

Application form for:
Basin-Structure Research Award in Geology - Spring 2021

Application due March 29th, 5 pm to
Nancy Riggs
(PDF email submissions only, to nancy.riggs@nau.edu)

An alumni fund (Basin-Structure Research Fund) was set up in 2004 - 2005 by three former NAU-Geology graduate students, Luke Martin, Travis Loseke and Nathan Blythe.

We are soliciting applications for an award from this Fund. The award is meant to assist in tuition, field, and/or laboratory expenses. A total of up to \$500 will be awarded.

The applicant must meet these criteria set up by the donors of this fund:

1. Active Graduate student in MS Program in Geology
2. Thesis project meets ALL of these criteria:
 - focused on some aspect of *Cenozoic tectonic events*;
 - processes and events focused on *sedimentary and structural processes*;
 - located in the *Basin and Range and/or Transition zone of southern Nevada or Arizona*.

Applicants who meet these criteria must submit the following items in the application.

1. Your name.
2. Short, written description of your thesis research project with thesis title. Should include significance of your research. Second- (or later) year students must include a description of your progress to date.
3. List of advisor and thesis committee members.
4. Your curriculum vita.
5. General project budget with all sources of past and possible funding this coming year including those grants applied for and pending a decision.
6. BE SURE that your essay that is part of this proposal is distinct and different from essays you submit for other awards.

The proposals will be reviewed by a combination of Geology faculty members and NAU Geology alumni.

One award of \$500 will be given to one applicants and will be awarded at the Spring Banquet.

The name of the document you save and send must be
Basin_research_award_2021_[your name]

Becker Family Award in Geology

The 2021 award will be \$3000

Ulf Becker (NAU MS alumnus) and his wife Kelly Becker have endowed a fund with NAU to provide support for a graduate-undergraduate research group. The Letter of Understanding states the following:

“What Ulf found while attending NAU and traveling around the Basin and Range / Colorado Plateau was an amazing variation in geographies and geology that is second to none in the United States. Most importantly, Ulf found a tight community of graduate and undergraduate students that interacted to provide a collaborative learning experience unlike the larger departments that he had experienced and visited.

Ulf also experienced coming to terms with the passing of his older brother, Carsten, who died at the age of 23 while attending law school at Boston College. While Ulf was conducting his field work in the Whipple Mountains, he turned 24 and experienced the heavy reality that he was older than the age at which Carsten died.

Ulf worked as a field assistant at the Kansas Geological Survey after having completed his work at NAU and hired on as a geoscientist at Exxon (now ExxonMobil) in 1997. Ulf has enjoyed many assignments at ExxonMobil, including two short term assignments in Germany and a two year assignment in Calgary, Canada. At the time that this fund was established he worked as strategic advisor for GIS applications in ExxonMobil's Upstream Technical Computing Company.

Ulf and Kelly are advocates for education and experiential learning and encourage their two daughters in their studies. They are establishing this endowment in honor of Carsten, their daughters and other family members to encourage and support students at Northern Arizona University in the Geology Program of the School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Sustainability.

...

This Fund shall be used to provide support for research field expenses of a graduate student/undergrad team in the Geology Program of the School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Sustainability.” This year we have been given permission by the Becker family to make one or two awards.

One to two awards will be given each year following these criteria:

- a. Team members must include one or more undergraduate geology majors and one graduate geology major or PhD student from the Earth and Planetary Sciences focus area of the Earth and Sustainability PhD program; and
- b. The research project must be within the scope of the Division of Geosciences.

Preference will be given to projects that involve mapping as a major component of the research. Mapping components of the field work are encouraged to be completed with ArcGIS or equivalent quantitative mapping tools.

To apply for this award, submit a one-page application that includes the following information:

- * the topic of your research, including the “gap” in knowledge that you are addressing, its significance, and a hypothesis that addresses how you are filling that gap. Be sure that the field component of your research is clear
- * what the undergraduate student will do. Bearing in mind that research projects change as they progress, provide as much detail as possible. It is important to describe
 - how you envision your role as a mentor
 - what the field component of the research will be
 - how the undergraduate student’s research will complement your own
 - how the undergraduate student’s research will be entirely separate from your own
 - how the undergraduate student’s research will be disseminated: will you likely mentor the student through the process of submitting an abstract to a meeting, making a poster, and presenting? Is it more likely that the student’s work will become part of a manuscript, and if so, how will you include the student as a co-author?
- * a very approximate budget

Submit this page by March 29, 2021, 5pm to Nancy Riggs (nancy.riggs@nau.edu) as a pdf titled “Becker_family_award_[your name]”

2021-2022 RONALD C. BLAKEY SCHOLARSHIP

NAU Professor Emeritus Dr. Ron Blakey was honored in 2010 by the Geology faculty and alumni with the establishment of a new endowed NAU Foundation scholarship in his name. The fund was set up to support graduate research in areas related to Dr. Blakey's interests in stratigraphy and regional tectonics.

The total amount of the scholarship(s) this year will be **\$4000**, likely to be in 3-4 awards. The details of applying for the scholarship follow.

- 1) The criteria to be eligible are:
 - a. must be an active, full-time graduate student in the Division of Geology;
 - b. graduate students conducting research in the broad area of sedimentary research and regional tectonics will receive higher priority.
- 2) The application should consist of these items:
 - a. Write a one-page summary of your research for your MS thesis or PhD dissertation. If you are a second-year (or later) student, you must include a description of your progress to date.
 - b. Provide an unofficial NAU transcript of your graduate work to date.
 - c. Arrange for your thesis advisor to send a short report stating the progress on your thesis or dissertation and when you are likely to defend your thesis. This is not a letter of recommendation, but a simple progress report.
- 3) The application is due as single a PDF file to Nancy Riggs (nancy.riggs@nau.edu) by 5 pm on March 29th. The progress report should be sent as a separate email directly from the thesis advisor.

