CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:

Spring 2017

The Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center provides research scholarships to undergraduate students. Scholarships are developed in conjunction with UMSL faculty or graduate students who are conducting research in wildlife conservation including but not limited to the areas of animal behavior, biogeography, conservation biology, conservation policy, conservation psychology, ecology, evolution, politics or socioeconomics of conservation, population biology, sustainable development, and systematics. We also encourage students to identify a project with a scientist at one of our partner institutions, the Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG) or the Saint Louis Zoo (SLZ); such proposals must have an UMSL faculty co-advisor along with the advisor from the partner institution.

Undergraduate students enrolled at the University of Missouri - St. Louis in any major are eligible to apply, as long as their research fits within the categories listed above. Applicants should be sponsored by an UMSL, MBG, and/or SLZ research staff member who work with them to develop the research proposal. Awards will normally range from $500–1500 but may be as high as $2,500. Up to $1250 can be used for field or laboratory supplies associated with the proposed work, or for travel and living expenses (if applicants will spend time away from their usual residence while conducting the research). For projects lasting at least 10 weeks, up to $1250 can be used for tuition costs (limited to research credit hours necessary for the proposed work) and for basic living expenses. Any questions regarding eligibility and budget should be directed to the Harris Center Interim Director: pparker@umsl.edu.

Names of faculty sponsors and co-sponsors should be listed under the title of the proposal. The narrative of the research proposal should not exceed three single-spaced pages (12 point font, one inch margins) with the following headings and subheadings: Objectives, Project Description and Methods, Project Timeline, and Project Significance. Include within the narrative hypotheses/predictions that will be tested; normally these would appear in the Objectives or Project Description sections. The project timeline should indicate the timing of steps to complete the project, including writing of the report. Figures, tables and bibliography should be separate from the 3-page proposal, as should a separate page entitled Budget and Budget Justification. The Budget should contain two headings as appropriate: A. Research Expenses (up to $1250 for itemized list of supplies or travel); and B. Tuition and other costs (up to $1250 for itemized list of credit hours and other expenses). A curriculum vitae or resume, maximum two pages, should be attached as the final component of the application. Font size should be at least 12 point throughout and at least 1-inch margins are required. The proposal, as an email attachment, should be forwarded to the Interim Director of the Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center at pparker@umsl.edu by the faculty member sponsoring the research.

Competition deadline:
Monday, February 20, 2017, 5:00 pm.

Awards will be announced in mid-March. Recipients of these awards should provide a scientific and budget report (with receipts) within 12 months of the award date to the Interim Director, Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center. A draft letter thanking the donor should also be sent to the Interim Director.