



## Graduate Fellowships and Assistantships Call for Applications

December 2012

The Department of Ecosystem Science and Management (ESSM) at Texas A&M University invites applications for graduate fellowships and assistantships, available to qualified incoming doctoral students matriculating in fall 2013.

***Sid Kyle Graduate Merit Assistantships.*** These assistantships offer three years of support to Ph.D. students whose research will focus on the ecology and management of dryland ecosystems.

***James M. Carder Graduate Assistantship.*** This assistantship provides one year of support to a Ph.D. student interested in studying urban forest ecosystems.

***Dishman-Lucas Endowed Graduate Assistantship.*** This assistantship offers one year of support to a Ph.D. student interested in the ecology and management of forest ecosystems.

***McMillan-Ward Memorial Graduate Fellowship.*** This two-year fellowship is available to a Ph.D. student whose research will focus on the ecology and management of forestlands in eastern Texas.

### FUNDING DETAILS

Each fellowship includes a \$25,000/year stipend (paid in monthly increments), tuition and health insurance benefits for the duration listed above. Students are responsible for paying fees.

### ABOUT ECOSYSTEM SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Department of Ecosystem Science and Management prepares graduate students to understand the science of ecology, and to apply ecological principles towards the development of sustainable land and water uses that protect and conserve biodiversity and renewable natural resources for future generations. Faculty members and graduate students in ESSM are currently engaged in research that addresses the ecology and management of grasslands, savannas, forests, coastal ecosystems, wetlands, arctic tundra and other major ecosystem types.

In ESSM it is possible to specialize in one or more of four broad research areas:

- ***Ecosystem science*** • biogeochemistry, ecohydrology, global change ecology, landscape ecology, ecological restoration, ecophysiology
- ***Ecosystem management*** • forest management, rangeland management, watershed management, natural resource economics and policy, human dimensions of ecosystem management
- ***Genetics, systematics, evolution*** • genetics, molecular biology, genomics, population genetics, tree improvement, plant systematics and evolution
- ***Spatial sciences*** • geographic information systems, remote sensing, spatial analysis and statistics



TEXAS A&M  
UNIVERSITY

**Department  
of Ecosystem  
Science and  
Management**

**College of  
Agriculture and  
Life Sciences**

**APPLICATION  
DEADLINE:  
February 15, 2013**

### Contact

For information  
on eligibility  
and application  
requirements:

Sara Eliason  
Graduate Programs  
Assistant  
skeliason@tamu.edu  
979.862.6470  
essm.tamu.edu

## Eligibility

To apply for ESSM fellowships and assistantships a prospective student must:

- have an undergraduate GPA of 3.25 or above,
- have GRE scores at or above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile,
- be an incoming doctoral student or a current master's student who will graduate by August 2013 and continue on to the doctoral program in ESSM, and
- have already applied for graduate admission to Texas A&M University and have a complete application package on file.

## Application

Each application should include:

1. a nomination letter (no more than two pages) from the student's prospective faculty advisor addressed to the ESSM Graduate Programs Committee;
2. a personal statement (no more than two pages) from the student addressed to the ESSM Graduate Programs Committee, presenting his/her background, qualifications, research interests and career goals;
3. a resume/CV (no more than three pages) including the following information: education, professional experience, awards, publications (do not include papers in preparation), and recent presentations;
4. three letters of recommendation from the student's former or current professors (in addition to the nomination letter from the student's future graduate advisor);
5. a copy of the ApplyTexas graduate school application;
6. official college transcripts; and
7. official GRE scores.

*Please note:*

- > *The ApplyTexas application, official transcripts and official GRE scores are available from the A&M admissions database (as long as the student submitted these to the university upon applying to graduate school), please e-mail Sara Eliason at [skeliason@tamu.edu](mailto:skeliason@tamu.edu) for assistance in downloading copies of those.*
- > *It is fine to include the same resume/CV in the fellowship application that is submitted with the graduate school application.*

## Selection criteria

The ESSM selection committee will consider each nominee's:

- past academic experience and performance (*e.g., GPA, GRE scores, relevant coursework*);
- experiences outside the classroom (*e.g., research, work or internship experience; oral and poster presentations; publications; leadership experiences; extracurricular experience relevant to course of study; personal experiences*); and
- indicators for success in graduate school (*e.g., letters of recommendation, awards, honors*).

## Assistantship conditions

Each awardee must:

- register full time for the duration of the assistantship (9 hours in both fall and spring semesters, 6 hours in summer semester);
- maintain a 3.25 GPA on all completed work. (If the student falls below 3.25 in one semester, we will offer one semester of grace.);
- make acceptable progress each year toward completion of the degree;
- serve as a teaching assistant for one semester of each academic year; and
- submit an annual report on activity and progress in academics and research.

## Notification

The ESSM selection committee will notify nominees of the outcome of their applications by March 15, 2013. Awardees must accept or decline the assistantship by April 15, 2013.

**Contact:** Sara Eliason, Graduate Programs Assistant, 979.862.6470, [skeliason@tamu.edu](mailto:skeliason@tamu.edu).