



GEOHAB 2012 Ron McDowell Student Support Award

Information for students receiving scholarships

The **2012 GeoHab** (Marine Geological and Biological Habitat Mapping) conference will be held at the Rosario Resort on **Orcas Island, Washington State, USA, from 1-4 May 2012**. The conference committee will be awarding a small number of **travel grants** to selected students to attend and present at the conference.

Applications must be emailed in PDF or MS Word format to

Aarno Kotilainen, GTK, Espoo, Finland

<aarno.kotilainen@gtk.fi>

The deadline for receipt of applications is 1 February 2012

Applications for the student scholarship are limited to **a maximum of three A4 pages and should** include the following:

Page 1 information page including

- a brief CV with the type of degree (PhD, MSc, BSc); title, university, supervisor, intended date of completion of degree; etc..;

- The estimated cost of a return trip from place of residence to Orcas Island (please investigate cheapest fares available online and/or via travel agents);

Page 2 covering letter stating the motivation for applying and foreseen benefit of participating in the GeoHab conference (200-400 words);

Page 3 abstract of the presentation to be given at GeoHab if successful (Title, authors, affiliation, text of abstract - please follow Abstract template for GeoHab2012)

Rules

1. The student scholarship award is intended to cover/contribute to air fare and accommodation to allow the student to attend GeoHab 2012 at the Rosario Resort on Orcas Island, Washington State, USA. Based on funds available and the merit of the application the amount awarded to each student will be determined by the student scholarship selection committee. Awards are based on the student's estimated airfare submitted with their application, plus a **flat rate of \$500 (tot US dollars)** for overnight accommodation (double occupancy) Orcas Island during GeoHab 2012. Some students may received full funding, others partial funding;
2. Students will be notified individually of the amounts awarded to them. The amount awarded to each student is a maximum sum. Payment of the award will occur at GeoHab 2012 and cannot be paid out in advance. Students will be reimbursed based on receipts for airfare plus a flat fee (see above) for accommodation.

3. Students will be reimbursed only for what they spend - if the airfare costs less than estimated they will be reimbursed only up to the amount actually spent on the air fare. If the air fare costs more than the amount of the award students have to pay the extra cost themselves;
4. The sum awarded for overnight accommodation is based on the cheaper accommodation options available on Orcas Island. Some possible accommodation options will be given on the GeoHab website, but students may choose any accommodation;
5. Students are responsible for making their own travel and accommodation arrangements;
6. The student **must present their work in person** at GeoHab 2012. For fully funded students this must be an oral presentation. For partially funded students this will be oral/poster at the discretion of the organising committee as the applications for oral presentations are oversubscribed this year;
7. If for any reason the student is not able to travel to GeoHab 2012 to present their work in person the award will not be given. Students should therefore ensure they have suitable travel insurance to cover their costs if they have to cancel e.g., in the event of illness etc;
8. Students must register online for GeoHab 2012. No registration fee is required for any student in receipt of a scholarship award;
9. Students must pay for themselves for the optional GeoHab 2012 field trip, and for anything else not included in the registration fee;
10. The student grant committee will evaluate the applications and make a decision in time for submission to the GeoHab 2012 conference. Decision will be made by early-February, in time for submission of the final abstract to the registration site;
11. Students from Finland and the Baltic Sea region may be prioritised as the region where the previous GeoHab conference was held, however, all students are welcome to apply;
12. Information on the GeoHab 2012 conference are available on geohab.org;
13. Any queries concerning the grant application processes please contact. Aarno Kotilainen <aarno.kotilainen@gtk.fi>.