

Department of Horticultural Sciences
Dudley Smith Family Graduate Student Recruitment and Travel Awards

Dr. Dudley Smith, Emeritus Professor of Soil and Crop Sciences and former Associate Director of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, and his wife, Angela, established an endowment in the Department of Horticultural Sciences in December, 2014 to enrich our graduate program by providing funds to support travel associated with graduate student recruitment and professional development. Awards associated with this endowment will be managed by a subcommittee of the departmental Scholarship and Awards Committee chaired by the Associate Head for Graduate Programs. Awards will be one of two types.

Dudley Smith Family Prospective Graduate Student Travel Award

A member of the graduate faculty may nominate a student whom he or she is attempting to recruit into Horticultural Sciences by submitting the required nomination form. Funds will be awarded at the discretion of the committee to pay for travel and related expenses to recruit prospective domestic graduate student candidate(s) living in the United States to Texas A&M University.

Dudley Smith Family Graduate Student Exploratory Travel Award

The goal of the exploratory travel award is to expose students to research *programs* outside of the State of Texas through short-term visits to other universities, government research labs, private companies or similar research facilities or centers of excellence. This may include experiences in research, production agriculture, emerging technologies, exchange of data, management programs, or collaborative linkages with other research groups.

Funds may be used for travel by graduate students enrolled in MS or PhD programs in weed science, crop management, breeding, genetics, and host plant resistance related to fruit and vegetable crops. ***Funds may NOT be used for stipends, administrative or other fees charged by or for a recipient organization, or for travel to professional meetings, conferences or to present a paper. Preference will be given to students who have not had previous travel opportunities.***

Expendable amounts must be used for travel within Canada, Mexico, or the U.S. for lodging or other direct expenses or may augment funds from other sources supporting similar objectives. Travel should be completed within one year of the award. Students may receive an award only one time.

Funds are awarded on the basis of a brief proposal written by the student explaining how the proposed travel experience would enrich his or her graduate research. The proposals should address the objectives of the travel, be clearly written in proficient English and include a simple budget. A short written endorsement from his or her major professor and a note indicating acceptance by the host institution should be included.

Proposals should be no more than four pages and include the following:

- Applicant's name, degree program and area of study
- Travel -location(s) and target dates
- Expected activities and benefits
- Budget/proposed use of funds
- Statements of support from major professor and the host organization

Review and selection of awards will be based on the following criteria:

- Completeness of application and realistic budget
- Realistic experience proposed and potential to achieve objectives
- Complementary to Departmental and student's research programs
- Quality of science and potential for impacts after completion of travel

Dudley Smith Family Prospective Graduate Student Travel Award

Faculty member requesting travel award: _____

Contact information: Phone: _____ Email: _____

Student name: _____

Has this student submitted an application: yes no Has this student been admitted? yes no

Where is the student traveling from (city and state)? _____

Approximate date(s) of campus visit: _____

Why do you want this student to visit campus? (*Attach copy of prospective student's application, resume or other evidence of the outstanding qualities of this student*).

Amount of travel award requested? \$ _____

Matching amount available? \$ _____

Total budget estimate:

Approval date: _____

Associate Head for Graduate Programs

Head of Horticultural Sciences

202 Horticulture/Forest Sciences Building
2133 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-2133

Tel. 979.845.5341 Fax 979.845-0627
HortSciences.tamu.edu