

## **Grants-in-Aid Committee**

**Committee Members:** J. Boyles, M. Brigham, B. Butler, L. N. Carraway, C. J. Conroy, T. L. Derting, J. W. Dragoo, C. W. Edwards, J. Esselstyn, K. Galbreath, S. D. Gehrt, J. Goheen, G. D. Hartman, L. D. Hayes, G. Hayssen, C. Himes, S. Hooper, D. M. Kaufman, J. L. Koprowski, C. W. Kilpatrick (Chair), H. Lanier, J. Light, S. Loeb, K. Mabry, G. Marcello, M. Matocq, M. L. McKnight, B. McMillan, R. W. Norris, E. Oaks, D. K. Odell, D. Post, A. W. Reed, D. Reeder, T. E. Roberts, R. Rose, K. Rowe, B. Schooley, P. Stapp, R. D. Stevens, K. D. Stone, H. Thomas, M. Worrell.

### **Mission:**

The Grants-in-Aid Committee reviews applications for grants-in-aid and fellowships in mammalogy (American Society of Mammalogists Fellowship in Mammalogy and the Albert R. and Alma Shadle Fellowship in Mammalogy) and either selects recipients for these awards or recommends recipients for these awards.

### **Information Items:**

(1) The deadline for applications for Grants-in-Aid was set at 1 March, and that for fellowships was set at 1 May. A temporary system for on-line application of Grants-in-Aid worked well whereas the fellowship applications were received via our new web site.

(2) Membership on the committee is currently 43 individuals. John Kie left the committee during the last year and we thank John for his dedicated service. John Koprowski returned to the committee this year and two new members were added (Hayley Lanier and Diane Post). Two members have informed me that they will be resigning from the committee this year so we are looking for additional members. Please contact me if you are interested in serving on this committee.

(3) One hundred and thirteen Grants-in-Aid applications were received for 2011, a little above the average of approximately 100 applications received over the past few years. One application was withdrawn after being submitted and a second was not reviewed because of the lack of any letters of recommendation. The budget for Grants-in-Aid was set by the Board at \$49,500 for 2011. The committee ranked the 111 proposals that were reviewed and 37 were selected for support based on average ranking score. ASM membership was verified for the 37 approved applications and 27 were funded at the requested funding level (max \$1,500). Two applications have been approved for funding or partial funding but will not be funded until after the fellowship awards are decided as both applicants have applied for the ASM and Shadle Fellowships. Nine Grants-in-Aid applications have been approved for partial funding, at about 72% of the requested funding level. However, these nine applications will not be funded until the fellowships recipients are decided as the funding level may change depending on the Fellows selected. The diversity and high quality of research activities proposed by the student members of ASM is very impressive. Each committee member was asked to review and rank 18 to 19 Grants-in-Aid applications. The committee members continue to make an effort to provide each applicant with some constructive comments on his/her proposal. Names of the students who

have received or have been approved to receive a 2011 grant-in-aid are attached to the end of this report.

(4) The recipient of the 2011 Elizabeth Horner Award for the best Grant-in-Aid proposal is Adam Ferguson (Texas Tech University).

(5) In 2010, 14 fellowship applications were received and reviewed. The 2010 ASM Fellowship recipient was Peter Larsen (Texas Tech University). The Shadle Fellowship recipient was Bret Pasch (University of Florida). We have received 11 fellowship applications for 2011. The fellowship applications received have been distributed to committee members electronically and nominees will be selected during a closed session of the Grants-in-Aid Committee at the Annual Meeting. The amount of the American Society of Mammalogists Fellowship in Mammalogy will be \$12,500 and for the Albert R. and Alma E. Shadle Fellowship in Mammalogy will be \$4,345 for 2011.

#### Action items:

##### (1) 2012 Budget Request

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Grants-in-Aid of Research 35 x \$1,500         | \$52,500 |
| Horner Award                                   | \$500    |
| ASM Fellowship                                 | \$15,000 |
| Banquet tickets for GIA recipients (10 X \$30) | \$300    |
| Total Request                                  | \$68,300 |

##### (2) 2011 ASM Grants-in-Aid Recipients

**Adam W. Ferguson**, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, **\$1,500 + Elizabeth Horner Award (\$500) = \$2,000**;

Phylogeography of the American Hog-nosed Skunk (*Conepatus leuconotus*).

**Ana Laura Almendra**, Department of Biology, Brigham Young University, **\$1,200**;  
Testing Biogeographic Hypotheses for Mesoamerican Small Mammals with Focus on the *Handleyomys alfaroi* Species Group and Related Genera (Rodentia: Sigmodontinae).

**Carolyn Bauer**, Biology Department, Tufts University, **\$1,055**;  
Does plural breeding with communal care buffer post-natal stress in the caviomorph rodent, *Octodon degus*, and seasonal stress profile of the wild degu, *Octodon degus*.

**Katherine Brooks**, Committee on Evolutionary Biology, University of Chicago, **\$1,500**;  
The benefits of group living in Belding's ground squirrels.

**Erin Clancey**, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Idaho, **\$1,500**;  
Female dominance and sex ratio bias in pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*): implications for a mechanism.

**Andreas Chavez**, Department of Biology, University of Washington, **\$1,500**;  
The Effects of Environmental Heterogeneity on the Evolution of Pine Squirrels (Genus *Tamiasciurus*) in the Pacific Northwest.

**Anna Czupryna**, Department of Biology (Ecology and Evolution), University of Illinois at Chicago, **\$1,055**;  
Ecology and Demography of Domestic Dogs, *Canis familiaris*, in Villages Near Serengeti National Park, Tanzania.

