

Dr. Donald Baxter Scholarships for Global Food Security
(Scholarships in Food and Nutrition Research)
Graduate Scholarship Application

The Award

The Dr. Donald Baxter Scholarships for Global Food Security (Scholarships in Food and Nutrition Research) was established through a very generous \$1M endowment from Dr. Patrick Man Pan Yuen, MD, FRCP(C) – an alumnus from the University of Saskatchewan’s College of Medicine, class of 1964 – and an annual matching contribution of \$40,000 for 25 years from the Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS).

The Baxter Scholarships are intended to reward achievement and to recognize graduate students from the People’s Republic of China and Hong Kong involved in research and study in any pertinent academic department of the University of Saskatchewan provided that the student’s primary supervisor is a GIFS member or associate member. The Baxter Scholarships may be of interest to students in a variety of disciplines, including Agri-Food Policy, Food, Health and Nutrition, Genomic Sciences and Biotechnology, Agronomy, Chemistry, Plant Sciences, Soil Sciences, etc.

In each of the 2017-18 and 2018-19 academic years, there will be one scholarship of \$40,000 awarded. Beginning in 2019-20 and continuing for 22 more years, there will be two scholarships of \$40,000 each awarded.

Eligibility

1. The student must be registered full time in a graduate degree program or have been recommended for admission to a graduate degree program in the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at the University of Saskatchewan.
2. The student’s primary supervisor must be a [member or associate member](#) of the Global Institute for Food Security at the University of Saskatchewan.
3. The student must have a minimum entrance average of 80%.
4. The student must be a citizen of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) or Hong Kong.
5. Master’s students are eligible to hold this scholarship for a maximum of two years, if they meet the renewal criteria.
6. PhD students are eligible to hold this scholarship for a maximum of four years, if they meet the renewal criteria.
7. A student who receives the scholarship as a Master’s student and transfers to a PhD program is eligible to hold the scholarship for a maximum of four years, if they meet the renewal criteria.
8. A student who receives the scholarship as a Master’s student, completes their Master’s program, and applies for a PhD program is eligible to re-apply for the scholarship but can hold the scholarship for a maximum of four years in total, if they meet the renewal criteria.

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9. In order to be eligible for renewal of their scholarship, the student must remain in full-time studies, must maintain good academic standing and an average of 80%, continue in a program as identified above, continue to have their primary supervisor be a member or associate member of the Global Institute for Food Security, and uphold the spirit of the award.

Annually, the student must submit to the Chair of the Awards Committee a one-page report describing their research progress. The Awards Committee must also receive a letter from the Chair of the student's Advisory Committee stating the unanimous recommendation of that committee for renewal of the student's award.

Application Process

For the 2018-2019 academic year, applications must be received by August 31, 2018 at 5:00 pm CST.

Completed applications and accompanying documents must be submitted to:

The University of Saskatchewan
College of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies
Room 116, Thorvaldson Building
110 Science Place
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5C9
E-mail: gradstudies.awards@usask.ca

Important – Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please ensure that you fill out the form completely and provide all required information.

1. Complete the application form. All information must be typed.
2. Include photocopies of official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions that you have attended.
3. You must arrange for two letters of reference from persons familiar with your academic work. The letters must be sealed and submitted directly by the department or referred to the College of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies. Reference letters can be sent confidentially by e-mail to gradstudies.awards@usask.ca. Reference letters from a student's departmental application can be used, as long as they discuss the points given in *Part 5: Instructions for Referees* in this application form.

Letters of Reference are given substantial weight in assessment of research quality and productivity and of performance in classes. Professors that have had sufficient opportunity to assess your potential and who can provide a complete, detailed, and thoughtful analysis of your achievements and scholarly attributes are the most effective referrals.

Letters should support the information in your application, be enthusiastic, and focus on your skills, past achievements, and potential. They should stress strengths and personal attributes, comment on the quality of publication venues, and demonstrate why you are of superior caliber and worthy of an award. Extremely brief or cryptic letters put the student at a disadvantage. Referees are strongly encouraged to read and follow *Part 5: Instructions for Referees* in this application form.



