

**North Carolina Chapter American Fisheries Society  
Thomas J. Kwak Student Travel Award Program**

In 2005, the North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (NC AFS) established a Student Travel Award Program for the specific purpose of encouraging participation of students (undergraduate and graduate) in the annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Support is provided via an award of \$400 to \$800 (actual amount depends on the number of qualified applicants) to help with the cost of travel, registration, and accommodations. Up to 12 travel awards will be made in a given year. Awards will be made directly to the students prior to the annual meeting.

**Eligibility Requirements and Limitations:** Any student member of the NC AFS who is enrolled as a full-time student at any college or university within the State of North Carolina is eligible. The winner of the Richard L. Noble Best Student Presentation Award is NOT eligible for a student travel award in the year they receive the Noble Award. Only one award per student per degree program is permitted. Specifically, each applicant must (1) be a student member of the NC AFS or have paid student membership dues (\$7) to the NC AFS Treasurer prior to submitting an application; (2) be a registered full-time student at an in-state institution; and (3) have an accepted abstract for a platform or poster presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society.

**Application Materials:**

- 1) A completed application form (posted on Chapter web site).
- 2) A copy of the applicant's abstract that was already accepted through the abstract submission process.
- 3) A one-page curriculum vita of the applicant
- 4) A letter of recommendation (one page maximum) from the applicant's research advisor.

One copy of the complete application package must be received by the Student Awards Committee on or before June 15. Failure to meet the deadline or to follow instructions invalidates the application. Each application must stand alone; group applications will not be accepted.

**Evaluation Procedures:** Awards are intended to support travel from a variety of institutions. Therefore, no more than 6 student travel awards will be made to students from any one institution, provided there are qualifying applications from more than one institution. Because the number of awards is limited by available funds, applicants will be ranked on the basis of the following criteria:

- 1) Completeness and timeliness of the application package
- 2) Quality of the abstract
- 3) Letter of recommendation.

Submit application materials on or before June 15 by e-mail to: Dr. Ryan Heise at  
Ryan.Heise@dukeenergy.com