Rieke Leadership Award

The Diversity Center – Pacific Lutheran University

The Rieke Leadership Award was established in 1988 by President William O. Rieke to reaffirm the University's commitment to inclusiveness and diversity.  Recipients of the award are men and women of any ethnic background who demonstrate their leadership in promoting racial and ethnic diversity, and social justice at Pacific Lutheran University and beyond.  PLU recognizes the contributions such leaders make in our society by awarding them gifts of up to $4000 to support their pursuit of higher education and social justice and change.

**Please read the descriptions of the Rieke Leadership “Tracks” carefully. You may apply to only one Track per year.**

**Track One - Diversity Center**  
  
Rieke Scholars will work with PLU's Diversity Center.  There is an expected time commitment of three hours per week for the academic year, which is structured around self-exploration on issues of social justice and diversity.   Through involvement in the Diversity Center, Scholars will enrich the fabric of university life while increasing their own leadership skills. **Deadlines – First Time Applicants: March 1. Returning Scholars: April 1.**  
**Track Two – Word Up! Facilitator**   
  
Word Up! facilitators strive to engage students in dialogues about the fundamental components of identity and the dynamics of power and oppression in order to foster the development of social justice allies. Word Up! facilitators must commit to 20 hours of skills training, at least 2 Word Up! workshops per semester, and volunteer 3 hours per week in The Diversity Center. **(Word Up! applicants must have completed at least 30 credit hours.)** **Deadline – April 1.**

**Track Three – Rieke Leadership Fellow**

In collaboration with the Director of The Diversity Center, Rieke Leadership Fellows work on a year-long project of their choosing that addresses issues of social justice and inclusion (e.g. eco-justice, health and wellness, Queer and ally identity development programs). Projects must address a current need and/or issue on campus and have a tangible outcome (i.e. program, panel discussion, report) at the end of the academic year. **(Rieke Fellow applicants must have completed at least 30 credit hours.)** **Deadline – April 1.**

**Track Four – International Peer Advisor**

International Peer Advisors (IPA) assist in the development and implementation of International Student Orientation (ISO). IPAs also develop and implement separate activities for international students beyond orientation and promote increased participation in existing on-campus programs among international students. During the semester, each IPA will plan at least one on-campus or off-campus activity and invite new students to participate. Each IPA will collaborate with International Student Services Interns, Diversity Advocates and other student leaders to facilitate activities. Overall, IPAs are expected to be a role model for new students and facilitate a positive transition process to PLU. **Deadline – April 1.**

**Restrictions**

* Renewal of the award is not automatic.  A complete application packet must be submitted for consideration for each academic year
* The information in the application must be no more than 2 years old
* Application deadlines are firm.  It is the applicant's responsibility to meet the deadlines as they are stated
* Recipients must be full-time students
* Recipients must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above
* The Selection Committee's decision is final

**All Applicants Must Submit:**

* Application form
* An updated resume
* **First time applicants** must include two letters of reference from individuals who can provide an official evaluation of your leadership activities that demonstrate leadership in promoting racial and ethnic diversity, and social justice, such as teachers, professors, pastors, community leaders, and/or guidance counselors.  Letters from family members will not be considered.  Letters of reference must have been written within the last six months prior to the date of application and address the Rieke Leadership Scholarship.
* Typed essays of 500 words or less answering **each** of the essay questions. **Please answer questions for the Rieke Track that you are applying for thoroughly and thoughtfully**:
  + **Track One - Diversity Center**
    - Why are you applying for a Rieke Leadership Award?  Include an explanation of your commitment to diversity, social justice, and advocacy.
    - How do you help or serve others in your local community, school and/or family?  How will you play a role in the PLU community and the community that you choose to live in after graduation?
    - Describe a topic or issue of diversity and social justice that you are passionate about.  Why is it important to you?
    - **Returners Only:** How has your commitment as a Rieke Scholar in previous year(s) influenced the PLU community?  What have you participated in that has promoted social change, leadership, and diversity? What has been your impact on The Diversity Center community?
  + **Track Two – Word Up!**
    - Why are you applying for a Rieke Leadership Award?  Include an explanation of your commitment to diversity, social justice, and advocacy.
    - Describe a topic or issue of diversity and social justice that you are passionate about.  Why is it important to you?
    - Why is introducing concepts of diversity and identity important to PLU? Describe any experiences you have had with facilitating conversations with peers.
  + **Track Three – Rieke Fellow**
    - Why are you applying for a Rieke Leadership Award? Include an explanation of your commitment to diversity, social justice, and advocacy.
    - What areas of social justice would you like your project to focus on? Why is this area important to you? Describe what the final product for your proposed project looks like.
  + **Track Four – International Peer Advisor**
    - Why are you applying for a Rieke Leadership Award- IPA track? Include an explanation of your commitment to diversity, social justice, and advocacy around people from aboard and non-native English speakers.
    - Describe any experiences you had interacting with international students and/or your experience visiting, living or studying abroad. What did you learn?
    - What is something that you would like international students’ experience at PLU? How would you help accomplish that?

**Completed applications and essay questions should be directed to:**

Angie Hambrick

Director – The Diversity Center

Pacific Lutheran University

Tacoma WA, 98447

[hambriaz@plu.edu](mailto:hambriaz@plu.edu)

p: 253.535.8180

f: 253.535.7483

**LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

**Rieke Leadership Award**

**Application Form**

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT**

◘ Entering Student ◘ Continuing Student ◘ Transfer Student

◘ Freshman ◘ Sophomore ◘ Junior ◘ Senior

◘ Track One: Diversity Center ◘ Track Two: Word Up! ◘ Track Three: Rieke Fellow

◘ Track Four: IPA

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Honors and Awards \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Question for IPA Track application ONLY**

Have you held a US driver’s license for a minimum of two years? YES/ NO