

# Funding opportunities through the Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center

The following awards are only available to students enrolled in programs at the University of Missouri-St. Louis or applying to join the UMSL graduate program. Other restrictions apply to certain awards. Date of submission, requirements and eligibility are subject to change so please check that you have the most recent guidelines when preparing applications.

## I. Graduate Fellowships

### The Christensen Fund Fellowship Program in Plant Conservation

Through a special collaboration with The Christensen Fund, the Harris Center offers full graduate fellowship to students pursuing M.S. or Ph.D. degrees in plant conservation. Applicants must demonstrate significant leadership and scientific potential in plant conservation. Christensen Fund Fellowships are open to students from tropical countries in Central and South America, Africa, South-East Asia, Malesia and the Pacific Islands. Applicants must first be admitted to the Graduate Program of the Department of Biology, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

The Christensen Fund is a private, independent institution dedicated to assisting organizations in the arts, natural sciences and education. Allen D. and Carmen M. Christensen established the Fund in 1957. In 1981, The Christensen Fund expanded its focus to include significant support for basic research in natural history.

**Application:** Students are considered at time of application to the Graduate Program, Department of Biology, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

**Application deadline:** December 15.

**Funding:** Full stipend, tuition waiver, recruitment and repatriation travel.

### The Whitney R. Harris Fellowship in Animal Conservation

In collaboration with the Saint Louis Zoo, The Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center at the University of Missouri-St. Louis is offering a fully funded fellowship to students with strong leadership and research potential in applied animal conservation. This fellowship is available to individuals with animal conservation experience and strong academic credentials for studies leading to a M.S. or Ph.D. degree. This fellowship program in animal conservation is designed to educate animal conservation scientists interested in *ex situ* and/or *in situ* animal conservation. The fellowship will provide recruitment and repatriation airfares, stipend, tuition fee waiver and the opportunity to apply for competitive research funds from the Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center and the Saint Louis Zoo.

**Application:** Students are considered at time of application to the Graduate Program, Department of Biology, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

**Application deadline:** December 15, 2013 for admission in August 2014.

**Funding:** Full stipend, tuition waiver, recruitment and repatriation travel.

## II. Graduate Research Scholarships

Students need only submit one application and the Harris Center Scholarship Committee will decide which scholarship to award to successful applicants. Competitions are held in November and February.

### Jane and Stanley Birge Tropical Research Scholarship

This named scholarship supports University of Missouri St. Louis graduate students undertaking field research in tropical conservation biology. The scholarship is funded by the Allen-Birge Charitable Trust in memory of Jane and Stanley Birge who believed in both the importance of education and the conservation of natural resources.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$2,500.

### The Christensen Fund Scholarship in Plant Conservation

The Christensen Fund scholarship is available through an endowed program in plant conservation. The scholarship is open to University of Missouri St. Louis M.S. or Ph.D. students with research projects focused on plant conservation in Central and South America, Africa, South-East Asia, Malesia and the Pacific Islands. The Christensen Fund is a private, independent institution dedicated to assisting organizations in the arts, natural sciences and education. The Fund was established by Allen D. and Carmen M. Christensen in 1957 and in 1981 expanded its focus to include significant support for basic research in natural history.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$2,000-3,000.

### **Henry B. Cowhey Scholarship in Tropical Conservation**

This named scholarship supports University of Missouri St. Louis graduate students undertaking field research in tropical conservation biology. The scholarship is funded by Julie B. Schoettley in honor of her son, Henry B. Cowhey.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$2,000.

### **John Denver Memorial Scholarship in Tropical Ecology**

John Denver supported the environment through his songs, the Windstar Foundation, and his actions. Recognizing his contributions to society and the environment, John Denver received the first World Ecology Award from the Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center. Following his tragic death on October 12, 1997, The John Denver Memorial Scholarship in Tropical Ecology was established to honor his commitment to environmental causes through a generous challenge grant from Hal and Carole Kroeger. Through their efforts and the support of John Denver fans and friends throughout the world, the Kroeger's initial gift has been matched and endowment income provides an annual scholarship to University of Missouri St. Louis M.S. or Ph.D. students undertaking field research in tropical ecology.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$2,500-4,000.

