

## Honoraria and Travel Awards Committee

**Committee Members:** V. Bennett, C Day, A. Dechner-Sierra, L. Dizney, E. Flaherty (Chair), V. Hayssen, A. Hope, K. Lucia-Simmons, M. Martin, M. Pardi, T. Roberts, D. Rowsey, J. Schieltz, K. Stanchak, R. Stephens, B. Tannis, K. Thorington, J. Willoughby.

### Mission:

The Committee's mission is to select graduate and undergraduate students to be honored for their research in mammalogy, and to select travel grant recipients in two categories, early-career and student.

### Information Items:

(1) The Committee welcomed 4 new members this year, M. Martin, K. Stanchak, R. Stephens, and B. Tannis, and lost 2 members.

(2) From 11 applications, the Honoraria and Travel Awards Committee awarded four graduate honoraria, each for \$2,000: the Anna M. Jackson Award to **Addison Allen** (University of Oklahoma); the Elmer C. Birney Award to **Saeideh Esmaeili** (University of Wyoming); the A. Brazier Howell Award to **Lisa Walsh** (University of Michigan), and the Annie M. Alexander Award to **Mariah Schlis-Elias** (Austin Peay State University).

(3) From 7 applications, the Committee awarded 2 undergraduate honoraria of \$1,200. The awardees were **Anantha Miller-Murthy** (Yale University) and **Sandy Slovikosky** (University of Arizona).

The table below summarizes the recent history of honoraria applications, revealing the high inter-annual variability in the number of applications:

Year	Undergraduate	Masters	Ph.D.	Total Graduate
2009	6	0	3	3
2010 <sup>a</sup>	2	0	5	5
2011	9	2	12	14
2012	1	1	9	10
2013 <sup>b</sup>	3	1	3	4
2014	3	0	4	4
2015	4	4	8	12
2016	3	6	12	18
2017	1	4	6	10
2018	3	4	8	12
2019	7	5	13	18
2020	7	6	5	11

<sup>a</sup>first year of shorter GRAD application

<sup>b</sup>first year of Alexander (MS) Award

(4) We again were very pleased with the number and quality of applications in 2020 and will continue our efforts to advertise and promote the Honoraria program widely using multiple communication platforms, including social media. Sean Maher, the Informatics Committee Chair, has continued to help improve the committee's webpage and with Honoraria application submission, and we will continue to update it to provide clear instructions to applicants and to streamline the online submission process. We also extend special thanks to Cody Thompson, Program Committee Chair, and Kerrell Dunsmore with The Next Great Event, for significant help with advertising these opportunities.

(5) Based on discussion during the Board of Directors Meeting in 2018, the Chair again evaluated diversity of applicants and recipients of the 2019 Travel Awards (see table in report appendix). Data were provided by the Program Committee and collected during registration for the 2018 and 2019 meeting. All data in the table are reported in percentages.

(6) Based on feedback from the 2018 Board of Directors Meeting in Manhattan, KS, we completed a second year using a new format for abstract submission and a new review procedure for the Travel Awards. The current abstract submission process allowed students and early career applicants to apply for a travel award without having to pay for registration. The primary reasons behind the changes were to reduce the number of withdrawal reimbursements for the Program Committee and allow students to apply without potentially paying a fee to cancel their registration if they did not receive an award. E. Flaherty created a submission portal using Qualtrics for abstract submission during the first trial year of the new format.

Because of concerns raised in 2018 regarding unconscious/implicit bias with the review process, applicants were asked to remove names and institutions on the abstracts written in Word before committee review.

(7) A total of 75 mammalogists submitted abstracts for evaluation for Travel Awards. This number represented a significant decrease from the previous year but is consistent with years preceding the meeting in Washington, D.C. (2019-144, 2018-60, 2017-72, 2016-53, 2015-121, 2014-94, 2013-140).

The 75 abstracts were divided into 2 categories for evaluation: 14 early-career abstracts (2019-24, 2018-10, 2017-10, 2016-7, 2015-20, 2014-11, 2013-29) and 61 student abstracts (2019-120, 2018-50, 2017-61, 2016-43, 2015-84, 2014-80, and 2013-109). Of these applicants, 9 were from students supported by past Grants-in-Aid, 1 was a past honoraria recipient. Each abstract was reviewed by 10 committee members however results were not shared with applicants because of cancellation of the 2020 meeting. No complete applications were submitted for the Care Giver Award this year.