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Part 1: Personal Information

Title	Family Name	Given Name	
Address	City	Province	Postal Code
E-mail Address:		Student Number	

Citizenship status (indicate only one):

- Citizen of PRC Citizen of Hong Kong

Academic Program

Degree program (Master's or PhD): _____

Department or Academic Unit: _____

Name of Supervisor: _____

Program start date (mm/yyyy): _____ Expected completion date (mm/yyyy): _____

Topic of Research: _____

Part 2: Academic Record

Indicate all post-secondary institutions attended and currently attending.

Name of Institution	Location	Start Date (mm/yyyy)	End Date (mm/yyyy)	Degree Program	Degree Conferred (mm/yyyy)

Indicate up to 10 scholarships/awards won, or any government or outside funding held.

Name of Scholarship/Award or Source of Funding	Start Date (mm/yyyy)	End Date (mm/yyyy)	Value



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Part 3: Outline of Proposed Research

Outline your proposed research – maximum 500 words typed. Limit the outline to this page. You may attach one additional page for a bibliography (any other pages will be removed).

Program proposals should demonstrate evidence of solid and wide knowledge of the discipline and **must be written by the student, not the supervisor**. The most effective proposals are clear, concise, and coherent, yet demonstrate a clear, focused approach, explaining how the research would advance the discipline. Write in plain language. Proposals should be understandable not only to people within the field but also to a general audience.



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Part 4: Contributions to Research and Development

Attach a list of your contributions to research and/or scholarly work for which you are the principle author or a co-author.

Contributions must be organized into categories, possibly including, but not limited to, refereed journal articles, articles in refereed conference proceedings, conference presentations/abstracts, technical/government reports, exhibitions, performances, etc. For refereed publications, please indicate whether the work is published, in press, or accepted. Do not list work that is "in preparation".

Do not list reports/presentations that were used to satisfy the requirements of a course.

Check if this section is not applicable.

Declaration: I certify that the information furnished in this application is true and complete in all respects and that no relevant information has been withheld.

Signature

Date

Part 5: Instructions for Referees

Provide a detailed letter of reference for the student. Letters of reference are given substantial weight in the assessment of research quality and productivity and of performance in classes. Reference letters from a student's departmental application can be used if they address the points below.

Discuss the following points:

- The length of time and capacity in which you have known the student.
- The student's academic background and preparedness.
- The student's research productivity and/or potential.
- The quality of the venues in which the student's works have been published/presented.
- The student's leadership and interpersonal skills.
- Any other outstanding achievements of the student.

Reference letters can be submitted confidentially by email to the Department of Graduate Awards & Scholarships in the College of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies at gradstudies.awards@usask.ca. Reference letters must be on letterhead (if applicable) and signed by the reference.

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Members and Associate Members of the Global Institute for Food Security
(as of July 2018)

[Dr. Carl Gutwin](#), Professor, Department of Computer Science, College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan

[Dr. Carol Henry](#), Associate Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics; Assistant Dean, Division of Nutrition and Dietetics, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan

[Dr. Brian Ham](#), GIFS Research Chair in Plant Molecular Signaling, GIFS; Professor, Department of Biology, College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan

[Dr. Leon Kochian](#), Canada Excellence Research Chair in Food Systems and Security and Associate Director, GIFS; Professor of Plant Sciences, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, University of Saskatchewan

[Dr. David Natcher](#), Professor and Director of the Indigenous Land Management Institute, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, University of Saskatchewan

[Dr. Michael Nickerson](#), Associate Professor, Department of Food and Bioproduct Sciences, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, University of Saskatchewan; Ministry of Agriculture Strategic Research Chair

[Dr. Isobel Parkin](#), Research Scientist, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Saskatoon; Adjunct Professor, Department of Plant Sciences, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, University of Saskatchewan

[Dr. Peter Phillips](#), Distinguished Professor, Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy; Director, Centre for the Study of Science and Innovation Policy, University of Saskatchewan

[Professor David Schneider](#), GIFS Research Chair in Digital and Computational Agriculture, GIFS; Professor, School of Environment and Sustainability, University of Saskatchewan

[Dr. Tim Sharbel](#), GIFS Research Chair in Seed Biology, GIFS; Professor, Department of Plant Sciences, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, University of Saskatchewan

[Dr. Stuart Smyth](#), Assistant Professor, Industry-Funded Research Chair in Agri-Food Innovation, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, University of Saskatchewan

[Dr. Albert Vandenberg](#), Professor, Plant Sciences and Crop Development Centre, College of Agriculture and Resources; NSERC Industrial Research Chair, University of Saskatchewan