

Megha Parajulee SONE Student Award for Academic Excellence

The purpose of the “Megha Parajulee SONE Student Award for Academic Excellence” is to encourage **Students of Nepalese Origin** who are currently working on their graduate programs in **Entomology abroad** or **any student doing entomology research in Nepal**. The award is named after Dr. Megha Parajulee, professor, Faculty Fellow, and Texas A&M Regents Fellow. He is native of Nepal and the founder of the Society of Nepalese Entomologists (SONE). Dr. Parajulee is an internationally acclaimed leader in cotton entomology research, teaching, and service, with an exemplary record of scientific research, publication, and delivery of pest management technologies to the producer clientele of Texas and beyond.

The award, consisting of \$200 and an inscribed plaque, will be presented at the SONE-Organized Meeting during the Annual ESA Meeting annually.

Eligibility:

All students using arthropods to study any aspect of insect biology/ecology, applied physiology, biochemistry, or molecular biology, applied pest management, toxicology, and or taxonomy and systematics in the broadest sense for their master's or doctoral research (or have completed the degree within the last 12 months preceding) are eligible to apply. The applicant does not have to present a paper at the SONE-Symposium in order to receive the award but is encouraged to participate in graduate student presentation at the Annual ESA meeting. A student may re-apply, but preference will be given to those who have not received the award previously. The applicant must be either of the Nepalese origin or any student doing entomology research in Nepal. The student should be a member of the Society of Nepalese Overseas Entomologists at the time of application. Contact Binita Shrestha (SONE treasurer) for membership renewal (\$10 fee/per year) prior to your application packets submission (email: bini.stha06@gmail.com).

Submit a Nominee:

All nomination packages must be submitted electronically. The complete nomination package can be emailed to the Megha Parajulee SONE Student Award for Academic Excellence selection committee in the following email addresses, sangautam@ucanr.edu (Dr. Sandipa Gautam, Chair), jrijal@ucdavis.edu (Dr. Jhalendra Rijal, Member) and govinda.shrestha@oregonstate.edu (Dr. Govinda Shrestha, Member) according to the following specifications:

- Page Limits - The entire nomination package must not exceed 20 pages in total. This includes letters of nomination and/or recommendation and publication lists.
- Letters of nomination and/or recommendations must be included in the electronic package.
- Only the files in PDF formats will be accepted. Please make a combined PDF of all the required documents and email the nomination file as a single file. Please make sure scanned images can be clearly read on a computer screen.
- Font size for text may not be smaller than 12 point.

Nomination Requirements:

Nominations may be made by anyone including self-nominations. Nomination packages for this award must include:

CV-Related Items

- Name of the student nominated as it appears on official records
- Student's email address, local address, and phone number
- Degree to be received and major area of study/specialization
- Name of student's research advisor
- Resume/CV (5 pages including publication list, single spaced, 1 in. margins, 12 pt. font)
- Unofficial/official copy of the graduate transcript
- Student - authored research project description (2 pages, double spaced, 1 inch margins, 12 pt. font)
 - Title
 - Focus of research or definition of research problem
 - Methodology employed
 - Results
 - Contributions to present state of knowledge and implications for future research
 - Publications resulting from the research (if applicable)

Other Items

- A nomination letter describing the eligibility for the award.
- A supporting letter. This letter could be written by student's major advisor or other faculty members and should address the nominee's research skills and accomplishments. Faculty members/Advisor may send their letter directly to committee if student wish to self nominate.

Evaluation Criteria:

Nominees/candidates will be judged using the following criteria for a total of 50 points:

1. Academic credentials (GPA and the number of credits completed) (10)
2. Topic or areas of thesis research based on statement of research summary (10)
3. Presentations/Publications (10)
4. Recommendation (10)
5. Services on professional societies including SONE or future commitment for contribution (10)

Deadline:

Nomination packages must be received by Megha Parajulee SONE Student Award for Academic Excellence selection committee by **October 2, 2020, 11:59 PM PT**.

Re-nomination:

Any candidate nominated, but not selected, may be re-nominated no more than two times within the two years after his/her initial submission. Re-nomination packages will be retained for two years by the awards administrator. Nominators must send a letter of re-nomination to the Megha Parajulee SONE Student Award for Academic Excellence selection committee by the deadline above. Previously submitted documentation will be used for the evaluation process unless the nominator submits new or updated documents.

Notification:

The "Megha Parajulee SONE Student Award for Academic Excellence" award will be announced and presented during SONE Organised meeting at ESA meeting in November.