**Andy Dosmann**, Committee on Evolutionary Biology, University of Chicago, **\$1,500**;  
Multidimensional plasticity and the evolution of flexible traits in Belding's ground squirrels (*Urocitellus beldingi*)

**Mallory Eckstut**, School of Life Sciences, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, **\$1,055**;  
Biogeographic history of the Great Basin Pocket Mouse, *Perognathus parvus*: Miocene divergence across the Columbian Plateau and population responses to late Pleistocene climate change.

**David Gary Flagel**, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Notre Dame, **\$1,055**;  
Deer fear: Evaluating prey behavioral changes in response to wolf predation risk.

**Adam T. Ford**, Department of Zoology, University of British Columbia, **\$1,500**;  
Mechanistic responses of African mammalian herbivores to landscape change.

**Gislene Lopes Goncalves**, Department of Genetics, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), **\$1,055**;  
Evolution of spiny hairs in rodents: a role for Edar?

**Francois D. H. Gould**, Center for Functional Anatomy and Evolution, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, **\$940**;  
Morphological indicators of locomotor specialization in distal femoral articular surfaces and the evolution of cursoriality in ungulates.

**Rebecca Green**, Department of Ecology, University of California, Davis, **\$1,500**;  
From birth to death: the role of trees and forests in the life of a rare carnivore.

**Patricia L. Jones**, Department of Integrative Biology, University of Texas at Austin, **\$1,470**;  
When to consume novel prey: social learning strategies in a Neotropical bat.

**Stephen Nyaga Kinyua**, Department of Wildlife Management, Moi University, Kenya, **\$1,500**;  
Ungulate extinction and trophic cascades along productivity gradients in a savanna ecosystem.

**Patrice Kurnath**, Department of Biology, University of Utah, **\$1,500**;  
Turning Up the Heat: Investigating Effects of Climate Change on Liver Function in Herbivores.

**Justin Lack**, Department: Zoology, Oklahoma State University, **\$1,500**;  
Shifts in bat diversity inferred from sequencing of ancient DNA from 8,000-year old guano.

**Eryn McFarlane**, Department Integrative Biology, University of Guelph, **\$1,500**;  
Mechanisms Maintaining Additive Genetic Variance of Fitness in a Red Squirrel Population.

**Matthew R. Mauldin**, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, **\$1,500**;  
A novel approach to mammalian hybridization studies: Woodrats (*Neotoma*) as a model.

**Sara Parsons**, Zoology Department, Miami University of Ohio, **\$1,500**;  
Influence of Vasopressin Receptor Gene Polymorphism on Social Attachment and Mate Fidelity in Free-Ranging Male Prairie Voles (*Microtus ochrogaster*).

**Lorelei E. Patrick**, Department of Biological Sciences, Louisiana State University, **\$1,500**;  
Phylogenetic Community Structure and Morphological Overlap of Western North American Bats.

**Diana J. Raper**, Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society, Oregon State University, **\$1,055**;  
Carrion is a Missing Link in Our Understanding of Food Web Dynamics.

**Katelyn I. Schumacher**, Department of Biology and Marine Biology, University of North Carolina Wilmington, **\$1,500**;  
Conservation Genetics of the northern flying squirrel, *Glaucomys sabrinus*, in the spruce-fir sky-islands of the Appalachians: Cryptic subspecies, population genetic structure, and pro-active adaptive management.

**Juliana Senawi**, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, **\$1,500**;  
Response of insectivorous bats assemblages to land-use change in Peninsular Malaysia.

**Amy Skibiell**, Department of Biological Sciences, Auburn University, **\$1,500**;  
Impacts of maternal energy expenditure during lactation on maternal and offspring survival in the Columbian ground squirrel.

**Mariano Soley-G.**, Biology Department, City College and The Graduate Center, The City University of New York, **\$1440**;  
Effects of Quaternary climatic oscillations on the evolution of small rodents in the highlands of Costa Rica and western Panama.

**Matt V. Talluto**, Department of Zoology & Physiology, Program in Ecology, University of Wyoming, **\$1,500**;

Spatial heterogeneity in selection on serotiny from red squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) predation on lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*).

**Brian Tanis**, Department of Biological Sciences, Fort Hays State University, **\$595**;  
Ecological impacts of wind turbines on mammalian Mesocarnivores.

**Courtney Thomason**, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, **\$1,055**;  
An Experimental Approach to Uncovering the Consequences of Parasite Co-infection.

**Cody W. Thompson**, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, **\$1,500**;  
The utility of a Y-linked marker and AFLPs in a hybrid zone with two mitochondrial-introgressed species of ground squirrels (genus *Spermophilus*).

**Danielle M. Tufts**, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, **\$1470**;  
High Altitude Adaptations in North American Mammals (*Ochotona* and *Marmota* spp.).

**Kimberly VanderWaal**, Animal Behavior Graduate Group, University of California – Davis, **\$1,500**;  
Identifying pathogen transmission pathways in wild giraffe (*Giraffe camelopardalis*).

**Johanna Varner**, Department of Biology, University of Utah, **\$1,000**;  
Too hot to trot? Factors promoting pika survival in a time of global climate change.

**Yiwei Wang**, Environmental Studies Department, University of California at Santa Cruz, **\$1,500**;  
Displacing top predators: Examining how human development may alter the traditional relationship between mountain lions and mesopredators.

**Leah Yandow**, Department of Zoology & Physiology, University of Wyoming and WY Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, **\$1,500**;  
Habitat and climate influences on American pika (*Ochotona princeps*) abundance in the face of climate change.

**Christine Zolnik**, Biology Department, Fordham University, **\$1,000**;  
Influence of host community structure on disease dynamics in blacklegged ticks (*Ixodes scapularis*) using molecular identification of bloodmeal sources.

**Respectively submitted,**  
C. William Kilpatrick, Chair  
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