**MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY**

**ERNST MAYR TRAVEL GRANTS IN ANIMAL SYSTEMATICS**

**Description:**

The Museum of Comparative Zoology ([MCZ](http://www.mcz.harvard.edu)) at Harvard University periodically awards travel grants for research in animal systematics, known as the Ernst Mayr Grants. The principal objective of these grants is to stimulate taxonomic work on neglected taxa. These include taxa with numerous poorly described species; genera and families known to have many undescribed species in institutional collections; taxa for which it is unknown what proportion of the nominal species are synonyms; and difficult genera without keys. It is not the aim of these grants to support largely phylogenetic studies of taxa in which the species are reasonably well known, or to support biogeographic studies. The study of type specimens and their correct identification is the greatest need in poorly known taxa. This typically requires visits to other museums, which is what the Ernst Mayr Grants program tries to facilitate. Preference is given to studies that use the MCZ's collections, although applications to work at other museums will be considered. There is enough demand for this support for taxonomic work to make it impossible to also support phylogenetic and other evolutionary studies from the Ernst Mayr Grants.

Typical expenses that may be paid from these grants include travel, lodging, and meals for up to a few weeks while conducting research at the museum(s), reasonable services purchased from the host institution, and research supplies. Awards average about $1,000 each and may not exceed $1,500.

All applicants must complete a standard application form. Applications must be well written in English and include the following components: concise project description, explicit statement of research goals, travel itinerary, budget, curriculum vitae, two letters of support, and a letter or email from each collection to be visited acknowledging the project and confirming the availability of specimens and/or other resources needed to complete it. Letters of support may be submitted separately, but they must clearly state the name of the applicant.

To submit your completed application form via email, download the form and change the file name to your own and click "Save." Send the saved document to [mczfunding@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:mczfunding@fas.harvard.edu) as an email attachment.

**Deadlines:** Proposals are reviewed twice a year; application deadlines are **15 October** and **1 April**. Awards typically will be announced within two months following the application deadline. Each grantee is required to submit a written report summarizing the scientific accomplishments achieved with the award within one month of travel completion.

**Questions:** Please direct all inquiries to [mczfunding@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:mczfunding@fas.harvard.edu) or (617) 495-2460

**ERNST MAYR TRAVEL GRANTS IN ANIMAL SYSTEMATICS**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name (last, first, MI) |  |
| Current Academic Position  (student, postdoc, faculty, etc.) |  |
| Academic Institution |  |
| Email address |  |
| Phone |  |
| Mailing Address |  |
| Citizenship  (also provide visa status/number if applicable) |  |

**PROPOSAL INFORMATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project Title |  |
| Institution to be visited |  |
| Total Funds Requested |  |

**PREVIOUS ERNST MAYR GRANTS**

(Previous Ernst Mayr Grant recipients are required to submit a brief report resulting from his/her research to the MCZ prior to applying for additional funding)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Have you applied for an Ernst Mayr Grant in the past? If so, please provide the year you applied and the project title. |  |
| If you have received an Ernst Mayr Grant, have you submitted a report to the MCZ? |  |

**ERNST MAYR TRAVEL GRANTS IN ANIMAL SYSTEMATICS**

***PROJECT DESCRIPTION***

Name (last, first, MI): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Provide a clear and concise project description. Attach pages separately, if you wish, but please do NOT exceed 2 pages. State the project’s specific goals in relation to the Ernst Mayr Travel Grants program, including expected results and travel itinerary.

**ERNST MAYR TRAVEL GRANTS IN ANIMAL SYSTEMATICS**

***BUDGET***

Name (last, first, MI): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Eligible expenses include the cost of travel, lodging and meals, plus limited funds for research expenses and museum fees.

**TRAVEL EXPENSES:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Item: | Cost: |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Total travel expenses: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Amount requested from Ernst Mayr Travel Grants program: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**If amount requested is lower than total travel expenses, specify source(s) of additional support:**

**ERNST MAYR TRAVEL GRANTS IN ANIMAL SYSTEMATICS**

***LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION***

Name (last, first, MI): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please list the name and contact information (email addresses, phone numbers, or mailing address) for 3 referees who have agreed to provide letter of recommendation.

Letters of recommendation may be submitted separately or by the applicant, but must be received by the application deadline.

1)

2)

3)

**ERNST MAYR TRAVEL GRANTS IN ANIMAL SYSTEMATICS**

***CURRICULUM VITAE***

Name (last, first, MI): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Attach a **brief (two page)** CV that includes the following information, if applicable.

1. **Professional preparation** (indicate degrees, dates and awarding institutions)

Example: PhD, 2006, Harvard University

1. **Appointments**

Example: Teaching assistant. Harvard University, 2005-06

1. **Relevant publications** (list up to 5 publications relevant to the proposed research; do not include conference abstracts)

Example:

Mayr, E. 1985. Darwin and the definition of phylogeny. *Systematic Zoology* 34: 97-98

Mayr, E. 1969. *Principles of Systematic Zoology.* 428 pp. McGraw-Hill, New York, NY.

1. **Other relevant publications/conference abstracts** (5 maximum)
2. **Conferences attended** (list up to 5 most recent)
3. **Membership in scientific societies**
4. **Synergistic activities** (e.g., conference/meeting organizer, editorial and referee activities, course development, etc.)

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST:**

Applicant Information (page 2 of application)

Project Description (1-2 pages maximum)

Budget (page 4 of application)

Referees (page 5 of application)

Curriculum vitae (1-2 pages maximum)

Letter from collection(s) to be visited