F&M Brookshire Fellowship

The Brookshire Fellowship is among the most prestigious awards offered in any of the sciences by providing a significant financial award to a rising senior who has demonstrated unusual aptitude and hard work as a student of the psychological sciences. The Brookshire Fellowship is awarded to a junior who shows promise in research and supports this junior’s research efforts during his or her senior year. The purpose of the fellowship program is to promote academic excellence by providing a financial award to an outstanding junior who has excelled in the psychological sciences. In addition, the purpose of the award is to encourage the awardee to bring to completion an independent research project during their senior year, which the faculty of the department judges to be of exceptionally high merit and potential.

To be eligible for the Brookshire Fellowship, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. The candidate must be nominated by a member of the faculty.
2. Once nominated, the nominee must prepare a two-semester independent research proposal whose merit will be evaluated by a committee composed of tenured or tenure-track faculty in the Psychology Department and, when necessary, the Biological Foundations of Behavior and Scientific and Philosophical Studies of the Mind.
3. The nominee must be eligible to receive honors in Psychology, the Biological Foundations of Behavior, or the Scientific and Philosophical Studies of the Mind.

In addition, Brookshire Fellowships will be enriched by three unique features:

1. The Brookshire Fellow will be asked to play a special role during their senior year in mentoring younger students who begin their work in the lab as sophomores or juniors. In this way, we wish to cultivate the capacity of the lab to cultivate excellence in research by fostering peer-to-peer mentoring.
2. In addition to a cash award, the Brookshire Fellowship will offer the possibility of funding the student’s travel to at least one professional conference so that he or she can present their work, following completion of their senior year, alongside the faculty mentor who supervised it.
3. The faculty scholar whose lab supports a Brookshire Fellow will have access to a modest equipment budget that will enable that scholar to advance his or her ability to carry their work forward with future students.

The donor of the Brookshire Fellowship fund is Mr. Orville C. “Joe” Hognander, Jr. who graduated from Franklin & Marshall College in 1964 with a degree in Psychology. Mr. Hognander’s Franklin & Marshall experience was enriched by the opportunity to study under and perform research with Professor Kenneth Brookshire. During his junior year, Joe took an introductory psychology course with Professor Brookshire. He loved the subject matter and the way the material was presented and subsequently became a Psychology major. The following year, Dr. Brookshire incorporated Joe’s senior-year research project into a grant and the results were later published.

Mr. Hognander stated, “Dr. Brookshire was a remarkable researcher and teacher who inspired many to enter the field of psychology. I consider it appropriate to honor his memory for future Franklin and Marshall students.”

The Brookshire Fellowship was established in September 2014 and the first award was presented to Taryn E. Wells in 2016.