

### William and Jane Bowers Research Presentation Award

The purpose of this non-endowed gift is to provide funds to recognize outstanding student achievement in the area of research by providing funding for students and their faculty mentors to travel to a regional, national, or international conference to present their findings.

#### Requirements

1. All students enrolled in a Biology program (undergraduate or graduate) are eligible to apply. Students are only eligible to win the award once.
2. The award will provide travel support (up to \$1,000) to one scientific conference for the selected student. The student's faculty mentor will also be provided up to \$1,000 travel support to accompany the student. Only full-time faculty members of The Citadel's Department of Biology are eligible to receive travel support. If circumstances don't allow the selected student to travel to a scientific conference, the student will receive a \$250 stipend in lieu of travel support.
3. Funds for travel support for the student and faculty member will be managed through the Department of Biology and follow all regulations and procedures for travel reimbursement established by The Citadel's Financial Services Department.
4. The winning student must also commit to presenting a poster at the Citadel Student Research Conference held annually during Corps Day weekend in March. Acknowledgement of the William and Jane Bowers Biology Research Presentation Award must be made on all presentations funded by this award.

#### Selection Process

1. Students are expected to submit an **application package** consisting of an abstract of their research (partial results are acceptable) and a brief statement describing the value of presenting their research and how that experience will impact their future plans. An accepted abstract is not a condition to receive the award. In addition, an itemized travel budget (developed in association with the faculty mentor) is required. The award can be used to fund conference registration, poster printing, travel, lodging, and per diem. It is expected that travel will occur before a student graduates, or in extraordinary cases, during the summer months immediately following graduation.
2. The sponsoring faculty member is expected to submit a **nomination letter** for the student addressing the following award criteria: completeness of the project, student's contribution to the project, originality, student's commitment to research, and the likelihood that the abstract will be accepted to a conference. The sponsoring faculty member will also need to identify in the nomination letter sources of additional funds to cover costs greater than that which the award provides (if the travel budget exceeds the award amount). Such funds may include, but are not limited to, Cadet Travel Funds through the Provost's Office, Faculty Presentation Grants, external grants, and/or departmental support. For the current year, application materials and nomination letter are due to the Biology Department Head by Friday, January 23, 2015.

3. An ad hoc committee consisting of three Biology faculty, appointed annually by the Department Head, will serve as the selection committee. Sponsoring faculty are not eligible to serve on the selection committee.
4. Once selected, the student and faculty mentor will be identified to Dr. and Mrs. Bowers and the winning application package will be provided for their information.