Steve Kale Graduate Fellowship Program
2020 request for applications

The Department of Geography and Geospatial Sciences at Kansas State University is now accepting applications for the Steve Kale Fellowship. Dr. Steven R. Kale was a native of the state of Kansas and earned his B.A. in Geography in 1970. He maintained his enthusiasm for geography throughout his career and was the recipient of the 2009 K-State Geography Distinguished Alumni Award. His goal and vision were to enrich student research in geography.

Kale Fellowships support research activities to be undertaken during a twelve-week period as part of a Masters thesis or Ph.D. dissertation. The Kale Fellowship is the premier award for graduate students in the Department of Geography & Geospatial Sciences at Kansas State University and applications for this prestigious award should reflect this. The proposed activities should be of the highest scholarly caliber, and the application should emphasize how receipt of the fellowship will enable the recipient to extend the scope of their research and contribute to broader scholarly understanding.

Applications should emphasize the conceptual aspects of the research. For example, what are the gaps in existing scholarship and how will the proposed research project help address those gaps? Furthermore, the discussion of a student’s methods should be clear but concise. The focus of the Kale Fellow should be entirely on the proposed research activities during the period the fellowship is held.

Upon completion of the project, each Kale Fellow will present a research colloquium to the department during the Fall semester. It is anticipated that each academic year the department will appoint a Kale Fellowship at both the Masters and Ph.D. levels as funding and qualified applications permit. These fellowships include a $5,000 stipend to each awardee.

Eligibility:
Applicants must be currently enrolled full time (at least 6 credit hours) at Kansas State University, working toward the completion of a Masters or Ph.D. degree in the department of Geography and Geospatial Sciences, in good academic standing, and making satisfactory progress toward the completion of their degree. Previous Kale Fellowship awardees are permitted to apply in subsequent years provided that they still meet eligibility requirements. An applicant may be awarded a Kale Fellowship no more than two times. Receipt of
other departmental awards (e.g. GGRG awards) does NOT preclude consideration for a Kale Fellowship.

Applications will be evaluated by members of the department’s Graduate Program Committee. Their evaluation will be based on the merits of the proposal and how well the student’s vision advances their field of inquiry. Specifically, the committee will consider how effectively the applicant articulate the current body of knowledge within their sub-field and how well their proposed research activities will add to that body of literature. Applicants are encouraged to think critically, creatively, and in ways that will transform their sub-field.

Kale Fellowship application forms are available at http://www.k-state.edu/geography/academics/forms.html

To apply for a Kale Graduate Fellowship, submit the following:
1. A completed Kale Graduate Fellowship cover sheet
2. Project summary containing the following:
   a. Title, student name, and degree they are pursuing
   b. Abstract (175 words max.) of the applicant’s sub-field and how the proposed research activities will advance that body of knowledge.
   c. Detailed project summary (1,000 words max.):
      • Background: Articulate a big picture problem or challenge in your sub-field of geography
      • Describe how your specific research will contribute to addressing that problem or challenge
      • Concise, but full discussion of your method(s) of data collection including justification
      • Discussion of anticipated outcomes and results
      • List of references
3. Copy of your curriculum vita that highlights your qualifications for the project
4. A letter of reference from your faculty advisor explaining how your research design and methods of data collection will help you attain your overall research goals.

Send a single PDF file of items 1-3 and arrange to have the letter sent to: Dr. Douglas Goodin < dgoodin@ksu.edu > by 5:00pm CST, 06 April 2020.