

THOMAS H. SMOUSE MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS:

AOCS

AOCS Foundation

Archer Daniels Midland Company

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION and APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION – OCTOBER

FELLOWSHIP

AOCS Thomas H. Smouse Memorial Fellowship was established in 1996 to honor longtime AOCS member Thomas H. Smouse, who passed away at age 59 on August 24, 1995.

Dr. Smouse received his bachelor's degree in 1958 from Pennsylvania State University where he studied in the agricultural and biological chemistry department. He was later recruited by Stephen S. Chang to enroll in graduate school at Rutgers University, and while at Rutgers he became one of the first AOCS Honored Students (1964). His graduate work at Rutgers with Dr. Chang is considered among the classic studies on soybean oil flavor and stability. He received his master's degree from Rutgers in 1964 and his doctorate in 1965.

Dr. Smouse joined AOCS in 1962, served on numerous committees, and worked his way to the presidency of AOCS (1983). After his term as president, he continued to participate in various society activities, including speaker/instructor at many AOCS meetings and conferences, board member of the Lipid Oxidation and Quality Division, and chairperson of the Uniform Methods Committee. Dr. Smouse was a member of many committees, including the Technical Activities Coordinating Committee, Books and Special Publications Committee, and Awards Administration Committee. He published numerous scientific and technical papers in journals and books for AOCS and was coeditor for two AOCS monographs.

Dr. Smouse was widely recognized as an exceptional scientist who was eager to share his talent and experiences with colleagues throughout the fats and oils industry. Before his death, he talked of his wish to establish a fellowship for students involved in fats and oils chemistry. This award was made possible by contributions from Tom's wife, Elizabeth Smouse; their children, Thomas, Deirdre, and Robert; AOCS; Archer Daniels Midland Company; and many other individual and corporate donors who knew and respected Tom Smouse.

This award is in memory of his dedication and enthusiasm for lipid chemistry and his commitment to family, education, and AOCS

THE PROGRAM

Payments

The monetary value of the award is \$15,000 and consists of two components. The Fellowship is a stipend of \$10,000*. The second part of the award is \$5,000** and shall be given as a research fund to be used by the recipient for travel to professional meetings (first priority is AOCS Annual Meeting) and for research expenditures related to the student's graduate program. Funds will be paid to the awardee in two installments, through the department head. With each installment, we ask that the department head verify academic registration with the recipient.

*The Fellowship is intended to be a monetary award to be added onto a student's regular stipend. See section A5, under Eligibility Requirements, for limitations on award amounts.

**The research fund expenditures will be overseen by the major professor. Any money remaining in the account when the student graduates shall be returned to AOCS Foundation.

Program Objectives

The purpose of this graduate fellowship is to encourage and support outstanding research by recognizing a graduate student pursuing an M.S. and/or Ph.D. degree(s) in a field of study consistent with the areas of interest of AOCS. Primary qualifications include the highest standards of academic excellence and the reasonable expectation that the recipient, upon receipt of the degree, will enter into and make significant contributions to the field consistent with the goals and interests of AOCS.

Eligibility Requirements

The general eligibility requirements for applicants are that the individuals must be scholastically outstanding with interests and involvement outside the academic discipline. Age, sex, race, financial need, and religion are not conditions of eligibility for award. Applications must be received by AOCS via the Awards Portal, following the same deadline as other student awards.

Other specific eligibility requirements for the award are as follows:

A. Graduate Fellowship

1. The candidate is a graduate student beginning or continuing a course of study leading to an M.S. and/or Ph.D. degree(s), with preference for Ph.D. candidates.
2. The candidate is a person with an above-average interest in and aptitude for research.
3. The school of enrollment can be any educational institution that is conducting fundamental

investigations in the chemistry of fats, oils, proteins, surfactants, and detergents, as described above.

4. Student and major professor must be current members of AOCS.
5. The fellowship awardee's total nonservice awards (including the Smouse Fellowship) shall not exceed \$15,000. Only the Fellowship component of the award (\$10,000) applies toward this total nonservice award limit. If the nonservice awards' total (including the Smouse Fellowship) exceeds \$15,000, the Smouse award will be reduced to bring the total to \$15,000. Nonservice awards do not include assistantships and tuition or fee waivers from the school. At the time of the fellowship offer, the awardee will be required to file a signed statement concerning the amount of the nonservice awards that have been accepted.
6. A fellowship awardee becomes ineligible for further payments when the degree (or degrees) for which the fellowship was awarded is achieved, or if the student drops or substantially changes the planned research program during the tenure of the fellowship. It is the responsibility of the student and major professor to notify AOCS Foundation within 30 days after such a change occurs.

B. Approved Program

The term "approve program" refers to the degrees and curricular options in the areas of interest to AOCS as previously defined.

Application Procedures—Students

1. AOCS, upon request, will supply copies of the application and program guidelines.
2. Except for the above request, all inquiries, correspondence, and completed applications must be submitted to the department head of the educational institution that the students attending. Do **not** send them directly to AOCS.
3. All information and attachments requested in the application must be provided. Incomplete applications may be returned to the student if there is time; otherwise, they will not be considered. On the other hand, only submit what is requested; nonpertinent materials make evaluation of the application more difficult.
4. All applications require that the student submit an official transcript of *all* undergraduate and graduate college or university work completed to date. If an official transcript (sealed and signed by the granting institution) cannot be submitted, then an unofficial transcript signed by the department head may be submitted.
5. **IMPORTANT:** Application and all required attachments must be submitted to the student's department head prior to the deadline. The deadline

for each program is given on the application and can be found at aocs.org

6. Incomplete applications, late submissions, or applications in which grades are not given may be causes for disqualification.

Application Procedure—Department Heads/Major Professors

1. Upon receipt, the application should be checked for completeness. If time permits, return incomplete applications to sender.
2. The major professor should execute the required statement in the Application for Graduate Fellowship.
3. Applications must be received by AOCS via the online Awards Portal prior to the deadline established that year.

Special Notes—Students and Department Heads/Major Professors

Fellowship renewals are contingent upon the acceptance by AOCS Recognition Program Committee of a progress report submitted by the fellowship holder and his/her major professor. The progress report must be submitted no later than November 1 of each year. It is the intent of AOCS Foundation to sponsor a student through the completion of his/her degree (two years for a master's degree, three years for a Ph.D. degree). Beyond these limits, request for extension will be reviewed by AOCS Recognition Program Committee.

Application Evaluation

Applications will be evaluated by AOCS Fellowship Selection Committee. The Fellowship Selection Committee may consist of persons from industry, government, and academia. The committee also may seek opinions from external advisors, if necessary, to better evaluate proposals.

Notification

Written acceptance from the successful applicant must be received at AOCS headquarters by **April 15**. All fellowship applicants and their department heads/major professors will be notified of the outcome of the fellowship competition by **May 1**. A list of winners and alternate(s) will be sent to department heads if requested. Alternates who may become eligible will be notified immediately after **April 15** and will have two weeks to return their acceptance letter. Other alternates, who may become eligible later because winners transfer to other programs or fail to register in the fall, will be notified of their eligibility as soon as possible in August or September.

AOCS Thomas H. Smouse Memorial Fellowship

This list reflects contributions received as of November 2013.

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS:

AOCS
AOCS Foundation
Archer Daniels Midland Foundation

BENEFACTORS:

American Fats and Oils Association, Inc.
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National Institute of Oilseed Products
Mrs. Bernetta Smouse
Mrs. Elizabeth Smouse and children, Thomas,
Deirdre, and Robert
Unichema North America
Fabrica De Jabon la Corona S.A. DE. C.V.

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