The name of the document you save and send must be
Blakey_research_award_2021_[your name]

****** As with all awards, be advised that the committee will take an extremely dim view of "recycled" applications. In the summary of your graduate research, be sure that you state a gap in knowledge, its significance, and a hypothesis regarding how you will fill the gap. Provide a statement of how you will use the scholarship (detailed budget is NOT required). Lastly, state what other grants you have received (external or internal) and/or have applied for.

Application form for **McCullough Award** for AY 2021-2022
Application **due March 29th, 5 pm** to Nancy Riggs

Please submit this as a PDF e-mail attachment called McCullough_award_2021 [your name] to Nancy Riggs (nancy.riggs@nau.edu)

Name of Applicant _____

Thesis Proposal Draft Title (**must concern the study of the Colorado Plateau and/or the area of the drainage basin of the Colorado River**):

SEND Nancy Riggs (nancy.riggs@nau.edu) an application that addresses these criteria for selection:

1. **First-year graduate student** in MS Program in SESES
2. Draft of thesis proposal as required for EES606; **attach to application**
3. Dates when you will fulfill requirements to advance to candidacy: complete Program of Study, complete and file thesis proposal, have first committee meeting.
4. **Thesis topic meets area requirements above (as required by McCullough family)**
5. Performance in Fall 2020 semester classes; list classes taken and grade earned; also list Spring semester classes in progress (unofficial transcript is fine).

Amount of award is \$375 – winner to be announced at Spring 2020 awards ceremony and awarded in Summer, 2020

2021 PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES Research Award

The Pioneer Natural Resources company has provided generous funds to the NAU Geology program since 2011. This year we are able to allocate up to \$8,000 to fund 5-6 research awards. In line with the original goals of the fund, approximately half will be awarded to meritorious projects in the general field of stratigraphy/sedimentation/basin analysis, and the remainder will be awarded to projects falling within any field in the geosciences. Priority will be given to current first-years, but in exceptional cases funds might be awarded to current second-year students; second-year students must describe the work they have completed thus far. The funds can be used to support research-related expenses or professional development activities (e.g., participation in a meeting or workshop; research-instrument training, etc).

Here are the details of applying for the scholarship this year.

- 1) The eligibility criteria are:
 - a. active graduate student. Please note that ESP students may apply but must demonstrate a clear aspect of geological sciences in their work.
 - b. graduate students conducting research in stratigraphy or related fields will be eligible for approximately one-half the available funds
 - c. graduate students graduate students conducting any research in any field of the geosciences will be eligible for the remainder of the funds
- 2) Your application should consist of these items:
 - a. a one-page summary, not including the references-cited list (i.e., DO include a references list, on a second page), of the research you are undertaking for your MS thesis or PhD dissertation. The summary should include a statement of why the research is significant. The review committee will also consider whether there is a clear hypothesis to be tested, or at least how the study will contribute to testing hypotheses posed by others. The summary should be succinct, well organized, rich in important details, and well cited. If appropriate to your project, a statement about relevance to the oil and gas industry should be made, but is not required. *You must, however, identify whether you want your application to be considered with the strat/sed/basin group or with the any-geoscience-field group.*
 - b. an unofficial NAU transcript of your NAU graduate program to date.
 - c. second-year students must include a description of work done to date.
- 3) The application is due as a PDF file to Nancy Riggs (nancy.riggs@nau.edu) by March 29th at 5 pm. The name of the document you save and send must be Pioneer_application_2021[your name].

** Be advised that the review committee will take an extremely dim view of “recycled” applications. In the summary of your graduate research, be sure that you state a gap in knowledge, its significance, and a hypothesis regarding how you will fill the gap. Provide a statement of how you will use the award (detailed budget is NOT required). Lastly, state what other grants you have received (external or internal) and/or have applied for.

**2021-2022 GEOLOGY DAVID SANDERS ONE-SEMESTER RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP
AWARD**

Dave Sanders is a Geology MS alumnus who had a successful career in the oil-and-gas business (Pioneer Natural Resources). Dave recently decided to provide yearly funding for a one-semester RA to a graduate student in the Division of Geosciences. Preference for this award is a (current) first-year MS student; students who do not have RA funding also have higher priority. No particular priority is given for a student in oil and gas. The award is usually given for Spring semester, but this is not required.

Criteria:

- Current 1st-year MS student in Geology
- excellent record (grades and progress) in the program thus far
- no RA funding for AY2020-2021 (priority will go to students with no external funding, although those with one semester may apply)

Application:

- submit a one-page summary your research and of how an RA will help the timely completion of your thesis.
- submit an unofficial NAU transcript of your graduate work to date.
- arrange for your thesis advisor to send a short report stating the progress on your thesis and any funding he/she may have for you. Please let your advisor know that this is ALL that is required – not a full-blown recommendation letter

Please save and send the documents with the title Sanders_award_2021_[your name]. Submit your application by 5pm on 29th March 2021 to Nancy Riggs (nancy.riggs@nau.edu)

** As with all awards, be advised that the committee will take an extremely dim view of “recycled” applications. In the summary of your graduate research, be sure that you state a gap in knowledge, its significance, and a hypothesis regarding how you will fill the gap. Lastly, state what other grants you have received (external or internal) and/or have applied for.