PURPOSE

The Natural Resource Conservation Endowment Fund was established by Jane P. Conrad and entrusted to Washington State University in 1982. The purpose is to provide seed money for supporting research and projects related to, but not limited to, energy, small-scale agricultural concepts, community education, wildlife conservation and/or recovery, related psychological and sociological studies, domestic and international studies, and other projects related to conservation of renewable and non-renewable natural resources, including biotic and abiotic ecological components. The work should be oriented toward practical application of theory rather than strictly theory-oriented research to provide public uses or participants with a maximum opportunity to benefit.

ELIGIBILITY

Applications will be accepted from currently enrolled graduate students in good standing with the Graduate School. An individual or a graduate student group may apply. Interdisciplinary and collaborative proposals in such areas as education, psychology, sociology, environmental engineering, sciences, agriculture and veterinary sciences are encouraged.

TERMS OF SUPPORT

There could be up to two awards given for $1,200 each per year. The grant is subject to renewal up to a maximum of three years and may be requested by submitting a new proposal with a progress report each year. Equipment purchased with the fund money will become property of the WSU Foundation at the termination of the award and will be subject to sale with all proceeds going back into the endowment fund. Funds cannot be used for general education costs (tuition, school related fees, textbooks, computers, laptops, or software); and refreshments.

APPLICATION (Applications that are too long or not complete will be returned.)
(Only 12 point font size)

1. Face Page (Name, Department, Address [department zip or home], Degree program, Telephone number, e-mail address, Proposal title, Abstract [lay language], Proposed time period, Faculty advisor's name [telephone number and e-mail address])
2. Project Description (three pages, single spaced, 1 inch margins)
   (a) Introduction, Background, Problem Statement, Rationale
   (b) Objectives or Specific aims
   (c) Relevance to discipline and/or practical application to the audience/population that will benefit from the study
   (d) Methodology
   (e) Evaluation (Assessment)
   (f) Summary
3. A detailed budget reflecting how the $1,200 will be spent plus a strong justification.
4. Current or Pending Support for the proposed work: list source of support and amount received and/or requested (one page)
5. Biographical Sketch (one page)
6. Letter of Sponsorship from faculty advisor (one page)
7. eRex routing process completed and approved (www.ogrd.wsu.edu/forms)

Proposals should be carefully developed and written to encourage positive consideration of the fund's purpose. Write text for a general audience. Define and explain any discipline terms or acronyms used in the proposal. Letter of Sponsorship should address if applicant is qualified to do the proposed work, scientific validity of the proposed project, and state that the faculty advisor has reviewed and will support the applicant if the project is funded.
SUBMISSION AND DEADLINE

Please submit a hardcopy and an attached electronic copy to:

First Class Mail: Nancy Shrope or Pam Kelley  
Research and Arts Committee  
Office of Grant and Research Development  
Washington State University  
P. O. Box 643140  
Pullman, WA 99164-3140

Intercampus Mail: Nancy Shrope  
Zip Code 3140

Hand Delivery: Neill Hall Room 423

Email Delivery: nshrope@wsu.edu or pjkelley@wsu.edu

The deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 15, 2013.

REVIEW PROCESS

A panel of the Research and Arts Committee will review the proposals. Internal ad hoc reviewers with expertise knowledge may be included in the process. The final selection will be based on the reviewers’ recommendation. The review process will be completed by May 15, 2013 with the earliest start date being July 1, 2013.

REVIEW CRITERIA

The proposals will be reviewed by the panel according to the following criteria:

1. Originality;  
2. significance;  
3. Feasibility and adequacy of the proposed design;  
4. Availability of adequate facilities;  
5. Appropriateness of the proposed project with the fund's purpose;  
6. Appropriateness of the budget;  
7. Readability for general audience; and  
8. Letter of sponsorship.

REPORTS

Summary of Progress reports and/or Final Reports shall be submitted to the Research and Arts Committee and forwarded to the donor by selected participants receiving funding. Summary of Progress reports will be due on the same deadline date as proposals requesting second year funding, and Final Reports are due to Nancy Shrope before or on October 1 (or the next working day) of the year that the grant ends. Awardees will also be required to do a presentation of their research results to the Research and Arts Committee.

INFORMATION

Nancy Shrope or Pam Kelley  
Office of Grant and Research Development  
Neill Hall, Room 423, 335-9661  
Email: nshrope@wsu.edu or pjkelley@wsu.edu