

THE KIRK AND MARJORIE LAWTON GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT AWARD

As the result of a generous gift from former Crop and Soil Sciences Faculty member Kirk Lawton and his wife Marjorie, the Kirk and Marjorie Lawton Graduate Student Support Award has been established. Dr. Lawton served Michigan State University and this Department in a variety of roles from 1946 until his retirement in 1980. His primary interests were in soil chemistry, plant nutrition, and international agriculture.

The Lawton Graduate Student Support Award Committee is seeking nominations and proposals for the annual award. The Endowment specifies the following:

- Recipients will be selected from among Plant, Soil & Microbial Sciences Graduate Students including M.S. and Ph.D. students. The student(s) selected should have a demonstrated financial need with preference for students in either their first year or last year of a program. Recipients must either be in good academic standing or accepted by the Graduate Programs Committee without special provisions.
- The amount awarded will not exceed \$5,000 for an individual student for 2015-2016. More than one student may receive an award in any given year. **Students will not be eligible to receive the award more than one time.**
- Students in any area of the Crop and Soil Sciences major will be eligible for an award.
- The support awards may be for an assistantship or partial support of an assistantship, for travel to meetings, or other expenses pertinent to graduate work, but may not be used for field or laboratory equipment.

Based on these guidelines, the Lawton Graduate Student Support Award Committee is seeking nominations and proposals for up to \$5,000 to support and enhance the graduate programs of individual students and the department. Any proposal that meets the guidelines above will be considered. Funding will be considered for, but not limited to:

- Travel
- Augmentation of an assistantship due to personal needs
- Extension of an assistantship if funding has expired
- Special computer or analytical needs

Proposals and nominations should be no more than two pages in length and include the following:

- Name
- Degree objective, area of study and GPA

- Description of the request, including a budget
- A statement of need
- Brief statement of support from Major Professor
- Names of two individuals familiar with the work/project

The Lawton Graduate Student Support Award Committee will select the awardee(s) based on the following criteria:

- Scholarship/quality of science
- Personal need
- Programmatic need
- Potential to enhance their graduate experience
- Special consideration will be given to students/projects in applied soil chemistry, but there are no restrictions on subject matter or area of study

All recipients will be required to make a timely and appropriate acknowledgment to the donor at the following address:

Julie Lawton-Essa
3591 Autumnwood Lane
Okemos, MI 48864

Proposals and nominations 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, with award scheduled for Fall Semester, 2015.