

## **The Stan Paterson Scholarship in Canadian Glaciology**

### **1) Background**

The Stan Paterson Scholarship in Canadian Glaciology honours Dr. Stan Paterson, a preeminent Canadian Glaciologist who worked extensively on glaciers in the Canadian High Arctic and Rocky Mountains and authored the classic textbook *The Physics of Glaciers*, now in its fourth edition. The scholarship is made possible by an endowment from Stan Paterson.

### **2) Award**

The Stan Paterson Scholarship in Canadian Glaciology is a \$2500 scholarship awarded at the annual spring meeting of the Canadian Geophysical Union.

### **3) Eligibility**

Eligible students are those studying glaciology with confirmed admission to, or current enrolment in, a full-time research-based graduate degree program (Master's or PhD) at a Canadian university. Glaciology is broadly defined as the scientific study of all aspects of, and processes related to, Earth's cryosphere. Field research, if applicable, may be undertaken elsewhere in the world.

### **4) Application Process**

The application includes a brief cover letter, a current curriculum vitae (CV), a graduate research proposal, unofficial academic transcripts, and two letters of appraisal from academic referees.

i) Cover letter. A brief cover letter should state the name of the award, and the applicant's name, current position (e.g. PhD candidate in [Program/Department], University of [ ]) and current contact information. It should also include the names and contact information of the two referees.

ii) Curriculum Vitae. The applicant must provide a current CV that includes: (1) Education (degree, discipline, institution, start date, (anticipated) completion date), (2) Academic, research and other relevant work experience, (3) Scholarships and awards, (4) Publications (e.g. theses, refereed journal articles, reports, published abstracts), and (5) any other information deemed directly relevant to establishing the applicant's scholarly credentials.

iii) Proposal. The applicant must provide a one-page research proposal outlining the project background/rationale, scientific approach, and expected outcomes and significance. In addition to the one-page proposal, an additional page is permitted for bibliographic references.

iv) Transcripts. Unofficial transcripts from the institution at which formal course work was last completed is required. Transcripts are to be submitted electronically by the student as part of the application package. Note that official transcripts may be requested before final award.

v) Letters of Appraisal. Two letters are required from academic referees (one, if applicable, from the current Master's or doctoral supervisor). Referees are asked to comment specifically on the applicant's research ability/potential and on the applicant's communication, interpersonal and leadership abilities. Letters should be limited to one page, signed, and submitted electronically directly by the referees to the Chair of the CGU Awards Committee. Letters submitted through the applicant will not be considered.

### **5) CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT**

Applicants for the Stan Paterson Scholarship in Canadian Glaciology are evaluated according to criteria that parallel those of the NSERC PGS program:

**i) Academic excellence**

- Academic record
- Scholarships and awards held

**ii) Research ability or potential**

- Quality of contributions to research and development
- Significance, feasibility, and merit of proposed research
- Ability to think critically
- Ability to apply skills and knowledge
- Judgment
- Originality
- Initiative and autonomy
- Enthusiasm for research
- Determination and ability to complete projects within an appropriate period of time

**iii) Communication, interpersonal and leadership abilities**

- The ability or potential to communicate scientific concepts clearly and logically in written and oral formats. For example, this could include:
  - o quality of the application's presentation;
  - o participation in preparing publications; and
  - o awards for oral presentations or papers.
- Professional and relevant extracurricular interactions and collaborations. For example, this could include:
  - o mentoring;
  - o teaching;
  - o supervisory experience;
  - o project management;
  - o chairing committees;
  - o organizing conferences and meetings; and
  - o elected positions held.

The adjudication committee will assess the above criteria with the following weighting scheme:

30%	Academic Excellence
50%	Research Ability and Potential
20%	Communication, interpersonal and leadership abilities

Excellence is an essential requirement for this award. If, in the judgment of the adjudication committee, this requirement is not met by any of the candidates the award will not be given.

**6) Deadline for Application, Adjudication and Notification**

The application deadline is 1 December each year.

The application package includes a brief cover letter, CV, research proposal and unofficial undergraduate and graduate transcripts. Application materials should be submitted by the applicant in a **single pdf file** to the Chair of the CGU Awards Committee (see below). Letters of reference should be submitted directly by the referees to the Awards Chair:

Dr. Geneviève Ali  
Chair CGU Awards Committee  
Associate Professor, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Manitoba  
[e-mail: Genevieve.Ali@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Genevieve.Ali@umanitoba.ca)

The applications will be adjudicated by an awards committee appointed by the Canadian Geophysical Union. The winner of the Stan Paterson Scholarship in Canadian Glaciology will be notified sufficiently in advance so that s/he may make arrangements to attend the annual spring meeting of the Canadian Geophysical Union to receive the award in person.