



Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)

Young Researchers Award

Call for Proposals

1. Purpose

The GBIF Governing Board has established the Young Researchers Award to foster innovative research and discovery in biodiversity informatics by graduate students who are deploying GBIF-enabled data in master's and doctoral programmes at universities in GBIF Voting and Associate Participant countries¹.

2. Eligibility and Award

Graduate students in a masters or doctoral programme at a university in a GBIF Voting Participant or Associate Participant Country¹ are eligible to submit a proposal to the GBIF Young Researcher Award program. This year, the programme intends to make two awards of **4000 Euros** each, one to a master's student and one to a doctoral student.

3. Proposal Submission

- a. Research proposals must clearly demonstrate how data enabled by GBIF is being incorporated in the work. To understand more about GBIF-enabled data, students should contact their academic advisors, the GBIF national node at the National Biodiversity Data Centre, the GBIF Secretariat or members of the Science Committee.
- b. Graduate students intending to submit a proposal should contact Dr Liam Lysaght (llysaght@biodiversityireland.ie) +353(0) 51 306 240.
- c. Applicants may be a citizen of any country, not necessarily the country of the nominating Participant.
- d. Proposals will be reviewed and prioritised at the national level and will thereafter be submitted to GBIF by the Head of Delegation for Ireland. *No more than two proposals may be submitted by any Head of Delegation.*

4. Content of the application

- A research proposal in English with the following documents all in electronic format:
 - **A Project Description** (a strict 4-page maximum using font size 12) - and a 200 word summary - detailing:
 - (i) the need for the research -
 - (ii) the question(s) being addressed;
 - (iii) **the critical role of GBIF-enabled data in addressing those questions;**
 - (iv) the research scope, plan, methodologies and timetable

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¹ <http://www.gbif.org/governance/governing-board/current-participants/>

- **A Budget** (1 page), itemised and justified; NOTE: budgetary items are restricted to academic fees, essential equipment, supplies (e.g., hardware, software) and travel; salary support is not permitted.
- **Literature Cited** (1 page)
- The applicant's curriculum vitae including full contact information at your home institution.

Accompanying document to the proposal:

- An official letter from the student's faculty mentor/supervisor certifying that the applicant is a student in good standing in the graduate programme of the university.
- At least one, and no more than three, letters of support from faculty members active in a field that encompasses and incorporates biodiversity informatics² (e.g., genetic, species, ecological, biosystematics, etc).

5. Deadline for national submission of applications:

1st March 2013

Applications to be sent to: *Dr.Liam Lysaght,
National Biodiversity Data Centre,
Carriganore,
WIT West Campus,
Co. Waterford,
Ireland.
E-mail: llysaght@biodiversityireland.ie*

6. Nomination package to be sent to the GBIF Secretariat

After a review of proposals Heads of Delegations to forward the two selected applications fulfilling the criteria under item 3 to the Secretariat by 15 March 2013 as candidates for the final selection.

Proposal Review and Award

- a. The GBIF Science Committee³ will review received nominations and adjudicate the Young Researchers Awards by May 2013, with announcement of the awardees at the Governing Board meeting in October 2013 in Colombia.
- b. Review criteria for the proposed research include: its originality and innovation; its use of and strategic significance for GBIF- enabled data and its measureable effectiveness and impact in advancing biodiversity informatics.
- c. Declined proposals may be revised and re-submitted in subsequent competitions for the Young Researcher Award.
- d. Awardees are expected to disseminate research results via peer-reviewed publications, presentations at professional meetings, and other media, citing GBIF support.

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² http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodiversity_Informatics

³ <http://www.gbif.org/communications/directory-of-contacts/science-committee/>