Report of the Committee on Grants-in-Aid of Research for the Year ending June 30, 2005

The Committee on Grants-in-Aid of Research held two very successful meetings during fiscal year 2005. During the meetings, the Committee reviewed a total of 2,509 applications, of which 290 (12%) received full or partial funding. A total of \$259,047.00 was awarded. The Committee notes that this is a 32.7 percent decrease from the total amount awarded in fiscal year 2004 due to a reduction in the funds available for awards in fiscal year 2005. The accompanying tables show the distribution of applications, awards, and funds among the science and engineering disciplines. The names of the recipients, their institutions, and project titles are listed on the Sigma Xi Web site.

Group	Number of Applications	Number of Awards
Male	1097 (44%)	144 (49%)
Female	1412 (56%)	146 (51%)
Graduate Students	2179 (87%)	237 (82%)
Undergraduate Students	330 (13%)	53 (18%)

The \$2 dues allocation from regular members and interest income from the Society's research endowment continues to be an essential source of support for the program. The Committee is especially grateful for the donations that have been made through the Society's annual giving campaign. Designated funds from the National Academy of Sciences, which are administered by Sigma Xi, provide valuable additional resources for the program.

In addition to its duties related to grant review, the Committee took action on three important items.

- 1. Phase I of an archive project to catalog and integrate the names of past recipients of a Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid of Research into the central database was completed. The second phase will continue into fiscal year 2006 where these GIAR alumni will be contacted to request support for the program.
- 2. The Committee will now serve as the first nominator for membership for Grants-In-Aid of research recipients. A letter inviting non-member recipients to seek a second nominator or have their qualifications reviewed by the Committee on Qualifications and Membership will accompany their award letter.
- 3. Conservation Biology has been added to the field of research entertained for funding by the Committee. This addition is in response to a growing number of applications whose hypotheses and methodologies more closely fit Conservation Biology rather than other fields of biology or ecology.

The following Sigma Xi members served on the Grants-In-Aid of Research Committee during fiscal year 2005:

Sue Ann Miller, Ph.D. Committee Chair - Hamilton College

Erika L. Barthelmess, Ph.D. - Saint Lawrence University

Shawn M. Ellerbroek, Ph.D. - Wartburg College

Stephen A. George, Ph.D. - Amherst College

Anthony E. Glenn, Ph.D. - USDA, ARS Russell Research Center

Olivia Hanson, Ph.D. - University of Central Oklahoma

Dale Hutchinson, Ph.D. - University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Catherine Jahncke, Ph.D. - Saint Lawrence University

Mark W. Martin, Ph.D. - Shell Oil Company

Linda Meadows, Ph.D. - Ohio State University

Jared R. Morrow, Ph.D. - University of Colorado

Shea R. Tuberty, Ph.D. - Appalachian State University

Marian R. Wachtel, Ph.D. - National Institutes of Health

I express sincere appreciation to all of the committee for their dedicated service to the program. In addition, I would like to thank quest readers who assisted the committee in reviewing grants for fiscal year 2005:

Jeffrey S. Coker (Elon University), Drew S. Coleman (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Gregory P. Copenhaver (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Emma S. Creaser (Unity College), Marc A. Cubeta (North Carolina State University), Richard M. Dillaman (University of North Carolina at Wilmington), Jean-Louis Gariepy University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Amy M. Grunden (North Carolina State University), Peter J. Harries (University of South Florida), Antony J. Heatwole, Gregory Herbert University of South Florida), Yanxin Li (North Carolina State University), Michael E. McClure (Frontiers Fund), Cecil H. McManus (PROBE Consulting Company), Timothy J. Ng (University of Maryland), Penelope J. Padgett (University of North Carolina at Charlotte), Frank E. Price (Hamilton College), Matthew P. Rowe (Appalachian State University), Jack C. Scarborough, Paul H. Taub, Sherry Tove (Army Research Office - Research Triangle Park), Todd J. Vision (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Ann Yezerski (Kings College).

Grants-in-Aid of Research Committee Chair