarship Corporation by mid-April are eligible for the Patterson Scholarship. The Patterson Scholarship is in addition to the UK National Merit® College-Sponsored Scholarship of \$2,000, which is awarded through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The Patterson Scholarship, valued at approximately \$34,000, includes the following:

Freshman Year - Covers the cost of in-state tuition, allowance for room and board, \$500 stipend.

Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Years - Covers the cost of in-state tuition, plus \$2,500 per year.

***The Valedictorian Scholarship*** - This one-time award is granted to the incoming freshman student who ranked number one in her or his Kentucky high school graduating class. No application is required. Students who receive the Singletary Scholarship or the National Merit®/Achievement® Finalist Patterson Scholarship will not be eligible for the monetary award for the Valedictorian Scholarship.

***Other Scholarships*** - Several departments and colleges within the University administer their own scholarship programs. Students who have chosen a major are encouraged to contact the department or college in their major area of study regarding