

**Procedures for Awarding  
Dr. Ron Johnson & Dr. Mary Beck Graduate Student Fellowship  
for Nature Conservation**

The Dr. Ron Johnson & Dr. Mary Beck Graduate Student Fellowship shall be used to recognize graduate student excellence in nature conservation research, with superior professionalism and service to the University and/or community.

Drs. Johnson and Beck intend that this Fellowship recognize graduate students who are contributing to the conservation of nature and biodiversity, the diversity of all life and life-supporting ecosystems (e.g., species, habitats, ecosystem function), so that tomorrow has the same beauty, bounty, and benefits as today. Key components of a successful career in nature conservation include professionalism and service, reflected in part through communication and effective interactions and work with others. Professionalism encompasses duty, honor and the underlying caring character expected by society of those engaged in good science. Service is giving back to help make the world better, whether in a leadership position or working with others to frame a good way forward, lending a hand where needed, teaching or mentoring others who have less experience, presenting research to local citizens, or helping others find the adventure of science or nature.

Students meeting the following criteria shall be eligible:

- a current, full-time Doctor of Philosophy or Master of Science student enrolled in a graduate degree program in the School of Natural Resources, the Department of Entomology, or a comparable degree program linked to CASNR
- supported by an assistantship or comparable funding
- not a previous recipient
- working toward a dissertation or thesis demonstrating excellence with a clear focus on conservation of nature and the biological diversity of life on Earth
- demonstration of superior professionalism and service to the University and/or the community

**Guidelines and Procedures**

1. Nominations shall be completed by a faculty member familiar with the student's academic performance.
2. Applications must include the following supporting materials:
  - A brief (less than one page) description from the student about the research and professional service, highlighting impacts related to the conservation of nature and biodiversity
  - Nomination letter from a faculty member describing how the student meets the criteria of: (a) excellence and clear focus on nature conservation research; and (b) superior professionalism and service
  - The student's resume (2 pages)
3. Once approved by the Unit Graduate Committee and the Unit Head/Chair/Director, the nomination will be forwarded to the CASNR Graduate Fellowship Committee\*.
4. Fellowship recipients shall be determined by the CASNR Graduate Fellowship Committee with input from the Applied Ecology Program Area Leader in SNR or a faculty member with expertise in Conservation Biology who is not making a current nomination.

5. If the nomination is declined, email notifications will be sent to the Proposer and/or Unit Graduate Committee.

The \$1250 stipend will be added to the student's assistantship.

\*CASNR GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE: The CASNR Graduate Fellowship Committee is comprised of the Dean, Associate Dean(s) and Faculty Fellows of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.