

African Graduate Student Fund Committee

Committee Members: B. Agwanda, B. Buttler, A. Ferguson, J. Goheen (Chair), A. Linzey, M. McDonough, P. Moehlman, R. Norris, L. Olson, B. Patterson, C. Rodrigues, S. Rabiou, R. Rose, D. Schlitter, S. Stephens.

Mission:

The African Graduate Student Research Fund Committee grants awards to African nationals pursuing graduate degrees, in the form of \$1,500 grants and an online sponsored membership to the ASM. Eligible students must be citizens of African countries and currently enrolled in a graduate program.

Information Items:

(1) The African Graduate Student Research Fund Committee was an *ad hoc* committee formed in 2013, and was promoted to a standing committee in 2016. Currently, 15 members comprise the Committee. We are particularly interested in additional members who are from African institutions. Jake Goheen will step down as Chair from this Committee in July; please contact the new chair (Link Olson) if you are interested in serving on this Committee.

(2) In 2012, the Committee began collecting contributions towards an endowment fund that would support this program in perpetuity. The balance of this fund stood at roughly \$67,586 as of March 2018, representing 19.5% growth since 2017. In the past year, two awards have been made with the annual interest generated from the endowment. In 2018, a third award will be made with *ad hoc* funding of several generous donors, notably Alicia Linzey and Art Hulse, Jim and Carol Patton, and Bob Rose. ASM members interested in contributing to this fund should earmark their donations to ASM with the notation “African Graduate Student Research Fund.”

(3) The Committee will make three awards in 2018. We received 24 applications for an African Graduate Student Research Fund grant; applications were submitted from citizens of 11 African countries. This is over twice the number of proposals we received in 2017, but is comparable with the number of proposals we received in 2015 and in 2016.

(4) The recipients of the 2018 African Graduate Student Research Fund grants will be announced at the Annual Meeting in Manhattan, Kansas.

(5) Each awardee will receive a grant for \$1,500 and an online, 3-year annual sponsored membership to the American Society of Mammalogists.

Action Items: None.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacob R. Goheen, Chair
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