KeGS Foundation Announcement

2013 Scholarship Awards

The Directors of the KeGS Foundation are very pleased to announce the awarding of nineteen scholarships totalling more than $16,000 to eight undergraduate and eleven graduate students in geophysics at seven Canadian universities for the forthcoming academic year (2013/2014).

These awards mark the fourteenth year of the KeGS Foundation’s scholarship program directed at fostering the education of future geophysicists in Canada. The elevated number and level of scholarships awarded in 2013 reflects both the number of well qualified applicants and the continued strong financial support of the Foundation by the geophysical and exploration community across Canada, despite a reduced level of overall activity in the resource sector.

The eight undergraduate recipients of KeGS Foundation scholarships for 2013/14 are:

Colin Brisco ® and Chelsea Squires, Memorial University
Philip Fortin, University of British Columbia
Frédéric Gaucher, Université Laval
Kasparas Spokas, McGill University
Maxim Ralchenko, Carleton University
Cassie Stuurman, University of Western Ontario
Volodymyr Vragov, University of Alberta

The eleven graduate recipients of KeGS Foundation scholarships for 2013/14 are:

Kun Guo ©, University of Toronto
Kyle Harris, David Melanson and Lindsay Upiter, Carleton University
Nathan Corcoran, Sarah Devriese, Seogi Kang and Michael Mitchell, University of British Columbia
Sean Funk, Behzad Hassani and Yelena Kropivnitskaya, Western
The amount of each scholarship awarded ranges from $500 to $2000, depending on the recipients’ merit and need and the available Foundation funds, with renewals of prior awards denoted by ®.

In particular, the following awards of named scholarships are noted with pleasure:

The Limion Scholarship, established in 2001 to honour noted consulting geophysicist Heikki Limion by generous donations by family and colleagues, has been awarded to Frédéric Gaucher, 4th year student at Laval, based on his academic excellence and career focus on mining exploration geophysics;

The KEGS Pioneers Scholarship, established in 2004 to honour various notable Canadian mining geophysicists*, has been awarded to Kun Guo, who will be beginning his MSc studies at the University of Toronto, in recognition of his academic excellence, breadth of interests and capabilities, and career focus on mining geophysics;

The BCGS Scholarship, established in 2005 and generously funded by the BC Geophysical Society, has been awarded to Philip Fortin, who will be completing his BSc(Hons) degree at the University of British Columbia, on the basis of his academic achievement and focus on mining-related geophysics;

The Fugro Scholarship, launched in 2007 by a generous gift by Fugro Airborne Surveys (Canada)**, has been awarded to Lindsay Upiter, MSc candidate at Carleton University, in recognition of her academic record and research focus on analyzing and reducing noise in triaxial magnetic gradiometer systems;

The GSC Pioneers Scholarship, established in conjunction with Exploration ‘07 to honour GSC geophysical pioneers***, has been awarded to Seogi Kang, who is pursuing a PhD degree at UBC focused on improved understanding and separation of EM coupling effects from IP responses.

The WAMIC Geophysics Scholarship, originally established by the now-disbanded Women’s Association of Mining in Canada Foundation, has been awarded to Cassie Stuurman, a fourth year student at the University of Western Ontario, in recognition of her academic achievement, indicated career interest in mineral exploration, and involvement in geoscience and community organizations.

Two additional students (Alicia Decker-Gushue, a second year undergraduate at Memorial, and Jade Ghaoui ®, who just started an MSc program in experimental petrology at Laval) have been given relevant book awards to enhance their appreciation of the diverse applications of exploration geophysics.
As an important collateral aspect of the above awards, all of the above awardees will also receive a generously subsidized membership in KEGS, which will facilitate their participation in KEGS Breakfasts and Symposia. The KEGS Foundation also expects to once again offer recipients significant additional support in the form of travel bursaries and symposia registration subsidies totalling an estimated $3000, to enable them to attend the annual KEGS Geophysical Symposium held in early March in conjunction with the annual PDAC mega-convention in Toronto, as well as one of several KEGS-sponsored geophysical breakfasts, in order to increase their awareness of current geophysical practices and new developments, and to develop important contacts in the global exploration community.

In addition to the above KEGS Foundation scholarship and book awards, the following related scholarships awarded to Canadian and other students are noted with pleasure:

Michal Kolaj, PhD candidate at Laurentian, has been awarded a renewal of the KEGS Ontario Scholarship, also administered by the SEG Foundation;

Shevaun McGoldrick, fourth year student at Dalhousie University, has received the KEGS/Phillip Hallof Memorial Scholarship administered by the SEG Foundation;

Sarah Devriese and Jenn Fohring, graduate students at UBC, received two of the three SEG scholarships established by the late Stan Ward;

Lilli Jones, graduate student at the South Dakota School of Mines, was awarded the Zonge Scholarship by the SEG Foundation;

Li Gang, graduate student at Ocean University in China, received the Hohmann Scholarship which honours the late Gerald Hohmann;

Neil Sullivan, fourth year geology student at the Laurentian University, whose studies and work experience are focused on mineral exploration, was selected by the CMIEF as the third recipient of the John Steers Bursary, jointly administered by the KEGS Foundation.

The Directors offer their congratulations to all the above scholarship recipients as well as extend heartfelt thanks to all supporters whose generous contributions**** have enabled the Foundation to maintain its important scholarship program, which has cumulatively provided support to more than 170 students in geophysics, many of whom are now actively employed in exploration and research in Canada and elsewhere in the world. Renewed giving by concerned individuals and companies is once again encouraged to sustain this important program for succeeding years.
On behalf of the Board of Directors,

Jerry Roth, Chair
Stephen Reford, Vice-Chair

* The KEGS Pioneers Scholarship is supported by donations generously made in honour of pioneering Canadian exploration geophysicists Tony Barringer, John Boniwell, Wally Boyko, Duncan Crone, John Dowsett, Bob Fraser, Tom Gledhill, Phil Hallof, Norm Paterson, Mike Reford, George Sander, Harry Seigel, Ray Whitton and, most recently, Ed Gaucher.

** The Fugro Scholarship was generously established in 2008 by Fugro Airborne Surveys (Canada) to encourage and support geophysics students focused on advancing the development and application of airborne geophysical techniques, and to honour the many pioneers in Fugro and predecessor companies whose creative and entrepreneurial efforts have led to the current impressive capabilities of airborne geophysics.

*** The GSC Pioneers Scholarship, launched at Exploration ’07, honours pioneering geophysicists at the Geological Survey of Canada, notably Len Collett, Arthur Darnley, Peter Hood, Larry Morley, George Palacky and Quentin Bristow.

**** Particular thanks are extended for recent major contributions from BCGS, KEGS, Geotech, Teck, Barrick, Scintrex, Lamontagne Geophysics, WAMIC/CMHF, Laurie Reed, and by Steers family members for the JE Steers Bursary.

Additional details may be found on the Foundation’s website www.kegsfoundation.org.

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