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.

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 save and send the documents with the title Sanders_award_2020_[your name]. Submit your application by 5pm on 6th April 2020 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.