SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Thanks to generous support from donors, our department gives financial awards to undergraduate and graduate students each year.

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

CURTIS WIENKER ANTHROPOLOGY AWARDS FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

The department permanently established four annual "Wienker Awards" for undergraduate distinction, through the generous donation of department alumnus, Curtis Wienker. Each year we recognize, with financial awards, the Best Undergraduate Honor's Thesis and Best Anthropology Essay - one each for archaeology, biological anthropology, and sociocultural anthropology. A faculty committee selects the papers for each award.

BEST HONORS THESIS IN ANTHROPOLOGY 2017-2018

The Making of Dreams: An Exploration of Identity, Subjectivity, and Civil Disobedience of Undocumenteds Living in the State of Exception

Monica Amira Romero
Advisor: Dr. Devon Peña

BEST ANTHROPOLOGY ESSAY AWARDS 2017–2018

Sociocultural Winner

Food Deserts in South Central LA and the Community Efforts to Combat Limited Food Access Through Urban Gardening

Elizabeth Kay Watt
Professor: Dr. Radhika Govindrajan

Biocultural Anthropology Winner

Vaccinating Wild Ape Populations Against Ebola

Alice Ning-xue Yan
Professor: Dr. Lisa Jones-Engle

Archaeology Winner

Considering Colonial Landscapes

Rachel M. Brewer
Professor: Dr. Marcos Llobera

OTHER SUPPORT FOR UNDERGRADUATES

Additional support for anthropology undergraduate students comes from the Gerald G. Eck Student Fund, to help with the expenses related to honors program research, and the Senturia Family Fund, to support undergraduate students with financial need, to take part in field schools, study abroad programs, or purchases that make a difference and allow students to complete their studies.

GRADUATE AWARDS

PRE-DISSERTATION PILOT RESEARCH AWARDS

The department helps to support pre-dissertation pilot research projects and travel to national academic conferences for graduate students. Pre-dissertation pilot research awards provide graduate students with critical support that is not typically available from any other source of funding.
Each year we fund as many graduate students as possible to conduct pre-dissertation pilot research. This research is used to identify a field site, make important connections at the location, and undertake preliminary data collection. These awards are made in amounts ranging from $600 to $1,500 each. This research is funded directly by donations to several department gift accounts.

One significant source of support comes from the Student Training in Anthropological Research Tools and Skills (STARTS) endowment fund. In January 2014, the department hosted an event to honor its founders, David Notkin and Cathy Tuttle. (You can read Cathy's comments here.) To see the many ways in which STARTS has supported graduate student research, the department created a 45-page booklet [5] that highlights 21 of the STARTS recipients with descriptions and photos of their research.

OTHER SUPPORT FOR GRADUATES

Additional support for anthropology graduate students comes from the Evan David James Fellowship to support deserving graduate students conducting research in the pacific northwest, and the Ronald Leroy Olson Fellowship to support either students who are members of a Native American or Native Alaskan Tribe, or those conducting research in the Pacific Northwest.

SHARED SUPPORT

The Brett Baldwin Scholarship is open to both anthropology undergraduate and graduate students, and is awarded on academic merit.