The purpose of this Fund is to provide travel & attendance support to professional meetings for graduate students in Biology (or Zoology as long as it is in existence), with preference to students studying Ornithology at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa College of Natural Sciences. Funds shall be used for costs associated with professional meeting attendance (e.g. registration, travel, and lodging).

Eligibility and Selection Criteria
1. Recipients must be full-time graduate students majoring in Biology (or Zoology) at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa College of Natural Sciences who are attending a professional meeting.
2. Recipients must be presenting a paper or poster at a professional meeting.
3. First preference shall be given to those studying ornithology.
4. Second preference shall be given to those studying general natural resources conservation and management.

Application
The following items must be included in the application:
1. A statement about the proposed value of the meeting, e.g. whether it is organized by a professional society, whether it is regional or national
2. The abstract of the paper or poster to be presented.
3. A receipt from the organizers of the meeting accepting the abstract. If this statement is not available at the time of the application, it may be handed in after the fact. It is understood that release of funds will be contingent upon acceptance of the abstract.
4. A travel itinerary and itemized budget for the request
5. A letter of support from the applicant’s advisor evaluating the importance of the proposed conference/meeting, its significance in the progression of the applicant towards a degree, and a commitment for supplemental support, if applicable.
6. A curriculum vitae that includes previous support received from intramural and extramural sources.

The recipient will be selected by a committee appointed by the Chair of the Department of Biology based on the standing and progress of the applicant towards a degree, the significance of the meeting, and the commitment of the mentor.

Deadline:
Applications and supporting letters must be submitted electronically to Dr. H. Gert de Couet, Department of Biology, University of Hawai‘i at Manoa (couet@hawaii.edu). The selection committee will meet in late November to review applications received by November 13, 2015. Applications submitted after that date may be considered on a continuing basis if not enough competitive applications are received by the deadline. Applicants are encouraged to inquire before submitting a late proposal.

Notification
The amount of the award will be determined by the selection committee based on the availability of funds. The award will be announced in early January 2016 and funds will be made available shortly thereafter.