Undergraduate Water Research Fellowship Program
Request for Proposals

Objectives: The Undergraduate Water Research Fellowship Program seeks to advance collaborative undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative activity, while simultaneously promoting faculty research collaborations in Water Resources across UW System universities.

Principles: Successful research and scholarly collaborations develop most readily when collaborators share strong professional relationships, when centered around students, and when working in an environment of reasonable expectations surrounding deliverables. These factors promote trust and provide an environment promoting creative intellectual risk-taking.

Call: This fellowship program seeks proposals from: a) undergraduate water fellows, and b) faculty and staff to support research, scholarship, and/or creative activities related to freshwater for summer and/or fall 2019.

It is anticipated that 8-10 successful proposals will be funded at a rate of $10,000 per proposal for summer and/or fall 2019. If justified, funds may be carried over into the 2020 spring semester.

Proposals should clearly relate to Wisconsin’s freshwater resources, should be of significant magnitude to engage an undergraduate fellow for the duration of the 2019 summer and fall semesters, and should be collaborative in nature.

This call is limited to UW System institutions, based upon the following qualifying standards:

- **Research, Scholarship, or Creative Activity Proposals**: Proposals are sought from each UW System campus seeking to host a UW System undergraduate research water fellow.

- **Collaborative Project Selection**: Each campus is free to determine their own internal review process, provided that selected proposals: 1) clearly relate to Wisconsin’s freshwater resource, 2) are of significant magnitude to engage an undergraduate fellow in a meaningful high impact experience for the duration of the 2019 summer and/or fall semesters, and 3) are collaborative in nature, ideally to include at least one faculty member from a different UW System university.

- **Undergraduate Water Research Fellow Selection**: The collaborators should identify a UW System student whom they nominate as their UW System Water Research Fellow. Eligible students must be enrolled as a degree-seeking student for fall 2019 at a UW System institution and hold a minimum of Sophomore standing. Undergraduate fellows should have credentials predictive of their successful completion of the fellowship. Proposals should include an explanation of the student’s credentials establishing their logical fit in the program. Undergraduate water fellows are expected to fully engage in
research experiences, and notify host and sponsor PI’s of any planned absences in advance of the start of their research activities experience.

- **2020 Research in the Rotunda Poster Fair.** Undergraduate Water Research Fellows are required to produce a co-authored poster, visual, or audio media product for the annual Research in the Rotunda (RITR) event in spring 2020. Those fellows graduating in winter 2019 are not excluded from this requirement, but are exempt from in person participation. A special section will be established at the 2020 RITR event to display the UW System Water Research Fellows accomplishments.

- **Requirements of Host and Recipient Institutions:** Each host and recipient institution must provide a sponsor and supervising PI to monitor student progress. Host and sponsor PI’s are required to complete a pre-experience meeting to reviews project goals and student attributes, a mid-summer check-in, and complete a co-drafted one-page end of experience report. Host institution PIs are expected to oversee the daily activities of water fellows, and collaborate with fellows on their final poster, visual, and/or audio media product. Host institutions assume fiscal responsibilities for administering funds associated with water fellows.

Completed application packets (proposals, student selection and credentials, and $10,000 budget) should be sent to Dean Val Klump at the UW-Milwaukee School of Freshwater Sciences (vklump@uwm.edu) with copies also sent to both Linda Horbinski (horbs@uwm.edu) and Will Conley (willmconley@gmail.com) by Friday, May 31, 2019. The UW System Undergraduate Water Fellows committee will review submitted proposals to select the successful proposals no later than June 7, 2019.