

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS
Natural Reserve System

2023 GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

APPLICATION DUE JANUARY 29, 2023

- ❖ We anticipate giving multiple awards of up to \$2500.00 each. Studies must include significant work at **Quail Ridge Reserve** and/or **Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve** (including the Cahill Riparian Reserve).
- ❖ Applicants must be enrolled as graduate students (PhD or Masters) at UC Davis.
- ❖ Students from all departments and academic disciplines are eligible.
- ❖ This program is different from the Mathias grants available through our systemwide office. **You may apply for both.**
- ❖ Previous awardees may apply for further support but must provide a description of work accomplished under their previous support (250 words max, separate document).

Allowable Expenses

- ❖ Funding is intended to directly support field work at the reserves. Funding may be requested for supplies and minor equipment, reserve fees, travel for field work, undergraduate assistants, etc.
- ❖ **Non-allowable expenses include:** salaries and stipends; travel to scholarly meetings; publication costs; purchase of classroom books; purchase of computers or printers; food.

Application Procedure

- ❖ **The application will become available on January 4, 2022, with a submission deadline of January 29, 2023.** Applicants should merge their documents into a single PDF and email a compressed file with images included to garyb@ucdavis.edu.
- ❖ A complete application contains the following:
 - Application form (available here)
 - References cited
 - Letter from your advisor/supervising faculty member indicating their support of the proposed research, its merits for funding, and the ability of the student(s) to conduct the research and meet established deadline. This may be submitted as a separate email if the advisor prefers.
 - A copy of current curriculum vita for the student applicant (two-page maximum).
 - *If applicable*, one-page report (final or progress) of previous NRS funded projects (e.g. UC Davis NRS grants, Mathias grants).

Important! The application should be submitted as a single .pdf file containing the completed application and four attachments listed above.

- ❖ Successful applicants must submit copies of appropriate collecting permits, animal care committee approvals, and campus accounting information before awards will be disbursed.
- ❖ It is expected that funds will be used in calendar year 2023. Award funds may be carried forward with the approval of the Reserve Director.
- ❖ Awardees must submit a brief progress report to the Reserve Director by January 31, 2024. Applicants will be disqualified from future UCD NRS grant programs if they do not comply with this requirement.
- ❖ Awardees must provide materials for our website and social media. This includes an image of yourself, an image related to your project, a short bio, and a short project description (each 100 words max).

UC Davis Natural Reserve System Student Research Grants

Evaluation Criteria

The review panel shall use the following criteria to evaluate NRS proposals:

Primary Criteria

1. **Merit of the proposed research:** Evaluation of research quality will be based on the importance of the problem, originality, statement of research questions or hypothesis, sampling design and analysis, preliminary data supporting the feasibility of the proposed research, and likelihood of success.
2. **Reserve dependence:** Research must take place at either Stebbins Cold Canyon or Quail Ridge Reserves. Some use of the reserves is required. However, off-site areas in the region of the reserves like the Cahill Preserve may also be appropriate, especially if natural reserve facilities are used to access these lands. Higher scores will be assigned for research that takes advantage of special reserve conditions, such as a history of related research, occurrence of unique/special conditions or resources, need for protection of experimental treatments, and so forth.

Additional considerations

The following criteria will also be taken into consideration.

1. The feasibility of completing research as stated in the application
2. Stage of student's career. Preference will be given to students early in their career.
3. Other funding. Preference will be given to projects lacking other support.
4. Satisfactory progress on research funded by prior grants (if applicable).
5. Relationship to dissertation research. Preference will be given to proposals for research directly related to the student's masters or dissertation research.

Contact information:

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Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve Director: Paul Havemann – phavemann@ucdavis.edu