

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, J. Melendez, M. Pardi, T. Roberts, R. Rowe, D. Rowsey, J. Schieltz, 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, V. Bennet, C. Day, J. Melendez, and D. Rowsey, and lost 3 members.

(2) From 18 applications, the Honoraria and Travel Awards Committee awarded four graduate honoraria, each for \$2,000: the Anna M. Jackson Award to **Katheryn Stanchak** (University of Washington); the Elmer C. Birney Award to **Brian Tannis** (Oregon State University); the A. Brazier Howell Award to **Dakota Rowsey** (University of Minnesota), and the Annie M. Alexander Award to **Marie Martin** (University of Wisconsin-Madison).

(3) From 7 applications, the Committee awarded 2 undergraduate honoraria of \$1,000. The awardees were **Robert Beers** (University of Oklahoma) and **Maya Juman** (Yale University).

The table below summarizes the recent history of honoraria applications, revealing the increase in the number of graduate applicants, especially master's students, but also the high inter-annual variability in the number of applications:

Year	Undergraduate	Masters	Ph.D.	Total Graduate
2008	2	0	5	5
2009	6	0	3	3
2010 ^a	2	0	5	5
2011	9	2	12	14
2012	1	1	9	10
2013 ^b	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

^afirst year of shorter GRAD application

^bfirst year of Alexander (MS) Award

(4) We again were very pleased with the number and quality of applications in 2019 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 John Murray with Kansas State University Conference Services, for significant help with advertising these opportunities.

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

Demographics	Meeting Attendees	Student Meeting Attendees	Student Travel Award Applicants	Student Travel Award Recipients
<u>Gender</u>				
Females	45	45	58	53
Males	54	54	42	47
Prefer not to say	1	1	0	0
<u>Ethnicity</u>				
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1	1	0	0
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	1	0	0
Asian	4	3	8.3	10.0
Black/African American	1	1	2.1	0
Hispanic/Latino	10	10	6.3	3.3
Caucasian	80	80	81.3	83.3
Prefer not to say	3	3	2.0	3.4

(6) Based on feedback from the Board of Directors Meeting last year in Manhattan, KS, we implemented a new format for abstract submission and a new review procedure for the Travel Awards. The new 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 regarding unconscious/implicit bias with the review process, names were removed from all Word document abstracts before committee review (with the exception for the applicants who did not follow directions and submitted pdfs rather than Word documents – those names were not removed).

(7) A total of 144 mammalogists submitted abstracts for evaluation for Travel Awards. This number represented a significant increase from the previous year and a record high (2018-60, 2017-72, 2016-53, 2015-121, 2014-94, 2013-140).

The 144 abstracts were divided into 2 categories for evaluation: 24 early-career abstracts (2017-10, 2016-7, 2015-20, 2014-11, 2013-29) and 120 student abstracts (2018-50, 2017-61, 2016-43, 2015-84, 2014-80, and 2013-109). Of these applicants, 14 were from students supported by past Grants-in-Aid, 1 was a past Fellowship recipient (1 ASM Fellowship). Each abstract was reviewed by 5 committee members.

Last year’s budget request to the Board was \$8,500 for early-career travel awards of **\$850** each (a \$150 increase from 2018) and \$24,000 for student travel awards of **\$600** each. Because of discussion and suggestions from the Board of Directors meeting, the committee adjusted the award amounts although the overall budget remained the same. The awards distributed for the 2019 meeting were **\$750** for early career (10 awards) and **\$500** for student travel awards (50 awards). The complete list of recipients (10 early-career, 50 students) is provided in an Appendix to the report. A total of 15 recipients (10.4% of awardees) had previously received a grant or award from ASM, indicating that we had some success in attracting previously supported students to participate in the Annual Meeting. The final funding rate for early-career and student travel awards was 42% (10/24) and 42% (50/120), respectively.

(8) The Committee is decreasing the request in both the amount and number of the travel awards for 2020 for the meetings to be held in Boulder, CO to return to the 2018 requests following the Centennial Celebration in 2019.

Action Items:

- (1) \$ 8,000 4 * \$2000 for graduate honoraria (Jackson, Howell, Birney, Alexander)
- \$ 2,400 2 * \$1200 for undergraduate honoraria
- \$ 7,000 10 * \$700 for early-career travel awards
- \$12,000 30 * \$400 for student travel awards
- \$29,400 Total budget

Justification: All funds requested are for the awards.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Flaherty (eflaher@purdue.edu)

Honoraria and Travel Awards Committee Appendix

First	Last	Institution/Organization
Early Career		
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
Students		
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	Universidade do Estado de Mato Grosso
Saeideh	Esmacili	University of Wyoming
Nicholas	Freymueller	University of New Mexico
Facundo	Giorello	Universidad de la República
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