

Dr. Jay R. Harman Undergraduate Scholarship in Geography (\$1000)

Background:

Jay R. Harman spent his entire career on the faculty of the Department of Geography at Michigan State University. In the early phases of his career Harman's research and teaching interests were in physical geography, particularly plant geography (mostly of the eastern United States) and synoptic climatology, and often in some combination. His research was published widely in journals, particularly in the *Annals of the AAG*. He was also a co-author of *The Climatic Atlas of Michigan* (1990) and sole author of *Synoptic Climatology of the Westerlies: Process and Patterns* (1991).

Harman was strongly committed to field instruction and organized fieldtrips to a wide variety of environments in the eastern United States including Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the Ozark-Ouachita Upland in Missouri and Arkansas, the Coastal Plain in northern Florida, and the southern Appalachian Mountains. His favorite was the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (North Carolina/Tennessee), a trip repeated many times over the years from which hundreds of students benefitted. Everyone who went on that trip was touched by the grandeur of the place and Harman's deep affection for it.

During the latter portion of his career, Harman became increasingly interested in philosophical matters, especially epistemology and ethics/morals, particularly as they interfaced with his specialization in the physical environment. He began writing about environmental ethics in scholarly journals and developed a new class on the topic in the 1990s which was taught frequently thereafter to extremely good reviews. Harman also wrote about the state of geography and his concerns for the long-term health of the discipline, exemplified by his papers entitled "Whither Geography?" published in *The Professional Geographer* in 2003 and 2005. His last book was *Collateral Damage: The Imperiled Status of Truth in American Public Discourse and Why It Matters to You* published in 2014. It is a culmination of his work and thought about untruthfulness in American popular political discourse – transmitted by politicians and the media – and reflects on how the public may separate truth from spin.

The Department of Geography in the College of Social Science, or any future successor MSU unit, will select Scholarship recipients according to its policies and procedures. The Recipient(s) will be a junior or senior undergraduate student pursuing a degree in Geography. Preference will be given to students who have a 3.0 grade point average or above. Recipients are normally selected during the Spring semester, with awards to be effective the following Fall semester. The number of awards made in a given year and the amount of the awards will be based upon available Expendable Amounts in that year.

Instructions:

Eligibility: Undergraduate students with a degree program in GEO, minimum cumulative credits of 56, and minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0. **All application materials and letter of recommendation must be e-mailed to Dr. Ryan Shadbolt (shadbolt@msu.edu) by 01 March, 5:00PM ET.**

- (1) Completed application form (see next page).
- (2) A one page (maximum) personal statement explaining how the student's interests align with those of Dr. Harman. A strong application will be one where the student has read at least one paper of Dr. Harman and references it in their statement.
- (3) One letter of recommendation (one page, maximum) from a member of GEO faculty or academic staff e-mailed to Dr. Shadbolt by the deadline. *The student should contact a faculty member at least two weeks prior to the deadline to allow enough time to complete this task.*

Recipients will be invited to attend the annual GEO-GTU Awards Reception, and may be asked to write a letter expressing appreciation to the estate that funds the award.

The application form is on next page —**delete these pages of instructions before submitting your application.**

STUDENT APPLICATION
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Name:	Year at MSU:
E-mail:	Semester/year declared GEO major:
GPA (overall):	Expected graduation date:

GEO Courses (completed & in progress)		Non-GEO Courses (completed & in progress) related to Geography	
Course	Grade	Course	Grade

Add lines if needed.

Related Activities and Relevant Experiences*

**e.g., work, internship and/or volunteer experience(s) that relate to Geography. Participation in GEO Club and/or other comparable organizations/clubs.*

Career Plans:

