

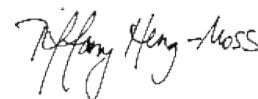
April 8, 2021

TO: Unit Administrators



FROM: Archie C. Clutter, Dean and Director
Agricultural Research Division

Tiffany Heng-Moss, Dean
College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources



SUBJECT: **Graduate Student Fellowships**

You are invited to nominate your unit's ***outstanding graduate students*** for the 2021-2022 Graduate Fellowship Awards. Students may **not** be nominated for these awards if they will be concurrently receiving a Cooper Sharpless or William Curtis Fellowship.

All applications are to be received by the appropriate office by Friday, May 7th, 2021.

The Graduate Fellowship Committee will review the nominations and recommend recipients for the Milton E. Mohr and Farmer's National Teaching Fellowships. The Agricultural Research Division Advisory Council will provide review for the research fellowships and awards.

We look forward to receiving several highly qualified nominations for all of these distinguished fellowships and awards.

CASNR TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS

Milton E. Mohr and Farmers National Fellowships

The purpose of these two fellowships is to enhance the educational experience of our graduate students, giving attention to teaching as well as other competencies.

The teaching fellowships will provide a minimum \$2,000 award to either an M.S. or Ph.D. student. Guidelines for teaching fellowships as follows are applicable to both the Milton E. Mohr (\$3,000) and Farmers National (\$2,000) Fellowships:

- Full-time graduate students enrolled in a primary major in one of the following degree programs:
 - Milton E. Mohr Fellowship:
 - Agricultural and Biological Systems Engineering
 - Agronomy and Horticulture
 - Animal Science
 - Food Science and Technology
 - Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences

THE NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

207 Agricultural Hall / P.O. Box 830704 / Lincoln, NE 68583-0704 / (402) 472-2045

- Farmers National Fellowship candidates shall be pursuing one of the following majors / areas / specializations:
 - Master of Business Administration with specialization in Agribusiness,
 - Agricultural Economics in the Department of Agricultural Economics.
 - Agronomy

Note: Preference shall be given to candidates who have expressed a desire to pursue a career in the area of farm management following graduation.
- Only students with documented previous teaching excellence or those with generally high scholastic merit and documented teaching interest should be nominated. Preference will be given to Ph.D. graduate assistants, although exceptional M.S. students may also be considered.
- Students currently **on either research or teaching assistantships are eligible (minimum .33 FTE).**
- A student is limited to one CASNR Fellowship (Milton E. Mohr/Farmers National) per degree (e.g. 1/M.S. and 1/Ph.D).
- Students must be **nominated** by their advisor or Departmental Graduate Committee Chair.
- Unit administrators must forward a **ranked list of no more than 4 nominations** for the CASNR Fellowships, approved by both the Chair of the Departmental Graduate Committee and the Unit Administrator. Rankings will be considered as informational to the selection committee. All nominees from a unit will be considered by the selection committee, independent of unit ranking.
- The \$2,000-3,000 stipends will be distributed on an academic-year basis and are to be an **additional stipend over and above the regular assistantship** rate for the student's academic unit or department/school. This is not to be used in lieu of other dollars which the department/school would otherwise allocate to the recipient's assistantship.

The application forms for these teaching fellowships are located at: <https://casnr.unl.edu/casnr-fellowships>

All nominations must include:

- A 2-page vitae that includes relevant teaching experience applicable to the award
 - An advising or formal transcript of all graduate UNL coursework
 - One (1) supporting letter documenting the candidate's previous teaching experience or teaching interest.
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AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

There is a **single common application form** (located at <http://ard.unl.edu/graduate-fellowships>) for all research fellowships and awards. All nominations ***must include***:

- Two (2) nomination/reference letters.
- An advising or formal transcript of all graduate UNL coursework. (Students with less than two semesters at UNL should include a transcript showing the last two years of their most recent academic enrollments.)
- A one (1) page description of their research work or plan (12-point font, 1-inch margins). This description MUST include relevant information that demonstrates eligibility for particular award(s).
- A two (2) page vitae that, as applicable, includes relevant experiences and/or community service applicable to the award type.

Students applying for a research fellowship or award have the option to be considered for more than one fellowship/award. No student will receive more than **one** fellowship/award within a single year. In most cases a student will only be competitive for one of these fellowships/awards; students and units should carefully select which program to target.

Please visit the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on the [ARD website](#) for more information.

ARD Fellowship and Award Descriptions

Widaman Distinguished Graduate Assistant Award and Shear-Miles Fellowship

You are invited to nominate your unit's most outstanding graduate students for a 2021–2022 Widaman Trust Distinguished Graduate Assistant Award or Shear-Miles Fellowship. Only students on **Graduate Research Assistantships** are eligible for consideration; students paid from fellowship funds are not eligible. Students are eligible to receive the Widaman or Shear-Miles Award **once** during their academic program at the University of Nebraska. Preference will be given to Ph.D. graduate research assistants, although exceptional M.S. students may also be considered; only students with high scholastic merit and research potential should be nominated. The \$2,000 stipend will be distributed on an academic-year basis and is to be an additional stipend over and above the regular assistantship rate for the student's department. This is not to be used in lieu of other dollars which the academic unit or department/school would otherwise allocate to the recipient's assistantship.

For the Widaman Award, nominees may be either beginning graduate students or students in progress, but all nominees must have identified a thesis topic that would clearly be considered "**basic research in agriculture**" as stipulated in the Widaman Trust agreement. The Shear-Miles Fellowship is presented to students conducting either basic or applied research.

Hardin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship

This fellowship is made possible through an endowment in the University of Nebraska Foundation honoring Dr. Clifford Hardin. The income earned by the fund is to **support research in plant physiology with particular emphasis on genetic mechanisms influencing plant responses to stress conditions**. We are able to present up to **two** fellowships to exceptional students this year. The recipients will receive a \$3,000 supplement to their graduate assistantship (payable in equal installments during the academic year) plus \$2,000 for program enhancement which could include (but is not limited to) travel as approved by the graduate student's unit administrator. Any graduate student doing research in the general area of plant physiology will be eligible for nomination.

Moseman Fellowship

(Open to Agronomy and Horticulture students only)

The Moseman Fellowship will be awarded to an Agronomy and Horticulture graduate student in the amount of \$2,500. Graduate students in the Agronomy and Horticulture graduate program with interests in international agriculture and world food development may apply. The founder of this award specified that students **must** be U.S. citizens to be eligible for this award.

Preference will be given to students who are working in plant breeding or genetics, although candidates from other agronomic disciplines are invited to apply. Students who receive this award are not eligible for the award in subsequent years; this is a **one-time award**.

Skala Fellowship

The John and Louise Skala Fellowship is available to recruit and recognize exceptional graduate students engaged in research in areas relating to new industrial uses of agricultural products. These funds are to be used to supplement existing assistantships (GRA or GTA) with awards of \$3,000 for M.S. and \$5,000 for Ph.D. students. Please note that the recipient must have been accepted into either a M.S. or Ph.D. program, and have been offered a graduate assistantship. Fellowships constitute an award based on academic and scholastic achievement or promise, cannot be associated with any service requirement, and will be awarded only to students doing research in the area of industrial uses of agricultural commodities.

A subcommittee of the ARD Advisory Committee plus the Director of IAPC will review the Skala Fellowship nominations. This fellowship is renewable, but students must be nominated annually.

We look forward to receiving several highly qualified nominations for all of these distinguished fellowships and awards.