KEGS Foundation Announcement

Update: Three Additional Scholarships Awarded for 2016/17

Updating the initial announcement of 23 scholarship awards distributed in early July, the Directors of the KEGS Foundation are very pleased to announces the awarding of a further three scholarships, bringing the total to a record 26 scholarships totalling nearly $19,000 to twenty-one undergraduate and five graduate students in geophysics at thirteen Canadian universities for the forthcoming academic year (2016/17).

As previously noted, these awards mark the seventeenth year of the KEGS Foundation’s scholarship program directed at fostering the education of future geophysicists in Canada. The record number of recipients and the level of scholarship awards for 2016/17 reflect the record number of well qualified applicants, the greater need due the current economic conditions and the continued strong financial support of the Foundation by the geophysical and exploration community across Canada, despite a significantly reduced level of overall activity in the mineral resource sector.

The Foundation again expresses its regrets that its current resources are not sufficient to extend support to a number of well-qualified and deserving graduate student applicants. However, in response to this year’s greater need, intensified fundraising efforts have been recently launched which we hope will enable the awarding of several additional scholarships as well as provide valuable travel bursaries to help awardees attend relevant geophysical symposia organized by KEGS and BCGS, as we will update in the fall.

The three additional undergraduate recipients of KEGS Foundation scholarships for 2016/17 are:

Gustavo Avendano ®, University of British Columbia
Meryem Berrada, McGill University
Jarnail Gill, University of New Brunswick

who join the previously announced eighteen undergrad awardees:

Gabriel Dion, Isabelle Dorais, Jérémie Dufour, Colas Bohy-Provost and Vincent Riendeau, École Polytechnique

Cedar Hanneson (BCGS Scholarship) and Erica Owen (BCGS Scholarship), University of Victoria

Elisa Dong and Norman Shieh (CGG Scholarship), University of Waterloo

Allison Martin and Sara Pieczonka (WAMIC Scholarship), Queen’s University

Jennifer Adam ®, University of New Brunswick

Sarah Grant and Daniel Sola, University of Calgary

KEGS Foundation

2016 Scholarship Awards
Skyler Mallozi, Carleton University
Melanie Postman, University of Western Ontario
Benjamin Lysak, University of Alberta
Colin Taylor, Memorial University.

The five graduate recipients, who were previously announced as receiving KEGS Foundation scholarships to support the commencement or continuation of their MSc studies in 2016/17, are:

Nicholas Gazo, Laurentian University (KEGS Pioneers Scholarship)
Craig Christensen, University of Calgary (GSC Pioneers Scholarship)
Robin Maedel, Queen’s University (Limion Scholarship)
Jacqueline Huggins, Laurentian University
Maxime Salman, University of Waterloo.

The amount of each scholarship awarded ranges from $500 to $1,000, depending on the recipient’s merit and need and available Foundation funds. The recipients of specific endowed scholarships are noted above, and renewals of prior awards indicated by ®.

The Directors also extend their congratulations to Sean Bettac, an MSc candidate at the University of Alberta and a previous KEGS Foundation scholarship recipient, who was awarded the KEGS/Hallof Scholarship administered by the SEG Foundation.

In addition, thanks to generous support by KEGS, all of the above awardees will also receive a free KEGS membership entitling them to fully subsidized participation at a KEGS Geophysical Breakfast and at the annual KEGS Symposium during the upcoming year. All students will also be encouraged to participate in KEGS or other local professional societies, and, where relevant, other geophysical meetings or symposia. Depending on need and the Foundation’s resources, assistance with travel expenses up to $250 may be provided to facilitate recipients’ participation at relevant KEGS or BCGS events.

It is anticipated that scholarship awards will be largely presented in conjunction with Special Lectures on relevant geophysical topics to be arranged by the Foundation at the various universities during the fall.

The Directors extend their best wishes to all the above recipients for further success in their studies and future careers, as well as gratitude for the continuing support of the Foundation and its scholarship program by the Canadian exploration and geophysical community, including recent major donations by Geoscience North and pledged funds by Phoenix Geophysics for the continuing matching donation program. Additional donations are strongly encouraged to maintain this important program focused on renewal of our profession.

KEGS Foundation

2016 Scholarship Awards
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Jerry Roth, Chair
(Tel: 416-449-2226)

Stephen Reford, Vice-Chair
(Tel: 416-368-2888)

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