Campus-wide Student Awards for Research and Creativity in GIS, Cartography and Remote Sensing

The Award

The College of Behavioral and Social Sciences (BSS) is pleased to announce that funds have been donated by Chuck Nelson, former Director of the Geographical Information Center, for a program titled Student Awards for Research and Creativity in GIS, Cartography, and Remote Sensing. Two and up to five awards between $500 and $1,500 are available. All qualified students at California State University, Chico are encouraged to apply.

The funder’s concept is to sponsor a series of research projects that utilize geographical information systems (GIS), mapping (cartography), and/or remote sensing technology. The awards support students working with individual faculty or staff members on student-designed projects, including projects involving independent study, honors, senior thesis and master’s thesis research. This award program directly supports Chico State’s goal to create and enhance high-quality student-centered learning environments and will be offered once a year.

For instance, the projects could have applications in:

- agriculture
- biology
- cartography
- computer science and technology
- environmental sciences
- physical or cultural geography
- physical science
- recreation
- social sciences
- education (K-12)
- urban planning and land use
- any project with a GIS, cartography or remote sensing spatial theme

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants should have a basic knowledge of GIS, cartography (mapping), and remote sensing principles, including a competence in the use of a computer and basic GIS, computer mapping, remote sensing and/or programming as it relates to data and data compilation.
- Awardees must work with a faculty sponsor or qualified staff with basic knowledge of GIS, cartography, and/or remote sensing.
- Research must be original and cannot be associated with an assigned classroom project.
- Awardees must present a written report and are encouraged to present their research at a University sponsored forum or at a professional meeting.
Conditions

Awards might be used for the purchase of supplies or equipment or for travel to field sites. Appropriate academic credit can be granted for the project, but is not required for an award. Awardees that use the Geographical Information Center (GIC) or campus services will have to coordinate with the Director of GIC or appropriate campus official for use of resources. No faculty or staff members will be paid through the grant nor will the grant cover indirect costs.

Students’ use of licensed software, trademarked and licensed spatial data and printing materials must be coordinated with the appropriate University department or the GIC.

The grantee(s) will have access to a DJI Phantom 4 drone made available for this project. Please note that each recipient is responsible for reviewing all laws relating to use of the drone and must sign a waiver relinquishing the university and the donor of all responsibility. All drone operators\(^1\) are required to follow FAA regulations and so recipients are required to consult with Mike Thorpe, Chico State’s Risk Manager and who sits on the University’s Unmanned Aerial Systems Review Board. His phone is 530-898-6588 or email: mthorpe@csuchico.edu.

Recipient(s) are responsible for care of the drone. A portion of the grant will be held as a deposit if the drone is used and proof of consultation with Mike Thorpe will be needed by the Interim Associate Dean (contact info. Below)

Timeline and Recipient Selection Process

The first series of awards will be made in October, 2017 for the Fall, 2017 semester.\(^{\text{Deadline for receipt of applications is October 16, 2017, at 5:00 pm.}}\)

A committee, chosen by the Dean of BSS or his designee and the Director of the GIC, will review and recommend the projects to be funded. Any additional information concerning funding and payments will be included with the award packet.

\(^1\) “A student can operate a drone or unmanned aerial systems (UAS) for educational purposes/research under the classification of hobbyist or recreational user. They are not required to obtain approval from our campus UAS Review Board unless: 1) They will operate a drone on campus (includes Butte Creek Ecological Preserve, Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve, Farm); 2) They will operate a drone owned by campus; and 3) They will operate a drone on behalf of a university (at our direction, conducting research for faculty...). Hobbyists are required to follow all FAA regulations. As those regulations are complex, I suggest adding a stipulation to any award that the recipient must consult with me prior to operating a drone.”
Students from any academic college may apply. Specific details about the application process can be found on the current application available below.

Up to one half of the award can be withheld pending completion of final report.

*Applications and questions should be directed to the*

Attention: Matt Thomas, Acting Associate Dean
Office of the Dean, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Butte Hall 701
Phone: 530-898-4926
Email: MOThomas@csuchico.edu
Application for Fall 2017

STUDENT AWARDS FOR RESEARCH AND CREATIVITY IN GIS,
Cartography and Remote Sensing

Fall 2017 Application Deadline: October 16, 2017, 5:00pm

Please Type or Print in Ink

Full Name: ____________________________ Undergrad _______ Grad student _______

CSU ID# __________________ Major: ___________________________ Expected Graduation Date: ___________

Mailing Address: ____________________________________________

Phone: ______________________________

Research Project Title: _______________________________________

Awards up to $1,500.

Chico State email address: ________________________________

Attach the following to this form:

1. **Description**: Provide a concept description of your project using GIS: a) the nature of the project, b) the methods you will employ, c) how you will incorporate GIS technology, d) the role your advisor will play in the project. Your concept description should be no longer than two type-written pages, double-spaced. Also include a tentative budget if needed for the project and specify estimated costs that will be covered by the award. Concept descriptions should be clear and well written for a general audience.

2. Award recipients who choose to use a drone, they must follow FAA regulations and consult with Mike Thorpe, Chico State’s Risk Manager and serves on the Unmanned Aerial Systems Review Board on campus. His phone is 530-898-6588 or email: mthorpe@csuchico.edu.

3. Faculty/Staff Advisor: The advisor’s signature reflects an endorsement of the project and indicates he/she will play a role and will encourage that the project results be presented in a professional forum.

**Applicant Signature**: ___________________________ Date: _______________

**Faculty Sponsor Signature**: ___________________________ Date: _______________

Assemble materials in the following order: Application form, and concept description, and estimated budget. Submit one original, completely assembled packet stapled in upper left corner.

*Application packets are to be submitted to: Office of the Dean, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, located in Butte Hall 701 no later than 5:00pm on October 16, 2017.*

If you have any questions please contact the Matt Thomas, Acting Associate Dean at mothomas@csuchico.edu