8. Departmental Awards

Each year, the English Department bestows the following awards for outstanding graduate student work:

- **The Robert Manson Myers Distinguished Doctoral Student Award** is conferred upon the graduate student who has demonstrated the highest standards of achievement and promise for the future. The DGS solicits nominations of fifth-year graduate students from the Faculty and the Graduate Committee evaluates the nominees. The evaluation process takes into account nominating letters from the students' dissertation committee, course work, performance on the comprehensive examination, teaching, conference participation, publication(s), and service.

- **The Thomas Daniel Young Award** is awarded for excellence in classroom teaching by a graduate student. Nomination is made by the Graduate Committee and recommendations from the faculty.

- **The John M. Aden Award** is awarded for writing by a graduate student. Students are nominated by members of the faculty, and they submit their nominated papers to the Graduate Studies Committee. After the authors' names are removed, the committee reads the papers and delivers its recommendation to the DGS.

- **The Robert Manson Myers First Chapter Award** is funded by Vanderbilt Alumni and author Robert Manson Myers and awarded to a maximum of two graduate students on the basis of first chapters of their dissertations. First-year dissertation writers will submit a chapter to the graduate committee in early December (specific deadlines announced annually). The chapter can be any chapter from the dissertation; it need not be the first chapter in either sequence or chronology.
• **The Robert Manson Myers Dissertation Award** will be given to the fifth-year graduate student producing what the Graduate Studies Committee deems the year’s most distinguished dissertation. All those who meet the graduate school deadline for August graduation in their fifth year will be eligible for the award.

• **The Martha Rivers Ingram Fellowship** is a one-year fellowship awarded to a fifth-year graduate student of exceptional promise. It provides a small research and travel stipend. No application is necessary. All fourth year graduate students in good standing are eligible.

The Graduate Studies Committee may decide whether, in any of all of these competitions, to split awards or offer no award for the year.