

ENDOWMENT FUND RESOLUTION APPROVAL

Resolution: Creation of Perry J. Gehring Diversity Student Travel Award Fund

Endowment Fund Name: Perry J. Gehring Diversity Student Travel Award Fund

Sponsoring Specialty Section: Committee on Diversity Initiatives

Purpose: The Perry J. Gehring Diversity Student Award Fund proceeds will be used to fund one or more Awards to be given to students from an ethnic group under-represented in toxicology (African American, Hispanic, Native American or Pacific Islander) to assist the Award Recipients in their participation in the Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology. Thus, it is appropriate that the proceeds from this Fund be used to provide travel stipends to students or have promise and who are members of a group under-represented in the toxicological sciences.

The monetary Award, funded by proceeds from the Gehring Fund, is expected to assist in defraying expenses for travel, housing and meals at the meeting. The proceeds from the Gehring Fund may be supplemented by funds from other SOT accounts or other sources. The monetary Award shall be accompanied by a plaque and/or certificate. The Award will serve to memorialize the legacy of Perry J. Gehring and perpetuate his long-standing interest in assisting disadvantaged individuals to become successful scientists.

NOTE: A Resolution was approved by the SOT Endowment Fund Board in October, 2007 and ratified by the SOT Council in March, 2008, creating the Perry J. Gehring Under-Represented Student Travel Award Fund. The recipient was to be identified as the Perry J. Gehring Student Award Recipient. The name of the Award was changed at the July, 2008 meeting of the SOT Council to the "Perry J. Gehring Diversity Student Travel Award."

Funding: The Fund is being created from a 3-way equal division of the current assets of the Perry J. Gehring Student Travel Fund. Splitting the existing

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Perry J. Gehring Student Award Fund into three separate Funds will make it easier to manage the individual Funds and align the use of the proceeds of the Funds with three separate entities, the Awards Committee, the Risk Assessment Specialty Section and the Biological Modeling Section.

With the creation of the separate Perry J. Gehring Student Travel Fund, it will be designated as a “closed” Fund. The Fund will not be included in any of the SOT Endowment Fund general fund-raising campaigns. *However, the Fund will remain open to unsolicited contributions.* The name and purpose for which the Fund was created shall be continued in perpetuity.

Management: The SOT Awards Committee, or similar SOT entity, will have the responsibility for identifying the number of student awards to be given each year, the detailed criteria for selection of the award recipients, the selection of recipients and the bestowing of the student awards at an Annual Meeting of the SOT.

The award recipient(s) will be selected based on Merit by the Committee on Diversity Initiatives, or a successor committee identified by the SOT Endowment Fund Board and ratified by the SOT Council, using the following criterion:

1. The individual must be from an ethnic group identified as under-represented in toxicology (African American, Hispanic, Native American or Pacific Islander).
2. Participated in the SOT Undergraduate Student Program within the last 4 years. Applications will be accepted from both undergraduate and graduate students with preference given to graduate students.
3. Proposes to present a paper at the next SOT meeting. The abstract of that paper will be one aspect of the evaluation/selection process and must be accepted for the meeting.
4. A letter from the student indicating the value of their previous participation in the SOT Undergraduate Student Program and their aspirations for a career in biomedical science.
5. A letter of recommendation from the student’s mentor.

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The selection of the student from among a pool of applicants will be made by the Committee on Diversity Initiatives based on consideration of the abstract, the student’s letter and the mentor’s letter with consideration of the student’s potential for achieving excellence as a graduate student and, ultimately, as a member of the scientific community.

Background: Perry J. Gehring, who served as President of the SOT (1980-1981), had a distinguished career as a toxicologist and had a long-standing interest in encouraging individuals from groups under-represented in toxicological sciences to enter the field. He felt that promoting the participation of such individuals in professional organizations such as the SOT was one way of encouraging them to become toxicologists. He was a pioneer in advancing the science of risk-based decision making.

That Fund was created with initial generous gifts from Barbara Gehring and Family and Joe and Teri LeBeau. The initial assets of this Fund qualify it to be identified as a “Permanently Restricted Net Asset Fund” that will be continued in perpetuity.

Date Approved by SOT Endowment Fund Board: February 14, 2008

Date Ratified by SOT Council: March 15, 2008

Date Ratified by SOT Council (for Fund name change): July 16, 2008