

Dear PFW community,

As faculty and staff are looking for ways to help their students, the Brown Ink Society would like to remind everyone about our procedures and policies! In the last few years we have experienced some changes. We have a new fiscal home—The Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne.

This means that there have been some modifications to our procedures, but there are two things that have not changed:

1. Our commitment to continue to provide support for PFW students in need!
2. Our reliance on your support to continue to be able to do so!

For those of you who may be unfamiliar with Brown Ink, here is our history.

Our Story

The Brown Ink Society was founded in 2000 to honor the memory of Steve Hollander, a professor in the IPFW Department of English and Linguistics, who passed away in 1998, after 30 years of great teaching and exemplary leadership.

During his 30 years at IPFW, he achieved an unmatched moral and intellectual authority among his colleagues. It was, of course, impossible for them to acknowledge his expertise in their own fields, but they did not hesitate to accept his word as law in the disciplines of everyone else. They were right to do so, for he was as nearly omniscient as anyone can be in a complicated age. A man with a good liberal education, Steven Hollander could create a set of bylaws, teach people to write, improve a computer's memory, debug a program, heal sick prose, and patiently hear, and carefully counsel, a troubled human being. He had a lively mind, useful hands, and an open heart. The man who came as a replacement stayed and became irreplaceable.

And many benefited. Several generations of English Department chairs, Arts and Sciences deans, and IPFW chancellors and vice chancellors relied on Professor Hollander for good advice and well-earned criticism--which he provided to them, and anyone who crossed his path, generously and without stinting. He either led or provoked his colleagues on every great effort they made: constitutions, bylaws, rules of procedure, academic regulations, general education, student code of conduct, autonomy and independence, promotion and tenure, grievance procedures, and so on down the mighty list. As a long-time member of the Indiana University Faculty Council, he made important contributions through his work on its Educational Policy Committee and the Style and Rules Committee. He also was in demand as a consultant on technical writing, computer software, and programming in a variety of industries.

That his colleagues chose to honor his memory with a scholarship fund that will help those students in most difficult circumstances is a testament to Mr. Hollander's legacy and generosity of spirit.

Brown Ink was selected for the name since Mr. Hollander was known for using brown ink rather than blue, black, or red in his editorial comments on papers and documents.

What Do We Do

The Brown Ink Society makes grants to students, based on recommendations by PFW faculty and staff. The Society provides grants of up to \$500 to academically deserving students faced with financial emergencies that would significantly but temporarily disrupt their studies. (Usual and recurring expenses do not normally qualify as emergencies.) Generally, the society does not award money for tuition, books, or supplies. Thus far, over \$130,000 has been distributed to over 430 students thanks to generous donations made by faculty, staff and retirees.

Procedures

Because of our new fiscal home with the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne, there are going to be some small changes to the way that we are able to disburse funds, so please save this email for any future student nominations you may want to make.

If you have a student in need (who is currently enrolled at Purdue FW) whose situation falls within the mission of Brown Ink, please make your nomination in the following way. Send the name of the student, a description of their circumstances, and the amount you are requesting for the student (up to \$500) to Michele Shawver (shawverm@pfw.edu) or Teri Luce (lucet@pfw.edu). As before, the nomination can not come directly from a student, but has to be submitted by a faculty or staff member (not student worker) at PFW. All information about the student's circumstances is kept confidential.

If the Brown Ink Society Grant Committee has additional questions, they will follow up with the nominating faculty or staff person. Please note that the Brown Ink Society does not have the capability to investigate each nomination—we rely on the due diligence and judgment of the nominating faculty or staff person.

Once the student is approved for a Brown Ink Society Grant, then the nominating faculty or staff person will be provided disbursement information to pass on to the student.

If you have nominated students before 2020, the current disbursement process will be the most noticeable difference. Because we are dealing with an external fiscal agent now, while the decision on whether the student is approved is still made quickly (usually within a day), the disbursement of funds now takes longer and is done through check in the mail (rather than direct deposit).

Fundraisers and Donations

After a few years without our annual fundraisers due to COVID, the Brown Ink Society Board is in the process of deciding our fundraising plans for Spring 2023. Please be on the lookout for an announcement from us later this year.

If you are interested in making a donation to the Brown Ink Society now, please go to [LINK]. **https://cfgfw.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=3013**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Ann Livschiz (livschia@pfw.edu, Brown Ink Society Board President) or Teri Luce (lucet@pfw.edu; Brown Ink Society Board Treasurer/Secretary) or Michele Shawver (shawverm@pfw.edu; Brown Ink Society Board Treasurer/Secretary).