



Western Integrated Pest Management Center

2020-21 Student Fellowship Program

This new program by the Western IPM Center seeks to actively support early career IPM professionals and practitioners in their search for educational opportunities and networking experiences. The program is focused on supporting a deeper understanding of a wide variety of technology, pest management, sustainability, business and government issues. The program also hopes to help young pest management professionals build a strong, enduring network of peers, and business and government contacts, not only in the academic realm but from private industry as well. Participants can apply to attend events and professional science meetings, or participate in internship programs that provide experiential learning so that students can explore potential careers and build professional networks, or participate in other learning opportunities. Internship programs that include both research and extension or outreach are strongly encouraged.

Fellowship applications are capped at \$1,000. The award should be used to fund travel to meetings or other professional development opportunities, meeting registration, costs associated with internships with private companies, research and extension programs or other professional development opportunities.

Applications will be accepted year-round and considered on a rolling basis. There is no deadline to apply and approximately \$20,000 will be available in 2020-2021.

The application system has also changed this year for all Western IPM Center programs. All information must be entered directly into forms in the application (rather than attached as PDFs). We recommend preparing your proposal in a word processing program, such as Microsoft Word, and cut-and-pasting the requested information into the online forms.

More information about using the application portal is available at www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbGDFwpS4sk7LMIQjLNicFCajhsj9WVwR

If you encounter any problems or have questions, contact Western IPM Center staff member, Matt Baur at mebaur@ucanr.edu or 530.746.1072.

The Western Integrated Pest Management Center (“The Center”) envisions a healthier West with fewer pests. It works to achieve this vision by forming partnerships and collaborations across a broad diversity of stakeholders in the West.

The Center fully supports the 2020 Agriculture Innovation Agenda and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) 2014-18 Strategic Plan. The 2020 Agriculture Innovation Agenda and the USDA NIFA 2014-18 Strategic Plan highlight the necessity to develop the human capital and diverse workforce necessary to develop and incorporate technology solutions to address some of the most recalcitrant pest management issues facing society.

The Center Student Fellowship Program has been established to provide professional development opportunities to the next generation of Integrated Pest Management scientists and practitioners to assure success of the Agriculture Innovation Agenda and the USDA NIFA Strategic Plan. In this fellowship program, we aim to prepare career ready IPM practitioners that possess the skills to develop new technology solutions, to function in collaborative teams that extend across disciplines and industries, and to extend the work to stakeholders and end-users. By providing early career support to students, the program cultivates supportive relationships between students, university researchers and extension agents, and industry peers to equip students with the skills needed to facilitate their transition to the workforce and prepare future leaders for integrated pest management and a sustainable future.

Available funds. Funding of approximately \$20,000 is available for the student fellowship program.

Who may apply? Undergraduate and graduate students in the West are eligible to apply. The West includes the following states and territories: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Application submission. All applications will be submitted through a secure online system (grants.ipmcenters.org). Videos demonstrating how to use the system are available at www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbGDFwpS4sk7LMIQjLNicFCajhsj9WVwR

GENERAL INFORMATION

This program seeks to actively support early career IPM professionals and practitioners in their search for educational opportunities and networking experiences. The program is focused on supporting a deeper understanding of a wide variety of technology, pest management, sustainability, business, and government issues. The program also hopes to help young pest management professionals build a strong, enduring network of peers, and business and government contacts, not only in the academic realm but from private industry as well. Participants can apply to attend events and professional science society meetings or participate in internship programs that provide experiential learning so that students can explore potential careers and build professional networks or participate in other learning opportunities. Internship programs that include both research and extension or outreach are strongly encouraged.

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Some meeting suggestions include*:

IPM Symposium in Denver, CO in March 2021.

For more information see ipmsymposium.org/2021

InfoAg Conference in St. Louis, MO running from 15-17 December 2020

More information at www.infoag.org

PrecisionAg Vision Conference held in Seattle in January

More information at www.thevisionconference.com

Develop with Deere Conference, usually in February or March

Farm Journal AgTech Expo

For more information see www.farmjournalagtechexpo.com

LARTA AgInnovation Conference held each year at the end of August

For more information see www.agshowcase.com/

* Please note that meetings and dates are subject to change with the dynamic nature of COVID restrictions

Possible programs that might provide information about internship programs include:

USDA-NIFA and NSF Establish Nationwide Network of Artificial Intelligence Research Institutes listed at nifa.usda.gov/press-release/artificial-intelligence-research

Western IPM Center Signature Programs may be good resources for identifying internship opportunities. Applicants can contact the Center signature programs leads to inquire about these programs. The lead include Katie Murray (Katie.Murray@oregonstate.edu) for the Risk Communication Signature Program, Al Fournier (fournier@cals.arizona.edu) or Peter Ellsworth (peterell@cals.arizona.edu) for the Crop Loss and Impact Assessment Signature Program, Kassim Al-Khatib (kalkhatib@ucdavis.edu) for the Protocols for Responding to Invasive Species in the West Signature Program, and Matt Baur (mebaur@ucanr.edu) for the comment coordination program.

APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Applicants will have to submit their application at grants.ipmcenters.org.

Statement of Interest in the Center Fellowship Program (1500 words)

The statement of interest should detail how the meeting or program will benefit the student prepare for a career in integrated pest management.

Student Biosketch

One letter of reference

Unofficial undergraduate and graduate transcripts

Budget and Budget narrative

The budget narrative should fully justify budget items

The Review Process

Applications are considered by a selection committee comprised of program officers from the Center and should take a maximum of four weeks. Applications are judged primarily on the quality of the student and the student’s potential to benefit from the activity. The proposed meeting or program should be recognized as a legitimate entity by the review committee. If there is some question about the legitimacy of the meeting or program, the committee may choose to request additional information about the meeting or program.

Duration: Fellowships may last for up to one year.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted electronically. Applicants will have to register at grants.ipmcenters.org.

If you have questions or problems with the submission system, please contact

Matt Baur
Phone: 530-750-1270
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www.westernipm.org

The Regional IPM Centers are supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture and comply with the USDA-NIFA nondiscrimination policy (www.csrees.usda.gov/about/nondiscrimination.html).