**International Scholarships**

Alpha Association of Phi Beta Kappa Alumni in Southern California funds and administers a scholarship program for foreign students engaged in graduate study in Southern California. The Asso­ci­a­tion feels that less money is now avail­able to aid for­eign stu­dents than in other recent times and that many for­eign stu­dents are in need of finan­cial assis­tance. The Asso­ci­a­tion also feels that spe­cial ben­e­fits accrue to Amer­i­cans affil­i­ated with col­leges and uni­ver­si­ties from expo­sure to for­eign students.

Awards to for­eign stu­dents are granted to those who are con­duct­ing grad­u­ate stud­ies in aca­d­e­mic insti­tu­tions in South­ern Cal­i­for­nia with Phi Beta Kappa Chap­ters. The Asso­ci­a­tion expects that awards will be given to stu­dents who are coun­ter­parts of Phi Beta Kappa schol­ars in the Amer­i­can sys­tem, that is, for­eign grad­u­ate stu­dents of aca­d­e­mic excellence.

Appli­ca­tions are screened by the respec­tive col­leges and uni­ver­si­ties as to aca­d­e­mic qual­i­fi­ca­tions and need.  The Association’s Inter­na­tional Schol­ar­ships Com­mit­tee, in coor­di­na­tion with the school rep­re­sen­ta­tives, cur­rently admin­is­ters the pro­gram and deter­mines the awards.

In grant­ing schol­ar­ship awards, the Association’s Inter­na­tional Schol­ar­ships Com­mit­tee con­sid­ers both need and merit. The best stu­dents are awarded schol­ar­ships, that is, those with high aca­d­e­mic per­for­mance and other qual­i­ties nor­mally thought of as require­ments for mem­ber­ship in Phi Beta Kappa. Finan­cial need, how­ever, is also weighed heavily.

It is not an absolute require­ment of each award that the stu­dents must return to their home coun­tries, but it is gen­er­ally hoped that they will. The Asso­ci­a­tion under­stands that some stu­dents will not be able to return to their home coun­tries for eco­nomic or polit­i­cal rea­sons. More­over, sub­stan­tial ben­e­fits accrue from a for­eign stu­dent schol­ar­ship because of Amer­i­can expo­sure to the for­eign stu­dents, even though the for­eign stu­dents never return to their home coun­tries. In all events, the Asso­ci­a­tion wishes to fol­low the activ­i­ties of schol­ar­ship recip­i­ents fol­low­ing their award in order to deter­mine their loca­tions and activities.