### **Stephen Mitchell Doyle Scholarship in Tropical Ecology**

This endowed Scholarship was established by the Doyle Family in memory of their son. Stephen Doyle—a scientist, gardener, nature lover, and professional in the field of health care—was dedicated to conservation and to the expansion of biological knowledge and its application. University of Missouri St. Louis graduate students conducting research in tropical biology and conservation are eligible for this scholarship.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$2,000-4,000.

### **Leo and Kay Drey Scholarship**

This endowed scholarship was established in honor of Leo and Kay Drey and provides a research scholarship to University of Missouri St. Louis M.S. or Ph.D. students conducting ecological research in any part of the world. Leo and Kay Drey are environmentalists who provide leadership in the conservation and sustainable use of Missouri forests and opposition to the use of nuclear power.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$1,000.

### **Jane Harris Scholarship in Tropical Botany**

This endowed scholarship was established in memory of Jane Freund Harris and provides a research scholarship to University of Missouri St. Louis M.S. or Ph.D. students conducting botanical research in the tropics with an emphasis on threatened plants or ecosystems. Jane Harris' love of botany and concern for the biotic riches of this planet was well known in St. Louis, as was her love of orchids. She was an active philanthropist and keen supporter of the Missouri Botanical Garden and a founding member of the Harris Center Council. This scholarship is intended to encourage botanical studies on endangered flora, a matter of great concern to Jane Harris.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$1,000.

### **Jorie Butler Kent Scholarship in Tropical Conservation**

This endowed scholarship supports University of Missouri St. Louis graduate students undertaking field research in tropical conservation biology. The scholarship was established by Mrs. Jorie Butler Kent, Harris Center Advisory Board Member and President, Friends of Conservation, England.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$500.

### **Mallinckrodt Graduate Fellowship in Tropical Ecology**

This endowed scholarship is available to University of Missouri St. Louis M.S. or Ph.D. students conducting research in tropical ecology and/or conservation biology.

Funds to establish this scholarship were provided by Mallinckrodt Inc. of St. Louis.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$2,500.

#### **Antoinette McGrath Memorial Scholarship**

This endowed scholarship available to M.S. and Ph.D. students conducting research in ecology aims to promote scientific literacy. Ms. Maureen McGrath established the scholarship in memory of her mother who loved books and reading. Three or four book scholarships are awarded annually to deserving students.

**Application:** No application required. Awards made by the Harris Center Executive Committee.

#### **Mary Osborne Scholarship in Ecology and Conservation**

This named scholarship supports University of Missouri St. Louis graduate students undertaking research in ecology and conservation biology. The scholarship is in memory of Mary Osborne and is funded by members of her family and friends.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$1,000-2,000.

#### **Parker-Gentry Tropical Research Fellowship**

Two of the most knowledgeable and dedicated field biologists, Ted Parker and Al Gentry, died in a tragic plane accident in Ecuador on August 3, 1993. Ted Parker, senior scientist at Conservation International, was widely recognized as the expert on Neotropical birds and was an impassioned spokesperson for conservation of the region's rich flora and fauna. Al Gentry, senior curator at the Missouri Botanical Garden, was unmatched in his ability to identify Neotropical plants and his contributions to herbaria and the botanical and ecological literature were immense. This scholarship is open to University of Missouri St. Louis M.S. or Ph.D. students from Latin America to honor Ted and Al's commitment to providing opportunities for research and education for Latin American students. Proposal must contain a significant field based component. Appropriate topics include biogeography, conservation biology, ecology, faunal surveys, floristics, natural history and systematics. Topics that are not considered appropriate are agroecology, agroforestry, ethnobotany,

forestry, marine biology, molecular biology, reforestation and sustainable development.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$2,000-3,000.

#### **Peter H. Raven World Ecology Research Scholarship**

This endowed scholarship was established by friends of the Harris Center and the Missouri Botanical Garden in honor of Dr. Peter H. Raven, President, Missouri Botanical Garden. The scholarship supports ecological research in all parts of the world.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$4,500.

