2017 Giles T. Brown Outstanding Thesis Award

The Office of Graduate Studies is pleased to announce the **2017 Giles T. Brown Outstanding Thesis Award Competition**. The 2017 award consists of an engraved plaque and a $1,000 check to the recipient, presented at the 2017 Honors Convocation in May. The recipient’s thesis will also be forwarded to the WAGS /UMI Distinguished Master’s Thesis Award competition for the opportunity to win an additional $1,000 and travel expenses to receive the award at the association’s annual meeting.

**Nominations from all Colleges are due at the Office of Graduate Studies (MH-112) no later than 5PM on Friday, March 3, 2017 to Sonya Felton. Each College may submit ONLY ONE nomination for the award. Incomplete or late nominations will not be considered.**

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

This award recognizes distinguished scholarly achievement at the master’s level. Nominations will be accepted in any discipline in which the College offers a master’s degree. If a discipline offers both a thesis and project option, only the thesis option is acceptable for consideration. **Competition is open to any student completing a thesis for May 2016, August 2016, or January 2017 graduation.**

**NOMINATION GUIDELINES - GILES T. BROWN OUTSTANDING THESIS AWARD**

1. Nomination materials required include:
   a. Four unbound color copies of the thesis with the signed signature page.
   b. Four copies of a non-technical summary, prepared by the student (1,000-1,500 words), describing the research and its significance for a general academic audience of non-specialists.
   c. An original and three copies of nomination letters (4 sets total), from a member of the student’s Thesis Committee, the student’s Department Chair, and the College Dean. The letters should include information regarding the significance of the thesis, the contribution of the thesis to the department’s program, and the impact of the thesis on the knowledge-base of the discipline.
   d. A short biography (between 125-150 words) of the nominee, written by the student. See Biographical Information Guide for full details.
   e. An electronic version of the thesis either emailed to Sonya Felton at sfelton@fullerton.edu or on a flash drive submitted with the nomination materials.

2. All nomination materials must be turned in by the Dean’s Office **no later than 5PM on Friday, March 3, 2017** to Sonya Felton at the **Office of Graduate Studies (MH-112)**. Incomplete or late nominations will not be considered. **Each college may submit ONLY ONE nomination.**

3. Thesis will be judged on the following criteria:
   a. Originality
   b. Significance of the study
   c. Overall quality
   d. Outcomes and accomplishments of the thesis

Giles T. Brown Outstanding Thesis Award questions should be emailed to Sonya Felton at sfelton@fullerton.edu
GILES T. BROWN OUTSTANDING THESIS AWARD
BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION GUIDE

Length: Minimum of 125 words, but not to exceed 150 words.

Items to include within your biography:
- Your name
- Major and year of degree
- Title of your thesis

The following items are applicable for the body of your biography:
- Research, academic interests or projects
- Campus involvements and activities
- Community involvements and activities
- Honors and awards
- Immediate career, educational, or personal plans (please try to place this in your final sentence)

Tense: The statements should be in the third person (she/he), not the first person (I or me).

Deadline: No later than 5 PM on Friday, March 3, 2017.

Name Pronunciation: If your name has difficult or alternative pronunciations, please provide us with the correct preferred pronunciation with your biography.

Contact Information: Include your mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address below the text of your biography.

Three sample biographies:

XXX graduated in August 2015 with a Master’s of Science in Geology. He was awarded the prestigious 2014 Arthur D. Howard Award from the Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division of the Geological Society of America for his thesis proposal. His proposal was chosen from 50+ applicants and he was the first student from a non-PhD granting institution to garner the award. The importance of his work in the Santa Ana Mountain Foothills has been recognized by the local geologic community and he has given presentations to the South Coast Geological Society and the Geological Society of America. He is in the process of writing a substantial paper about his research for publication in the

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Bulletin of the Geological Society of America. He currently works as an Engineering Geologist with GMU Geotechnical in Orange County.

XXX graduated in May 2015 with a Master’s of Science in Kinesiology. While working on her master’s degree, she assisted faculty members conducting older adult balance and fitness evaluations for the Archstone Foundation and for older adults with fibromyalgia. In November 2015 she presented her own thesis research, “The Association between Sensory Impairment and Functional Limitations in Balance in Community-Dwelling Adults,” at the Gerontological Society of America annual conference – the largest and most prestigious conference in the field of aging. Her presentation resulted in multiple invitations to publish her findings in high quality peer-reviewed clinical and scientific journals. She is actively seeking employment as a full-time faculty member at community colleges and hopes to teach courses in relation to older adult fitness, disease prevention, sports injuries, health, and wellness.

XXX graduated in January 2015 with a Master’s of Arts in Geography. He has authored and presented seven papers on multiple research topics, two of which were presented at annual meetings of the Association of American Geographers. His thesis research, “Impacts of Downtown Revitalization on the Homeless: Los Angeles’ Skid Row,” integrated two strands of urban geography, homelessness and revitalization, and explored the conflicts that occur when these two topics compete locally and nationally. He currently teaches at local community colleges and has been accepted by several PhD programs. He would like to examine how to encourage students at the K-12 level to develop a geographic perspective that allows them to recognize the relevance and importance of geography in their daily lives. As an urban geographer, he plans on continuing his research emphasis on societal or educational problems as they affect underserved segments of society.

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