INFORMATION FOR GOLDWATER RECOMMENDERS
(ADVICE FROM NATIONAL SELECTION COMMITTEE)
PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR RECOMMENDERS!

CAMPUS DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF LORs: 9 DECEMBER 2014

APPLICANTS:
Do not fill in the names of your recommenders on the Goldwater Application form at this time!

RECOMMENDERS:

➢ Please submit your Letter of Recommendation electronically as an email attachment to
goldbeja@lafayette.edu or externalscholarships@lafayette.edu by 9 December 2014.

➢ If you happen to receive a request from Goldwater (or ACT) asking you to upload your
LOR, please refrain from doing so at this time. We will notify you when you may upload
your LOR later in the process.

♦ Goldwater selection committee readers expect detailed 1 1/2 to 2 page letters.
♦ Letters should concentrate on the applicant’s motivation and potential for a research career.
   (It is OK for applicant to be a ‘nerd’; applicant’s success in referee’s class is assumed).
   o Letters should indicate how the applicant demonstrates that s/he is able to “make
     meaning from science” – e.g., from learning effective benchmark practices to a
     commitment to and passion for STEM practices.
   o Applicants who have not engaged in research at the time of application may
demonstrate intellectual curiosity in other ways, including discussions with you on
research or theory.
   o Applicants may also demonstrate their abilities and potential by meeting significant
   responsibilities, involvement in STEM student organizations, relevant employment or
   internships, etc.

♦ Letters must speak to/about the applicant’s research and be consistent with the applicant’s
claims throughout his/her application.
♦ Letters that compare applicant to others who have gone on to outstanding PhD
programs/research careers can be beneficial.

QUESTIONS:

Please contact Dean Goldberg (x5521, x5067, goldbeja@lafayette.edu or
externalscholarships@lafayette.edu)
2015 Goldwater Scholarship Recommender Information