#### **Stokes Family Scholarship in Tropical Conservation**

This endowed scholarship is available to University of Missouri St. Louis graduate students conducting research or undertaking an internship in tropical ecology, conservation biology, and/or public policy of conservation and sustainable development. This scholarship is intended to foster studies that will contribute to solving pressing conservation issues in tropical environments. Frank and Teg Stokes are strong proponents of environmental conservation and active supporters of the Harris Center and University of Missouri St. Louis.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$2,000.

#### **Harris Center Research Scholarships**

Each year the Harris Center awards a number of research scholarships generated by gifts from friends and fundraising events. These awards are open to all University of Missouri St. Louis graduate students with research projects in population biology, ecology, evolution, systematics, behavior, behavioral ecology, biogeography, conservation biology, conservation policy, politics or socioeconomics of conservation, and sustainable development,.

**Application:** Full research proposal (four page limit plus appendices and justified budget) plus Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

**Funding:** \$2,000-4,000.

### III. Graduate Internship Scholarships

#### Harris Center Internship Awards

Internship awards are available to undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in Conservation Certificate programs. Internship awards typically support travel and basic living expenses.

**Application:** Description of internship, host organization and likely outcomes or products, budget. Applicants generally work with Harris Center faculty to develop the internship.

**Application deadline:** None.

**Funding:** Variable

#### IV. Harris Center Graduate Student Travel and Course Awards

##### Harris Center Conference Travel Awards

The Harris Center provides funding to University of Missouri St. Louis graduate students to support their attendance at conferences and workshops. Students wishing to attend conferences covering the fields of ecology, evolution, systematics, behavior, behavioral ecology, conservation biology, conservation policy, sustainable development, ecosystem ecology may apply. The research reported can be of studies in either temperate or tropical regions. Except in very exceptional circumstances, applicants will only be supported if they can demonstrate acceptance of their paper as either an oral or poster presentation. An application form is available from the Harris Center office which facilitates funding approval from the Harris Center, Department of Biology or other academic Department and the Graduate School. Funds will be given for all or part of travel expenses, registration fees, housing or per diem expenses.

**Application:** Completed application form, copy of abstract and acceptance letter, budget.

**Application deadline:** None.

**Funding:** Variable.

##### Whitney R. Harris Training Course Scholarships

Through a legacy gift from Whitney R. Harris, the Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center may provide some funding to University of Missouri St. Louis graduate and undergraduate students to support their participation in selected courses offered by the Organization for Tropical Studies (or similar courses and workshops offered by other organizations).

**Application:** Course description, indication of importance in academic development, budget.

**Application deadline:** None.

**Funding:** Variable.

#### Tropical Resource Ecology Field Studies Travel Scholarship

Travel scholarships are available to suitably qualified University of Missouri St. Louis students enrolled in either Tropical Resource Ecology Field Studies (Biology 3123) or Advanced Tropical Resource Ecology Field Studies (Biology 5123).

**Application:** A brief statement (1-2 pages) describing academic career, relevant experience, extra-mural conservation activities, reasons for selecting this field course, and a transcript of academic progress, budget

**Funding:** 3 awards, \$300-500.

#### V. Undergraduate Scholarships

##### Thomas F. George Undergraduate Ecology Research Fund

This scholarship, established in honor of Chancellor Thomas George, provides research and travel funds to undergraduate students conducting ecological research.

**Application:** A brief statement (1-2 pages) describing research to be undertaken, relevant experience, extra-mural conservation activities, a transcript of academic progress, budget

**Funding:** 3 awards, \$300-500.

##### Marcelle Kranzberg Undergraduate Research Scholarship

This endowed scholarship was established by Kenneth and Nancy Kranzberg in memory of Marcelle Kranzberg and provides research and travel funds to undergraduate students. Scholarship may be used to support a research project of field training course.

**Application:** A brief statement (1-2 pages) describing research to be undertaken, relevant experience, extra-mural conservation activities, a transcript of academic progress, budget

**Funding:** \$1,000-2,500.