Application form and announcement of

**The Gary and Sylvia Emberger Research Scholarship**

The Department of Biological Sciences and the Nutrition and Dietetics Program and Messiah University are pleased to announce a research scholarship to be given to a qualified student from Biological Sciences or Nutrition and Dietetics. The scholarship is in honor of Gary and Sylvia Emberger. Gary and Sylvia were associated with Messiah University’s departments of Biological Sciences, and Nutrition and Dietetics, respectively, throughout their working careers. At Messiah, Gary taught a variety of plant science courses in the Biological Sciences Department from 1981 to 2018, was department chair for a number of years, and studied fungi growing on wood. Sylvia was a lab instructor for chemistry and biology courses. She then embarked on a second career and completed coursework at Messiah to become a Registered Dietitian, worked in a variety of settings including The Hershey Company, Messiah Village and Giant Food Stores/Ahold USA, and taught in the Nutrition and Dietetics Department as an adjunct instructor following her retirement. Because they consider their long association with Messiah University to be a great blessing and in recognition of the value of a Messiah University education and the importance of undergraduate research in preparing students for careers in science, this scholarship is offered to support faculty-mentored undergraduate research for the benefit of students desiring careers in the biological sciences or nutrition and dietetics.

**Description**

Students from the Biological Sciences or Nutrition and Dietetics are invited to submit research proposals during the spring semester of each year. The goal is to announce the winners by mid- April. The research must be conducted for two semesters, during the time of the scholarship. Research settings may include Senior Research, Department and University Honors or Independent Study. All proposals must be sponsored by a Messiah University faculty member. The academic year scholarship is granted at $500-$600 per semester. The second semester’s grant is contingent on the first semester’s performance. It is understood that the work of the second semester will be a continuation of research started in the first semester. The scholarship is renewable for a second-year but the student must reapply with no preference given to current scholarship recipients.

At the end of the research experience, the student will present the results in a written paper and in a seminar setting to an audience of students and faculty during the School of Science, Engineering, and Health Symposium.

**Eligibility and Selection Criteria**

Awards will be made subject to the following guidelines and conditions:

1. Applicant must be a current full-time sophomore, junior or senior in the Department of Biological Sciences or a Nutrition and Dietetics major in the Department of Health, Nutrition and Exercise Science during the time of the award.
2. Minimum GPA of 3.0 in the major.
3. Preference is given to students intending to pursue research in graduate school or other settings. Projects must involve research with plants or fungi.
4. Applicant should have taken an appropriate Research Methods course, or equivalent content, prior to or concurrent with submitting an application.
5. Applicants need to submit a one-page description of the proposed research project and include a statement of support from the faculty mentor.
6. Research is to be completed through enrollment in appropriate mentored research courses for two semesters culminating with a research presentation at the School of Science, Engineering and Health Research Symposium.
7. Scholarship will be awarded per semester to guarantee a full year of research. Scholarship is renewable for a second year but the student must reapply, with no preference given to the current scholarship recipient(s).
8. Funds are intended to be in addition to any financial aid package awarded to the student.

**Research Proposal Format and Guidelines**

1. Researching and writing the proposal is the student’s responsibility. Although you must obtain the sponsorship of a faculty member(s) within your department of study, the faculty member (or off-campus research mentor) is not to edit or revise your proposal. You may, of course, talk with faculty members and others to help clarify your thoughts, solicit ideas, and obtain suggestions for research methodology.

2. The proposal should include an introduction to the general nature of the research you wish to pursue and a statement of the specific research question you have in mind.

3. List all equipment, materials, methods, and resources required for the project. Indicate the current availability of these resources in the department, specify the research setting (an on-campus lab, specific field sites, an off-campus lab).

4. Include some references to pertinent literature.

5. The proposal should be typed, double-spaced, and no longer than 1000 words exclusive of citations.

6. Include a brief statement of support from your on or off-campus research mentor. The statement should include an affirmation to provide resources as per #3 above.

**Application Information**

1.Name Click here to enter text. 2.ID No. Click here to enter text. 3.Major Click here to enter text.

4.Major GPA Click here to enter text. 5.Advisor Click here to enter text.

6.Sponsoring Messiah University faculty member(s) Click here to enter text.

7.Name and institution of off-campus (if applicable) research mentor(s) Click here to enter text.

8.Class standing (So., Jr.) Click here to enter text.

9.Phone Click here to enter text.

10.Timeline of the research.

11.Write a brief statement of your professional goals:

12.Attach your research proposal to this form and submit it to the office of the Dean of Science, Engineering and Health in Jordan 157 or by email to schoolofseh@messiah.edu no later than **March 18, 2024**.