

Specialized Awards



Sponsored by the GSA Foundation

MARLAND PRATT BILLINGS AND KATHERINE FOWLER-BILLINGS RESEARCH AWARD

Meghan Toft, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Undergraduate Award: Erik Divan and Audrey Wheatcroft, Bates College

The Marland Pratt Billings and Katherine Fowler-Billings Research Award encourages and promotes geological fieldwork and related research in New England and adjacent regions.

JOHN A. BLACK AWARD

Lauren Brown, University of California, Los Angeles
The John A. Black Award supports graduate student field-based research on coastal processes. All field-based coastal geomorphology research should be located in the USA, Puerto Rico, or Canada. In the event there are no worthy graduate student field-based research projects in coastal geomorphology, the award may be used to support graduate student field-based research in volcanology. All field-based volcanology research should be located in the USA, New Zealand, or Iceland.

GRETCHEN L. BLECHSCHMIDT AWARD

Nina Whitney, Iowa State University
The Gretchen Louise Blechschmidt Award Fund was established for women in the geological sciences who have an interest in achieving a Ph.D. in the fields of biostratigraphy and/or paleoceanography, sequence stratigraphy analysis, particularly in conjunction with research in deep-sea sedimentology, and a career in academic research.

JOHN T. DILLON ALASKA RESEARCH AWARD

Hanna Bartram, University of Wisconsin–Madison
Joseph Tulenko, University at Buffalo–SUNY
The John T. Dillon Alaska Research Award honors the memory of Dr. Dillon who was particularly noted for his radiometric age-dating work in the Brooks Range, Alaska. Two areas that serve as guidelines for selection of the award are field-based studies dealing with the structural and tectonic development of Alaska, and studies that include some aspect of geochronology (either paleontologic or radiometric) to provide new age control for significant rock units in Alaska.

DIVERSITY AWARD

Simon George Scarpetta, University of Texas at Austin
This award is presented to the top student(s), based on application race/ethnicity status and overall quality of the research.

ROBERT K. FAHNESTOCK AWARD

Lauren Colliver, Purdue University
The Robert K. Fahnestock Award honors the memory of Dr. Fahnestock, a former member of the Research Grants Committee, who died indirectly as a result of service on the committee. The grant is awarded for the best proposal in sediment transport or related aspects of fluvial geomorphology, Dr. Fahnestock's field.

ROBERT D. HATCHER RESEARCH AWARD

Yiduo Liu, University of Houston
The Robert D. Hatcher Research Award supports field-based research and geologic mapping through an annual award to an outstanding graduate student in the earth sciences to conduct research for that student's master's thesis or Ph.D. dissertation. Preference may be given to students working in the Appalachian orogeny broadly construed, but is not restricted to this region.

JOHN W. HESS RESEARCH GRANT

Isabelle Weisman, Vanderbilt University
The John W. Hess Research Grant in Karst Research Studies supports student research involving any aspect of cave and karst studies aimed at providing improved understanding of how caves and karst work, including how these resources can be better managed.

ROSCOE G. JACKSON II AWARD

Hamilton Goodner, The University of Kansas
The Roscoe G. Jackson II Award funds one recipient per year in the field of sedimentology.

LIPMAN RESEARCH AWARD

Olivia Barbee, Michigan Technological University
Zoe Braden, Queens University
Matthew Dunlop, University of Wyoming
Joana Voigt, The University of Arizona
The Lipman Research Fund was established in 1993 and is supported by gifts from the Howard and Jean Lipman

Foundation. The purpose of the fund is to promote and support student research grants in volcanology and petrology. The president of the Lipman Foundation, Peter W. Lipman, was the recipient of a GSA research grant in 1965.

JOHN T. AND CAROL G. MCGILL AWARD

DeAnna Laurel, Colorado State University

Dorothea Lundberg, University of Maryland

The John T. and Carol G. McGill Award, which is in the memory of John T. McGill, supports graduate student scholarships and research grants in engineering geology and geomorphology.

JOHN MONTAGNE AWARD

Ny Riavo Voarintsoa, The University of Georgia

The John Montagne Fund is awarded annually in support of research in the field of quaternary/geomorphology.

BRUCE L. "BIFF" REED SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Tess Caswell, Brown University

The Bruce L. "Biff" Reed Scholarship Fund was established to provide research grants to graduate students pursuing studies in the tectonic and magmatic evolution of Alaska primarily, and also can fund other geologic research.

CHARLES A. & JUNE R.P. ROSS RESEARCH AWARD

Christine Chen, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Allison Karp, Pennsylvania State University

Andrew Kleinberg, Florida State University

Hadley McIntosh, University of Maryland

The Charles A. & June R.P. Ross Research Fund is awarded to support research projects for graduate students, post-graduate students, and post-doctorate researchers in the fields of biostratigraphy (including, but not limited to, fossil age dating and the study of evolutionary faunal successions), stratigraphy and stratigraphic correlation, paleogeography and paleobiogeography, interpreting past environments of deposition and their biological significance, and the integration of these research areas into better global understanding of (1) past plate motions (plate tectonics and sea-floor spreading); (2) past sea-level events, including their identification and ages; and/or (3) climate changes and effects of those climate changes on the earth's inhabitants through geologic time. There should be, over time, a balance of money among the awards across these various subject sub-field categories depending on the merit of the annual project proposals.

ALEXANDER SISSON RESEARCH AWARD

Renee Pelletier, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Family members of Alexander Sisson established a fund in his memory to promote and support research for students pursuing studies in Alaska and the Caribbean.

PARKE D. SNAVELY, JR., CASCADIA RESEARCH AWARD

Rebekah Lee, Boise State University

The Parke D. Snavely, Jr., Cascadia Research Award Fund provides support for field-oriented graduate student research that contributes to the understanding of the geologic processes and history of the Pacific Northwest convergent margin, or to the evaluation of its hazard or resource potential.

HAROLD T. STEARNS FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Kirstin Washington, University of Southern California

Dr. Stearns established the Harold T. Stearns Fellowship Award in 1973 for student research on aspects of the geology of the Pacific Islands and the circum-Pacific region.

ALEXANDER & GERALDINE WANER FUND

Benjamin Barnes, University of Wisconsin—Madison

The Waner Fund was established in 2002 to support research dealing with coal and petroleum resources, mapping, and engineering geology, marine resources, petroleum economics, appraisal, and evaluation, and the geology of phosphate resources.

LAUREN A. WRIGHT & BENNIE W. TROXEL STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD

Nur Uddin Md. Khaled Chowdhury, Texas Tech University

Zachariah Fleming, University of Texas at El Paso

The Lauren A. Wright & Bennie W. Troxel Student Research Fund supports two graduate students in masters or Ph.D. programs conducting field-based research (1) in the region broadly centered on Death Valley National Park or (2) in the western and southern Basin and Range Tectonic Province. This research grant is associated with GSA's Structure and Tectonics Division.

FAROUK EL-BAZ STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

Christine Chen, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for "Reconstructing past precipitation changes from ancient high-altitude lakes in the Central Andes."

Elena Favaro, University of Calgary, for "Initiation of Yardangs in Northwestern Argentina and the Implications for Martian Surface Evolution."

This grant is to encourage and support desert studies by students world-wide either in their senior year of their undergraduate studies, or at the master's or Ph.D. level.