

The ENRI Outstanding Graduate Student Award

DESCRIPTION: The Environment and Natural Resources Institute Outstanding Graduate Student Award recognizes the academic achievement, professional potential, and disciplinary contributions of graduate students within the College of Agricultural Sciences whose research, teaching, and outreach focuses on environmental and natural resource issues. Award winners will receive a prize of \$400.

ELIGIBILITY: ENRI encourages excellence in teaching, research, and outreach in environmental and natural resource sciences. Only graduate students doing research projects in the area of environmental and natural resources leading to a M.S. or Ph.D. in the College of Agricultural Sciences shall be eligible. Nominees should have made an outstanding professional contribution such as conducting research in advancing the knowledge of environmental and natural resources, presenting seminars, assisting with teaching environmental and natural resources courses, and assisting with outreach initiatives.

NOMINATIONS: Nomination packets should include the following:

1. a letter of nomination and support from the nominee's faculty advisor;
2. the nominee's curriculum vitae and copies of transcripts;
3. a concise statement of career goals written by the nominee;
4. a brief (no more than 3 pages) description of the research, teaching, or outreach work conducted and its potential impact written by the student; and
5. three letters of support from faculty or other partners.

The following criteria will be used in the selection process and should be addressed in the nominating materials. Academic achievement will be evaluated by grades in environmental and natural resources related courses and by academic awards and recognitions. Professional potential will be evaluated based on (1) the concise statement of career goals; (2) reports, contracts, and other materials documenting the substance and impact of research, teaching, and outreach work; (3) refereed publications (published and submitted); (4) membership in professional organizations; (5) honors and awards including membership in honorary societies; and (6) leadership in student and other organizations. Disciplinary contribution will be evaluated in the context of the following attributes of the graduate student's work: (1) scientific, educational, and scholarly excellence; (2) multidisciplinary; (3) intellectual and educational leadership, (4) integration across the tripartite mission of outreach, research, and teaching; and (5) scientific and societal impact.

Nominations for the ENRI Outstanding Graduate Student Award will be reviewed by the ENRI Awards Committee; Ted Alter, Chair.

Submit nominations electronically to Anna Marie Nachman at amn6@psu.edu by March 5, 2010.