Last year's budget request to the Board was \$7,000 for 10 early-career travel awards of **\$700** each (with one of those potentially offered as a Care Giver Award) and \$12,000 for 30 student travel awards of **\$400** each. Because of cancellation of the 2020 meeting due to Covid-19, none of these funds were awarded.

(8) The Committee is requesting a modest increase in our requested amount for the 2021 travel awards because of the increased travel costs expected to attend the joint meeting in Anchorage, AK.

**Action Items:**

(1)	\$ 8,000	4 * \$2000 for graduate honoraria (Jackson, Howell, Birney, Alexander)
	\$ 3,000	2 * \$1500 for undergraduate honoraria
	\$ 7,000	10 * \$700 for early-career travel awards
	<u>\$15,000</u>	<u>30 * \$500 for student travel awards</u>
	\$33,000	Total budget

Justification: All funds requested are for the awards.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Liz Flaherty

([eflaher@purdue.edu](mailto:eflaher@purdue.edu))

## Honoraria and Travel Awards Committee Appendix

First	Last	Institution/Organization
<b>Early Career</b>		
Kayce	Bell	National Museum of Natural History
Rebecca	Green	USDA Forest Service
Matthew	Leslie	Swarthmore College
Robert	Lonsinger	South Dakota State University
Rodolfo	Martinez-Mota	University of Utah
Laura	McMahon	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Jennifer	Moore	Rice University
Mitchell	Parsons	Institute for Wildlife Studies
Ryan	Stephens	University of New Hampshire
Johanna	Varner	Colorado Mesa University
<b>Students</b>		
Anthony	Adducci	Pepperdine University
Addison	Allen	University of Oklahoma
Jesse	Alston	University of Wyoming
Christopher	Burke	California State University Fullerton
Camilo	Calderón-Acevedo	University of Missouri-St. Louis
Imogene	Cancellare	University of Delaware
Zoe	Carnes-Douglas	Colorado Mesa University
Adrian	Castellanos	Texas A&M University
Rachel	Crites	Ohio State University
Miranda	Crowell	University of Nevada, Reno
Alexandra	DeCandia	Princeton University
Danielle	Drabek	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Megan	Dudenhoeffer	University of Manitoba
Joseph	Eisinger	Univerisidade do Estado de Mato Grosso

Saeideh	Esmaeili	University of Wyoming
Nicholas	Freymueller	University of New Mexico
Facundo	Giorello	Universidad de al Rep <b>u</b> blica
Dana	Green	University of Regina
Gabby	Guilhon	Museu Nacional/UFRJ
Katie	Hooker	University of Florida
Jeremy	Howard	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Jonathan	Keller	University of New Mexico
Daniela	Lee	Yale University
Kenna	Lehmann	Michigan State University
Jessica	Lin	University of California, Davis
Tabitha	McFarland	Colorado Mesa University
Kendall	Mills	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Francisco	Molina	University of Wyoming
Blaise	Newman	Clemson University
Elora	Ormand	Oregon State University
Anna	Penna	University of Texas at San Antonio
Abby-Gayle	Prieur	Purdue University
Michael	Rosenthal	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Emily	Roycroft	The University of Melbourne/Museums Victoria
Catherine	Rubin	University of Alaska Museum
Vanessa	Russell	Miami University
Mariah	Schlis-Elias	Austin Peay State University
Leila	Siciliano-Martina	Texas A&M University
David	Taylor	Oregon State University
Miranda	Theriot	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Giovanni	Tolentino Ramos	The University of Oklahoma
Grant	Vagle	University of Colorado, Boulder
Taylor	Velander	University of Minnesota Duluth
Madeline	Walicek	Smithsonian Museum of Natural History
Chloe	Warret Rodrigues	University of Manitoba
Brooklyn	Waterhouse	Colorado Mesa University
Sara	Weaver	Texas State University
Marie	Westover	University of New Mexico
Caroline	Wilford	Austin Peay State University
Amy	Wray	University of Wisconsin-Madison