

Latin American Fellowship Committee

2023 Annual Report to ASM

Committee Members: S. Solari (Chair), S. T. Álvarez-Castañeda, J. L. Dunnum, G. Garbino, 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 US\$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 US\$7,000 award is granted each year. In addition, up to US\$2,000 are offered for the recipient to attend the mammal meetings of the year following the award.

Information Items:

(1) In 2022, we reviewed four (4) applications for the Oliver Pearson award, and selected **Dr. Guilherme Garbino** (Brazil). He completed a bachelor's degree in Biology at the Universidade de São Paulo, and then a M.Sc. in Systematics at the Zoology Museum of Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP), and finally obtaining his Ph.D. in Zoology at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG), Belo Horizonte, Brazil, in 2019. At the present, he is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Animal Biology of the Universidade Federal de Vicosa (UFV), Brazil.

(2) In 2022, we received 19 applications for the Student Field Research grants. Each committee member reviewed and ranked all applications; 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:

Stephanye Mata González (México). Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Systematics and biogeography of shrews, genus *Sorex* (Eulipotyphla: Soricidae) of the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt. Ph.D. student.

Carlos M. Delgado-Martínez (México). Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Analysis of the spatio-temporal variation of water availability for mammals in the Calakmul Biosphere Reserve, Mexico. Ph.D. student.

Lucas Carneiro (Brazil). Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense Darcy Ribeiro. Population dynamics of Seba's short-tailed bat, *Carollia perspicillata* (Linnaeus 1758): adaptability in face of environmental change. Ph.D. student.

Anaíd Cárdenas-Navarrete (México). Universidad de California, Berkeley. Primate movement and its influence on the regeneration of tropical forests. Ph.D. student.

María Celina Carrizo (Argentina). Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata. Effects of parasitism during the acute phase immune response: Behavioral and physiological changes in *Ctenomys talarum*. Ph.D. student.

(3) Last year's budget request for seven (5) Latin American Student Field Research awards was not approved, but next year we would like to add one awardees and give six (6) for 2024. We think we could respond to the increase in applications by increasing the number of proposals that can be supported by the ASM. However, our previous request for an addition to the Pearson Award, to go from US\$ 5,000 to US\$ 7,000 (plus an additional US\$ 2,000 to attend the next year meeting) was approved and is now reflected in our mission (see above).

(4) Committee members are in the process of reviewing applications, and recipients will be announced at the 2023 "Annual Banquet".

(5) Committee Membership: Most of our recent members are staying for another period, and keeping up with our tradition, we added Guilherme Garbino (BR; recent awardee of the O.P. Pearson Award) as our new member.

Action Items:

(1) 2023 budget request

Latin American Student Field Research awards 6 x \$1,500	\$ 9,000
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Oliver P. Pearson Award (1) award \$7,000 + travel \$2,000	\$ 9,000
Total Request	\$ 18,000

Respectfully submitted,

S. Solari, Chair

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April 13th, 2023