***Brent Ruby “Outside of the Lab” Award***

The Southwest Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine is proud to announce the Brent Ruby Award. This “Outside of the Lab” award provides undergraduate and/or graduate students funding to present research data collected outside of a traditional laboratory setting at the SWACSM annual meeting.

Dr. Brent Ruby began attending and presenting at the Southwest American College of Sports Medicine as doctoral student at the University of New Mexico. In 1994, Dr. Ruby obtained a Ph.D. in exercise science and joined the faculty of the University of Montana in the Department of Health and Human Performance. He currently serves as the Director of the Montana Center for Work Physiology and Exercise Metabolism. Research conducted at the center includes understanding skeletal muscle interaction with environmental stress during exercise and recovery, implications of high-altitude operations, heat stress injury risk profiling and reduction, and understanding the limits of human work during ultra-endurance events. Dr. Ruby has worked most closely with the U.S. Forest Service and wildland firefighters. Associated with this work, he has written a children’s book, “Wrango and Banjo: on the Fireline”, which is the story of a unique fire crew tangling with wildfires in Glacier National Park and near Missoula’s Mt. Jumbo. Other collaborations include the U.S. Army Research Institute for Environmental Medicine, Air Force Research Laboratories, the Office of Naval Research, U.S. Special Operations Command, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, and DARPA (Defense Army Research Projects Agency).

Awards will be distributed in amounts up to $500 to assist students with presenting their research at the SWACSM conference. Winners will be notified on or before Saturday, September 30th, 2023, and will be presented their award during the conference awards ceremony on Saturday, October 30th, 2023.

All winners will be required to submit a written post-award reflection to the SWACSM Board that addresses the following prompt: How did the grant and presentation experience inspire designs for field-oriented research to be conducted outside of the laboratory?

Eligibility criteria and application submission guidelines are outlined below. Please read carefully prior to initiating an application.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

1) Research submitted for consideration must have been collected outside of a traditional laboratory setting.

2) Research submitted for consideration should be submitted either as an expanded abstract for the student research competition or as a general research abstract.

3) The student submitting research for consideration must be a SWACSM member\* (\*Note: All students that register for the SWACSM annual meeting will receive a complimentary SWACSM membership. Students applying for the grant are NOT required to join before conference registration.)

4) Research submitted for consideration must have been conducted while enrolled as an undergraduate, masters, or doctoral student (post-doctoral scholars are welcome to apply if they meet the other criteria).

5) Commitment to attend both days of the annual meeting (Friday, 10/29/2023 and Saturday, 10/30/2023).

Students are limited to one SWACSM monetary award per year. Although students who apply for the ***Brent Ruby “Get Outside of the Lab” Award*** may also apply for the Travel Grant and/or Student Research Award, a student cannot be awarded more than one award per year.

﻿ALL application components must be submitted by **Friday, September 15th, 2023 at 5pm PDT**.

All application components should be uploaded online as part of the application form linked [here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1DcV3Q3tYrLNPmuupdfhywrc3gWBmxcWvjLYoWrAMgG4/edit).

Application Components:

1) Personal Statement: 300-500 word statement that a) summarizes your involvement in the research, b) summarizes the methodology, results, and conclusions, c) describes how your experience collecting aspects of the data outside of a traditional laboratory setting has impacted your view of research, career plans, and how attending the regional meeting will help assist you in reaching your career goals

2) Current resume

3) Estimated travel budget

4)Faculty letter of support: Faculty letters should confirm the student status of the applicant and 1) summarize the student’s involvement in the research project, and 2) acknowledge that aspects of the study were conducted outside of the traditional laboratory setting. Faculty letters should be submitted by **Friday, September 15th at 5pm PDT via email to SWACSM Member-at-Large James Navalta, PhD (**[**james.navalta@unlv.edu**](mailto:james.navalta@unlv.edu)**).**

Any questions can be directed to any member of the Abstracts and Awards Committee:

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