

FRANCOIS VUILLEUMIER FUND FOR RESEARCH ON NEOTROPICAL BIRDS

Goal of the Fund: The goal of the Francois Vuilleumier Fund is to award one or more cash grants per year for thesis studies of Neotropical birds to one or several graduate students from any country in Latin America and the Caribbean (the “Neotropical Region” as broadly defined by the Neotropical Ornithological Society). The funds are provided to assist thesis research by students, enrolled in an institution in the Neotropics who have little or no access to funds within their country or at their institution. Awards will be competitive and are expected to be in the range of \$500.

Eligibility: Students from Latin America and the Caribbean enrolled in a graduate degree program (Masters or Ph.D.) at an institution in the Neotropical Region are eligible to apply. Students must be members of the Neotropical Ornithological Society (students can become members at the time of their application). Students enrolled in institutions from outside the region are ineligible for funding. Neither Licenciatura or post-doctoral students will be funded.

Use of Funds: Francois Vuilleumier funds are expected to be used for thesis research-related expenses including equipment, supplies, travel and living expenses related to field work, etc. Grant monies will not cover salaries, stipends, travel to meetings, routine living expenses, overhead or indirect costs to the educational institution.

Application Calendar:

Application Deadline: **15 September each year** (e-mail Receipt)

Announcement of Awards: 15 December each year

Application Guidelines: Please follow the guidelines as only proposals following the guidelines will be considered.

1. Proposals may be submitted in English, Spanish, or Portuguese. Proposals in Spanish or Portuguese must have an abstract in English.
2. Applications are to be sent by e-mail only as an attachment in Microsoft Word to John Blake (blakej@msx.umsl.edu) and must be received by 15 September of each year. A scanned copy of the original **signed** application cover page should be included as well.
3. Application should include cover page, proposal, as summarized below as well as a **curriculum vitae**, and names and e-mail addresses of 3 references.

Requested format for the Cover Page:

APPLICATION TO THE FRANCOIS VUILLEUMIER FUND FOR RESEARCH
ON NEOTROPICAL BIRDS

Applicant's Name:

Applicant's Address:

Telephone & Fax:

E-mail:

Institutional Affiliation:

Graduate Degree Sought & Date Expected:

Name of Thesis Advisor:

Title of Proposal:

Amount Requested:

Member of the Neotropical Ornithological Society?

Name and address (including e-mail address) of three references who have been asked by you to send letters of recommendation:

Phone and e-mail addresses for the three references:

Signature of Applicant and Date:

Proposal Guidelines

The text of the proposals are limited to three single-spaced pages (21.6 x 28 cm or 8 1/2 x 11 in), with 2.5 cm (1 in.) margins and 12 point font. The proposal should have the following format:

Abstract (less than 150 words)

Introduction - Provide relevant background information and explain the uniqueness of the project and how the proposed study will clarify or resolve an unanswered question in the

literature. Explain how the study contributes to ornithological knowledge. State the study's specific objectives.

Methods – Explain how the study will be conducted and if appropriate why the proposed approach is used rather than another method. Support the methods with references. If the project requires capturing or collecting (killing) birds provide justification and include evidence that appropriate permits have been obtained or the permit process has been initiated.

Preliminary Studies – If available, explain and summarize preliminary data in tables or graphs (two page limit, which does not count as part of 3 page text limit). Figures should be in pdf format, tables in a Word document.

Facilities – Describe the availability of proposed study site(s), lab(s), equipment, etc. necessary to conduct the research. Clearly state permission to use the proposed facilities.

Timetable – Provide dates for initiation and completion of field work, lab work (if applicable), data analysis, thesis/manuscript preparation, graduation, and submission for publication.

Budget – Be specific and reasonable in requesting an amount limited to approximately \$500. List budget items in order of those funds and items actually awarded by other sources, budget items pending from other sources, and items requested from FV funds. Make certain to specify exactly which budget items are to be funded by the FV funds.

Budget Justification – Specifically justify the needs for budget items that are to be funded by FV funds by relating the needs to the study objectives.

Statement of All Pending Applications – Students are encouraged to submit proposals to multiple funding agencies, however they may not accept more than one funding award for the same budget item. Please state agencies or organization to which applications are pending at the time of submission to the FV fund.

Curriculum Vitae