

THE HERPETOLOGISTS' LEAGUE GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

CALL FOR COMPETITORS

The Herpetologists' League is pleased to announce the 2021 competition for The Herpetologists' League Graduate Research Award (HLGRA). If you are a M.S. or Ph.D. student who has a completed/nearly completed thesis or dissertation (vs. preliminary results or a side project), then the HLGRA selection committee invites you to consider competing for this prestigious award.

To participate, you must (1) be a member of The Herpetologists' League, (2) be a current graduate student or have completed your graduate degree within 14 months of your presentation, (3) submit an abstract (as the first author and having done the majority of the work) for the 2021 Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (JMIH) indicating your desire to compete for the Herpetologists' League Graduate Research Award, (4) submit a brief synopsis highlighting the broader relevance of your work to the committee (detailed below), and (5) give the oral presentation at the meeting. Your presentation should be well-organized, set within a broader conceptual framework, and well-rehearsed (i.e., honed by practice and critical feedback from your advisor and others). **The student with the top-ranked presentation will receive \$750, ten years of back issues of *Herpetologica*, and an invitation to submit a manuscript based on the work presented to *Herpetologica* or *Herpetological Monographs*. The Herpetologists' League will commit to publishing this manuscript (following a successful peer-review process) as the lead paper in an issue and will identify the first author as the winner of the Herpetologists' League Graduate Research Award.** The committee may also be able to award second- through fifth-ranked presentations to students who will receive \$250 each. All competitors will receive evaluations and constructive feedback from the judges after the meeting.

Brief Synopsis: Potential competitors must submit a *brief* synopsis highlighting the broader relevance of their work to be considered for this competition. Your synopsis must be written in 12-point font and should not exceed one-half of a single-spaced page (2.5 cm margins). Please ensure your synopsis clearly addresses two points: (1) the broader conceptual framework of your project and (2) the implications of your findings, particularly within that context (2 or 3 statements per point will suffice). You are more than welcome to pull statements and/or content directly from your JMIH abstract to use in your synopsis (no need to reinvent the wheel here!). Submit your completed synopsis as a PDF (please title the document: ‘Last name HLGRA.pdf’) via email to the chair of the HLGRA committee (see below) by **May 20, 2021 (11:59 PM EST)**. A maximum of 10 submissions that meet all competition requirements and are deemed to be among the most competitive will be selected for inclusion in the 2021 competition. Those selected for the competition will be notified via email.

For further information or questions concerning The Herpetologists’ League Graduate Research Award, contact Matt Lattanzio, Department of Organismal and Environmental Biology, Christopher Newport University, 1 Avenue of the Arts, Newport News, Virginia, 23606; (757)-594-7044; matthew.lattanzio@cnu.edu.