

Biogeochemistry Graduate Fellows Program
Sponsored by
Wetland Biogeochemistry Laboratory
Soil and Water Sciences Department

The Wetland Biogeochemistry Laboratory (WBL) was established by Dr. K. R. Reddy in 1982 within the Soil and Water Sciences Department (SWSD). The WBL has established an endowment to support and promote research and education in biogeochemical cycling of macro-elements in terrestrial, wetlands, and aquatic ecosystems with a focus on ecosystem productivity, climate change, water quality, and sea level rise. Some of the income derived from this endowment will support current and future activities of SWSD graduate students working in the area of “Biogeochemistry”. These funds can be used by students pursuing basic and applied research in biogeochemistry for travel to visit nationally recognized labs to learn new techniques, participate in scientific meetings related to their research, and to present research at national and international meetings.

The primary selection criteria include a) meeting the eligibility requirements to apply as stated below, and b) evidence of proposed or current research at any scale (molecular to landscape level) that has significant emphasis on linkages to terrestrial, urban, wetlands, and aquatic systems, and c) graduate student commitment to actively contribute to SWS/SNRE initiatives during the graduate program.

Biogeochemistry Graduate Fellow Terms

- Fellow Awards begin on January of each year
- A maximum of two new Fellows (PhD) and one new Fellow (MS) will be awarded annually.
- Fellows in Ph.D program will receive \$1,500 to support their research and Fellows in MS program will receive \$1,000 to support their research
- Nominations are required by October 1st or by a revised date each year.

Biogeochemistry Graduate Fellows will:

- Present their research at the SWS Annual Research Forum
- Display a research poster on the departmental poster board
- Acknowledge WBL funding source in publications and presentations
- Take a leadership role in promoting the SWS Biogeochemistry activities within and outside the department

Eligibility

- SWSD Ph.D. and M.S. (thesis) students and SNRE (IE program) advised by SWS tenured and non-tenure track faculty and SWS affiliate faculty.

- SNRE (IE) Ph.D. and M.S. (thesis) students advised by SWS tenured and non-tenure track faculty and SWS affiliate faculty.
- Student must be enrolled full time as a graduate student for the full calendar year during the year fellowship is awarded.
- Superior academic performance interpreted as a graduate GPA of 3.50 or higher
- Graduate students are eligible for re-nomination following a one-year hiatus after holding the WBL Fellowship.

Biogeochemistry Graduate Fellow Application

Students are encouraged to apply for these Fellowships. In order to apply, a student must submit the following:

- Letter outlining their qualifications for the Fellowship.
- A copy of research proposal (2 pages single space) describing motivation in addressing scientific questions.
- Completed IDP (Individual Development Academic Plan) must be on file with SWS Admin Office for Ph.D students and optional for M.S students.
- Letter (limited to 200 words or less) of endorsement from the major advisor indicating the importance of research related to the biogeochemistry program area.
- Additional support material may be submitted if the student wishes to do so and feels that it will strengthen his/her application.

Biogeochemistry Graduate Fellow Selection Process

The SWS committee appointed by the department chair or his/her designee will review the nominations and make recommendations to award A maximum of two new Fellows (PhD) and one new Fellow (MS) will be awarded annually.