

**DUDLEY and ANGELA SMITH
GRADUATE EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT FUND**

The Donors established the endowment in appreciation of the broad-based research and educational opportunities provided to them as graduate students at MSU, which included travel and diverse research experiences on the campus and with commercial firms, producer groups, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Donors completed graduate degrees at MSU in 1968 and then pursued professional careers in Texas. Dr. Smith had distinguished careers in weed research, Experiment Station administration, and classroom teaching at Texas A&M University, spanning nearly 40 years. Mrs. Smith was involved in university teaching, agriculture, family life, church, professional societies, and ranch work. The Donors, along with their two children, Gresham and Beth, live in Texas where they operated a small cow-calf program. This endowment is intended to expand activities and provide broader perspectives for graduate students during their formative years at MSU.

It is the intent of the Donors that this endowment be used to support graduate student education and recruitment in the Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences.

For the academic year 2015-2016, the award amount will be up to \$2,500 per graduate student, and shall be used to provide non-academic experiences, as they relate to the student's graduate work at MSU. To be eligible, an applicant should be an actively enrolled graduate student doing research in **weed science, crop management, crop breeding and genetics, and host plant resistance, and working on projects related to food, feed, fiber, and forage crops and grains, including sugar beets, potatoes, beans, and oilseed crops**. Funds may be used for travel, lodging, or other direct expenses or may augment funds from other sources supporting similar objectives. These funds may NOT be used for stipends or administrative or other fees that may be charged by the hosting organization, or for travel related to attending professional meetings, conferences, or presenting a paper. **Travel should be completed within 12 months of an award. An individual may receive an award only once.**

Proposals should indicate how the objectives of this program and research at MSU would be enriched. The application should:

- include a two to four page proposal addressing the objectives of the program
- include a paragraph on how it will enrich his/her educational experience
- include a brief budget of travel, lodging, and other direct expenses related to the program
- include a short written endorsement from a major professor
- include a note indicating acceptance from a hosting organization

The Dudley and Angela Smith Graduate Education Enhancement Fund Award Committee will select the awardee (s) based on the following criteria:

- Scholarship/quality of science
- Programmatic need
- Potential to enhance graduate experience

A note of appreciation from recipient student(s) to the Donors should be sent to:

Dr. and Mrs. Dudley Smith
1810 Shadowwood Drive
College Station, TX 77840

Additionally, following completion of the travel, the recipient is expected to send the donors a brief report explaining what new technologies were observed and outlining how the experience enhances his/her future professional development.

Proposals must be submitted to: Sandie Litchfield, A286-D PSSB, Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences, by 5:00 p.m. on February 20, 2015. Awards will be announced on or after April 1, 2015.