

Latin American Fellowship Committee

Committee Members: S. Solari (Chair), S. T. Álvarez-Castañeda, J. L. Dunnun, E. Gómez-Ruiz, L. Guevara, M. F. Nery, M. A. O'Connell, A. Ojeda, N. Ordoñez-Garza, M. Ortega, S. Pavan, J. Salazar-Bravo.

Mission:

The Latin American Student Field Research Award is made annually to support field research projects by Latin Americans in Latin America. Eligible students must be citizens of Latin American countries (excluding Puerto Rico) and currently enrolled in a graduate program. Projects must be field-oriented investigations of natural history, conservation, ecology, systematics, wildlife biology, biogeography, or behavior. The selection committee, whose membership reflects these diverse fields and has field experience in Latin America, considers each of these areas of research equally important. Several \$1,500 awards are typically granted each year.

The Oliver P. Pearson Award supports a young professional who holds an academic position in a Latin American institution within 5 years of receiving a Ph.D. or equivalent degree. A single \$5,000 award is granted each year. In addition, up to \$2,000 are offered for the recipient to attend the mammal meetings of the year following the award.

Information Items:

(1) In 2021, we reviewed eight (8) applications for the Oliver Pearson award, and selected Dr. Silvia Pavan, originally from Brazil, where she completed a bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences at the Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo, Espírito Santo, and then a M.Sc. in Zoology at the Museu Paraense Emilio Goeldi, Pará, and finally obtaining her Ph.D. in Biology at City University of New York, New York, U.S.A., in 2016. Over the last two years, she was a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Museu Paraense Emilio Goeldi, Belém, Brazil.

(2) In 2021, we received 30 applications for the Student Field Research grants. Because of this, each committee member reviewed and ranked half of the applications (15); then, we consolidate and averaged all the ranks. We awarded five grants (according to the budget approved) to the applications with the highest average ranks:

Karla Paola Borges Jesús (México). Instituto de Ecología, A. C. Red de Biología y Conservación de Vertebrados. Effects of landscape structure on the foraging activity of Neotropical insectivorous bats. PhD student.

Elizabeth Castro-Salas (México). Centro Interdisciplinario de Investigación para el Desarrollo Integral Rural, Unidad Durango (CIIDIR Durango). Temporal dynamics of coronavirus shedding in a migratory population of *Leptonycteris yerbabuena*. MS student.

Juan Jesús Pellón Palacios (Perú). Instituto de Ecología - Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México Laboratorio de Ecología y Conservación de Vertebrados Terrestres. Function of the lesser long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris yerbabuena*) in bat-plant interaction networks. MS student.

Eduardo José Pinel Ramos (Honduras). Universidad Veracruzana. Instituto de Neuroetología
Importance of the spider monkeys' (*Ateles geoffroyi*) role in forest regeneration in the Yucatán
Peninsula, México. PhD student.

Fiana Evelin Peña (Argentina). Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Argentina Eco-physiological
determinants of a South American wild camelid in relation to water in northwestern Patagonia,
Argentina. PhD student.

(3) Last year's budget request for five (5) Latin American Student Field Research awards was approved, but next year we would like to add two awardees and give seven (7) for 2022. We think we could respond to the increase in applications by increasing the number of proposals that can be supported by the ASM.

(4) Committee members are in the process of reviewing applications, and recipients will be announced at the 2022 "Annual Banquet".

(5) Committee Membership: Three former members has stepped off the committee (Kristina A. Ernest, Thomas E. Lacher, Jr., and Pablo Teta), and Silvia Pavan (BR), Agustina Ojeda (ARG), Nicté Ordoñez-Garza (GUA-EC), and Lázaro Guevara (MX), are the new members. We thank Kristina, Tom, and Pablo for all the years supporting the activities of this committee.

Action Items:

(1) 2022 budget request

Latin American Student Field Research awards 7 x \$1,500	\$ 10,500
Oliver P. Pearson Award (1) award \$5,000 + travel \$2,000	\$ 7,000
Total Request	\$ 17,500

Respectfully submitted,

S. Solari, Chair

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