

Implementation Procedures for Gunnar and Lillian Nicholson Graduate Fellowship and Faculty Exchange Fund in Forestry

September, 2004

Purpose:

The Gunnar and Lillian Nicholson Graduate Fellowship and Faculty Exchange Fund in Forestry was established by the late Gunnar Nicholson for the purpose of enhancing scholarly exchange among Swedish and North Carolina State University students, faculty and scientists. The Nicholson Fund originally targeted only doctoral students and faculty/scientists, but the guidelines have been revised to include undergraduate students. While the doctoral program has emphasized the study of forest management and genetics, the faculty/scientist and undergraduate programs cover all areas of forest resources.

Approximately 25% of the available funds are for faculty/scientist exchanges; this allocation can be higher in years when faculty take sabbaticals or participate in other long-term exchanges, as originally envisioned in Gunnar Nicholson's will.

Eligibility and Criteria for Faculty/Scientist Exchanges:

- The Nicholson Fund may support faculty/scientist exchanges on any topic and in any discipline related to forest resources.
- On the U.S. side, only faculty/scientists in the NC State Department of Forestry are eligible.
- On the Swedish side, faculty members and scientists from any academic or research institution that addresses forest resource issues are eligible; however, collaboration with the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) is strongly encouraged. Swedish applications may be sent directly to NCSU or may be transmitted through the Office of the Dean, Faculty of Forest Sciences, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.
- For Swedish faculty/staff exchanges, collaboration with a North Carolina State University Department of Forestry faculty member is a key criterion.
- Highest priority will be given to (a) faculty and scientists with long-term appointments (lower priority will be given to post-doctoral scientists and those with short-term appointments); (b) faculty sabbaticals and other long-term exchanges; and (c) collaborative activities between faculty/scientists at North Carolina State University and Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

Procedures for faculty exchange:

(1) By October 15, faculty interested in funding during that fiscal year should send a brief proposal (1/2 page or less) stating intended use of the funds, approximate dates, detailed budget request, and indication of how the proposal furthers collaboration between NC State and SLU (or other Swedish universities and research institutions relevant to forest resources).

(2) This proposal should be sent to the Head of the Department of Forestry (Dr. Barry Goldfarb) and Chair of the International Forestry Programs and Funds Committee (Dr. Erin Sills). Swedish faculty members and scientists may also send their proposal to the Dean of the Faculty of Forestry Sciences at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Dr. Jan-Erik Hallgren). The Dean will review these proposals and forward them to the Chair of the International Forestry Programs and Funds Committee (Dr. Erin Sills).

(3) The International Forestry Programs and Funds Committee in the Department of Forestry at NC State will evaluate these proposals and use them to project how much funding will be required for faculty/scientist exchanges during that fiscal year. Based on this review, the committee will recommend proposals to be funded to the Head of the Department of Forestry and upon approval of these recommendations, will notify faculty and scientists at NC State and in Sweden of the awards.

(4) Please note that funding requests will be considered throughout the year, subject to availability of funds, but requests submitted by October 15 will have highest priority.

(5) In order to facilitate the budgeting and planning process, please give as much advance notice as possible of upcoming requests for sabbatical funding (that is, even if you are just considering the possibility of a sabbatical at NC State or a Swedish institution in a few years, please inform Dr. Erin Sills as soon as possible).

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