

## **Steve Kale Undergraduate Fellowship Program 2021 Request for Proposals**

Are you an undergraduate Geography major or minor with an idea you would like to develop into a research project? The Department of Geography and Geospatial Sciences at Kansas State University is now considering research proposals for the Steve Kale Fellowship Program. Dr. Steven R. Kale was a native of the state of Kansas and earned a B.A. in Geography in 1970. He maintained his enthusiasm for geography throughout his career in transportation and was the recipient of the 2009 K-State Geography Distinguished Alumni Award. His goal and vision were to support student research in geography. Students in the Department of Geography are invited to apply for research awards to conduct projects with faculty members in the department.

### **Kale Undergraduate Research Fellowship**

These fellowships support a research project of a fixed duration in close association with a faculty research mentor. This fellowship consists of a fixed stipend to the student and a fixed amount of funds that can be used to support his/her research (supply or small equipment purchases, printing or copying costs, field supplies or travel costs to field sites, and similar needs.) The research advisor will be responsible for ensuring that adequate progress is made and that funds are spent correctly. Selected fellows must commit to working regular hours and meeting research progress objectives in order to maintain the award. If a fellow is unable to do so, the award must be refunded. Upon completion of the project, each Kale fellow will prepare a research poster to be displayed in the Department of Geography and Geospatial Sciences facilities.

**Summer Fellows.** These fellowships support a research project of a ten-week duration during the summer. Students must spend at least 200 hours working on the project: 20 hours per week for 10 weeks between May and August. This fellowship consists of a \$3,000 stipend to the student and up to \$500 in support costs.

**Semester Fellows.** These fellowships support a research project of a 15-week duration that takes place during the academic semester at Kansas State University. Students must spend at least 100 hours working on the project: six to eight hours per week for 15 weeks in either spring or fall semester. This fellowship consists of a \$1,500 stipend to the student and up to \$250 in support costs.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be an active full-time student at Kansas State University and must be an undergraduate major or minor in Geography. Seniors graduating before the fellowship takes place are not eligible for an award. Successful applicants from previous years may apply providing they still meet eligibility requirements, but priority will be given to new applicants.

**Evaluation:** Proposals will be evaluated based on the merit of the proposed research by a committee of faculty members in Geography spanning human, geospatial, and physical geography, not including the faculty mentor for the proposal. *The key to a successful proposal is the*

*development of a sound research idea in collaboration with a faculty member.* Evaluation criteria include: creativity, scope, contribution to the field, organization of the proposed work, and the match with the faculty mentor's interests.

### **How to Apply**

Kale Fellowship application forms are or will soon be available at <http://www.k-state.edu/geography/academics/forms.html>.

#### **Required items for application to be a Kale Undergraduate Fellow include:**

1. Some background information about yourself
2. Any permits necessary to conduct the research
3. A short research proposal including:
  - a. a title
  - b. a one sentence overview of the proposed research
  - c. a 500-word description of the proposed research
  - d. a 500-word description of your interests and qualifications for the project, and
  - e. a timeline of proposed activities
4. Approval and signature of your faculty mentor

Send a single pdf of the above documents to: Dr. Kate Nelson, [ksnelson@ksu.edu](mailto:ksnelson@ksu.edu), by **5 pm, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. Please contact Dr. Nelson with any questions about the Fellowship.