

2015 Specialized Awards



Sponsored by the GSA Foundation

MARLAND PRATT BILLINGS AND KATHARINE FOWLER-BILLINGS RESEARCH AWARD

Ryan Deasy, Indiana University

The Marland Pratt Billings and Katharine Fowler-Billings Research Award encourages and promotes geological fieldwork and related research in New England and adjacent regions.

JOHN A. BLACK AWARD

Ryan Frazer, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

This award supports graduate student field-based research on coastal processes. All field-based coastal geomorphology research should be located in the USA, Puerto Rico, or Canada. In the event there are no worthy graduate student field-based research projects in coastal geomorphology, the award may be used to support graduate student field-based research in volcanology. All field-based volcanology research should be located in the USA, New Zealand, or Iceland.

GRETCHEN L. BLECHSCHMIDT AWARD

Kimberly Lau, Stanford University

This award was established for women in the geological sciences who have an interest in achieving a Ph.D. in the fields of biostratigraphy and/or paleoceanography sequence stratigraphy analysis, particularly in conjunction with research in deep-sea sedimentology, and a career in academic research.

JOHN T. DILLON ALASKA RESEARCH AWARD

Nicholas Bill, Oregon State University

Emma Harrison, University of Pennsylvania

This award honors the memory of Dr. Dillon, who was particularly noted for his radiometric age-dating work in the Brooks Range, Alaska, USA. Two areas which serve as guidelines for selection of the award are field-based studies dealing with the structural and tectonic development of Alaska, and studies that include some aspect of geochronology (either paleontologic or radiometric) to provide new age control for significant rock units in Alaska.

DIVERSITY AWARD

Brittany Huerta, California State University, Northridge

This award is presented to the top student(s) based on race/ethnicity status and the overall quality of the research.

ROBERT K. FAHNESTOCK AWARD

Charles Shobe, University of Colorado Boulder

This award honors the memory of Dr. Fahnestock, a former member of the Research Grants Committee, who died indirectly as a result of service on the committee. The grant is awarded for the best proposal in sediment transport or related aspects of fluvial geomorphology, Fahnestock's field.

ROBERT D. HATCHER RESEARCH AWARD

John Buchanan, Colorado School of Mines

This award supports an outstanding earth-science graduate student's field-based research and geologic mapping, either for that student's master's thesis or Ph.D. dissertation. Preference may be given to students working in the Appalachian orogeny, broadly construed, but is not restricted to this region.

JOHN W. HESS RESEARCH GRANT IN KARST RESEARCH STUDIES

Gerhard Maale, Texas A&M University at Galveston

This grant supports student research involving any aspect of cave and karst studies aimed at providing improved understanding of how caves and karst work, including how these resources can be better managed.

ROSCOE G. JACKSON II AWARD

Alexander Wilson, University of British Columbia

This award funds one recipient per year in the field of sedimentology.

LIPMAN RESEARCH AWARD

Katie Ardill, University of Southern California

Catherine Armstrong, University of British Columbia

Lauren Harrison, University of British Columbia

The fund for this award was established in 1993 and is supported by gifts from the Howard and Jean Lipman Foundation. Its purpose is to promote and support student research grants in volcanology and petrology. The president of the Lipman Foundation, Peter W. Lipman, was the recipient of a GSA research grant in 1965.

JOHN T. MCGILL AND CAROL G. AWARD

Jonathan Reeves, University of Massachusetts

This award, which is in the memory of John T. McGill, supports graduate student scholarships and research grants in engineering geology and geomorphology.

JOHN MONTAGNE AWARD

Jotautas Baronas, University of Southern California

This annual award supports research in the field of Quaternary geology/geomorphology.

BRUCE L. "BIFF" REED SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Michael Eddy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

This award was established to provide research grants to graduate students pursuing studies on the tectonic and magmatic evolution of Alaska primarily and also can fund other geologic research.

CHARLES A. & JUNE R.P. ROSS RESEARCH AWARD

Jeremy Caves, Stanford University

Allison Jacobel, Columbia University

Abagael West, Columbia University

This award supports research projects for graduate students, post-graduate students, and post-doctorate researchers in the fields of biostratigraphy (including, but not limited to, fossil age dating and the study of evolutionary faunal successions), stratigraphy and stratigraphic correlation, paleogeography and paleobiogeography, interpreting past environments of deposition and their biological significance, and the integration of these research areas into better global understanding of (1) past plate motions (plate tectonics and sea-floor spreading); (2) past sea-level events, including their identification and ages; and/or (3) climate changes and the effects of those climate changes on Earth's inhabitants through geologic time.

ALEXANDER SISSON RESEARCH AWARD

Michael O'Connor, University of Texas at Austin

Family members of Alexander Sisson established this fund in his memory to promote and support research for students pursuing studies in Alaska and the Caribbean.

PARKE D. SNAVELY, JR., CASCADIA RESEARCH AWARD

Sean LaHusen, University of Washington

This award provides support for field-oriented graduate-student research that contributes to the understanding of the geologic processes and history of the Pacific Northwest convergent margin or to the evaluation of its hazard or resource potential.

HAROLD T. STEARNS FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Soo Hyun Kim, University of Wisconsin

Dr. Stearns established this award in 1973 for student research on aspects of the geology of the Pacific Islands and the circum-Pacific region.

ALEXANDER & GERALDINE WANER FUND

Alec Gierzynski, Northern Illinois University

The Waner Fund was established in 2002 to support research dealing with coal and petroleum resources, mapping, and engineering geology, marine resources, petroleum economics, appraisal, and evaluation, and the geology of phosphate resources.

LAUREN A. WRIGHT & BENNIE W. TROXEL STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD

John Chesley, University of South Carolina

Louis Wersan, Indiana University

This award supports two graduate students in master's or Ph.D. programs conducting field-based research (1) in the region broadly centered on Death Valley National Park, or (2) in the western and southern Basin and Range Tectonic Province. This research grant is associated with GSA's Structural Geology and Tectonics Division.

FAROUK EL-BAZ STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

Abotalib Z.A. Farag, Western Michigan University

Tara N. Jonell, Louisiana State University

This grant was created to encourage and support desert studies by students worldwide, either in their senior year of their undergraduate studies or at the master's or Ph.D. level.

EAST ASIA GEOSCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH (EAGER) AWARD

This award provides one-year grants to support the Ph.D. theses and post-doctoral research of East Asian scientists. It is open to scientists of the country hosting the annual CCOP conference. Past countries include Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, and Vietnam. The 2015 recipient will be announced in October.