

Robert and Beth Czerniak Endowed Scholarships: Outstanding Undergraduate Geography Student & Outstanding Geography Graduate Student

Announcement and Call for Applications

Background - In recognition of excellence in course work during students' time as Geography Majors, Robert Czerniak, Professor Emeritus and his wife Beth Czerniak have established two endowed scholarships that apply to graduate and undergraduate students. Each award recognizes excellence in coursework and progress towards earning either the Bachelor of Science in Geography or the Master of Applied Geography, with the intent to provide financial assistance to students. Each scholarship of \$200 is awarded to students through the Financial Aid office at NMSU. The scholarships will be announced at the Spring Awards Reception when certificates will be awarded.

Criteria for both the undergraduate and graduate awards are as follows:

- Students must be a declared major in the Department of Geography,
- Preference is given to students with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above, and
- Preference is given to students that demonstrate a commitment to the discipline as demonstrated by leadership within the Department, academic performance in class and laboratory activities, and/or extracurricular activity as evidenced by a record of college activities.

The undergraduate recipient must be classified as a Junior or first-semester Senior level student at the time of nomination. The graduate recipient must have completed one semester as a graduate student at the time of nomination.

Submission and review process – Nominations for the scholarships should be made to the NMSU Department of Geography Awards Committee through Campus Mail or Email (brownchr@nmsu.edu) by 1 April 2013. The nomination packet should include a copy of the nominee's current transcript and a short narrative that:

- Identifies the student being nominated and their academic qualifications,
- Speaks to the student's interest in using geographic principles to ask and answer significant geographic questions, and
- Speaks to the manner by which the student nominated meets the qualifications for the award as stated above.