

## SEYMOUR FOGEL ENDOWMENT FUND FOR GENETIC AND GENOMIC RESEARCH

Seymour Fogel bequeathed a portion of his estate, about \$185,000, to the Queens College Biology Department to be used for “faculty and Ph.D. level research in fungal genetics.” In an effort to broaden the impact of Sy’s generous bequest, the Biology Department established an endowment fund in Sy’s name. The Department uses the funds generated by the Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund to support the Department’s research activities while staying within the limits set by the bequest. In September 2009, the Biology Department expanded the types of projects funded by the Fogel Endowment Fund to “faculty and Ph.D. level research in genetics and genomics, particularly research with model genetic organisms” (as defined by the Genetics Society of America, <http://www.genetics-gsa.org/>).

Seymour Fogel was an internationally recognized investigator of one of the most fundamental genetics processes – recombination. His groundbreaking research used *Saccharomyces* and molecular genetic analytical techniques to investigate the phenomenon known as gene conversion. His research uncovered many of the underlying molecular mechanisms of recombination and repair and impacted our understanding of recombination and repair in organisms from bacteria to humans. At heart, Sy was a geneticist and during his long career he was an active participant in the international genetic community supporting research with model genetic organisms, particularly maize and yeast. He always worked at the cutting edge of his field and was never afraid to move with the times into new areas of discovery using the newest techniques.

Seymour Fogel had a long history with Queens College. He grew up in Middle Village, a nearby community in the borough of Queens, and entered Queens College when it first opened its doors in 1937. He graduated in 1941, our first graduating class, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and was honored with the Biology Scholars Award. After completing his doctoral work on maize genetics at the Graduate School of the University of Missouri at Columbia in 1946, Sy returned to Queens College where he taught as an Instructor until joining the faculty of Brooklyn College in 1950. It was during his undergraduate studies at Queens College that Sy is said to have developed his love of genetics. Moreover, during his time as a member of the faculty of Brooklyn College and the Graduate School of CUNY, Sy was a strong supporter of research and doctoral studies. From 1969 to 1980, Sy Fogel served as chair of the University of California – Berkeley Genetics Department where he continued his research until shortly before his death in 1993.

The Queens College Foundation administers the Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund and the Biology Department is responsible for the distribution of the interest generated by the Fogel Endowment Fund. A 5-membered Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund Advisory Committee, acting under the guidance of the Biology Department, oversees the projects and programs supported by the Fogel Endowment Fund. The members of the Advisory Committee are selected by the Chair of Biology, all of whom are to be active researchers in the areas of genetics and/or genomics, particularly of model organisms. The Biology Department’s goal is to

utilize the interest from this endowment in support of genetic and genomic research in a manner that honors Seymour Fogel's memory.

**The funds are used for the following:**

- research awards to faculty and doctoral students in support of genetic and/or genomic research projects or for projects to develop new genetic and/or genomic tools;
- travel awards to faculty and doctoral students to present genetic and/or genomic research at scientific conferences or to obtain training in genetics or genomic techniques;
- dissertation year awards to doctoral students carrying out research in genetics and/or genomics to offset thesis expenses or for career-related travel;
- travel expenses and honoraria for Biology Colloquium speakers reporting on their genetic and/or genomic research at Queens College;
- travel and other expenses for a Fogel Lecture or symposia on special topics in the areas of genetics and/or genomics;
- supplemental funding of publication costs for journal articles on genetic and/or genomic research;
- emergency awards to funded genetic and/or genomic researchers for items such as equipment repairs.

The Seymour Fogel Endowment Committee will confer to determine the total amount of available funds for distribution to the different categories of awards, with the approval of the Biology P&B. The application process for the research, travel, and dissertation awards is described below.

**FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD PROGRAM OF THE SEYMOUR FOGEL ENDOWMENT FUND**

- **Purpose:** To support faculty research using genetic and/or genomic analytical tools or for projects to develop new genetic and/or genomic tools.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must be a Queens College faculty member with less than \$25,000 in unencumbered extramural funding. Faculty who received an award in the past year are not eligible.
- **Application:** Combine 2-page CV (NSF or NIH format), proposal, budget, and justification into one PDF for submission. If the faculty member has previously received funding, please describe any research products resulting from the funding. Submit the PDF electronically to [john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu) by 11:59pm March 1, 2015. Late proposals will not be considered.
- **Proposal:** The text of the proposal should be a maximum of one typewritten page (single-spaced, 12-point type, 1-inch margins) and include an abstract and a list of specific aim(s) of the project.
- **Budget and Budget Justification:** Each award is a maximum of \$2,500 to be used for supplies and small equipment. No travel or personnel funds are allowed. Specific supplies need not be enumerated. Provide a budget and a brief budget justification

(maximum 1 page). Award funds must be spent within one year from the date of the award notification, unless other arrangements are made with the Fogel Committee.

- **Review:** Applications will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee for the Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund, with the possible assistance of evaluators from outside Queens College and CUNY. The primary judging criteria will be the clarity of the research proposal, the faculty member's past productivity, the impact of the proposed research on the faculty member's ability to acquire extramural funding, the feasibility of the experimental approach, and the justification of the budget request. The Advisory Committee will recommend priority and funding amounts.

#### **FACULTY TRAVEL AWARD PROGRAM OF THE SEYMOUR FOGEL ENDOWMENT FUND**

- **Purpose:** To provide up to a maximum of \$1,000 (depending on cost of travel) for faculty to report on their genetic and genomic research at national or international conferences, to attend a conference focusing on topics in genetics and genomics, or to participate in a course designed to encourage the use of genetic and genomic analytical tools. Of particular interest is research involving genetic model organisms.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must be a Queens College faculty member with less than \$25,000 in unencumbered extramural funding. Faculty who received an award in the past year are not eligible.
- **Application:** Submit your application by email as a single PDF to john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu by March 1, 2015. Late applications will not be considered. The application must include single PDF containing a copy of the meeting/course announcement that states the fees, a copy of your abstract (if submitted) or application form, and a cover letter describing the purpose of the trip and how it relates to genetic and genomic research. Paid receipts must be submitted for reimbursement. Original receipts are requested unless these are to be used for reimbursement from other sources, which must be enumerated when submitting for reimbursement. Award funds must be spent within one year from the date of the award notification, unless other arrangements are made with the Fogel Committee.
- **Review:** Applications will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee for the Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund who will recommend priority and funding. The advisory committee will take into consideration the significance of meeting and level of importance in your professional field, the impact of the travel on the applicant's professional development, and the justification of the expenses.

#### **PH.D. STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD PROGRAM OF THE SEYMOUR FOGEL ENDOWMENT FUND**

- **Purpose:** To support Ph.D. student genetic and/or genomic research or for projects to develop new genetic and/or genomic tools. Students who received an award in the past year are not eligible.
- **Eligibility:** Ph.D. students whose mentor is a Queens College faculty member and is conducting genetics and/or genomics research or developing new genetic and/or genomic tools.

- **Application:** Submit your proposal by email as a PDF to john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu by March 1, 2015. Late proposals will not be considered.
- **Proposal:** To request funding, please submit a one-page application as a PDF that includes the following: (1) one paragraph briefly summarizing your research project, (2) an itemized budget request of up to a maximum \$750 for supplies and services to support your research, and (3) a budget justification including how the grant would impact your research activities. No travel or personnel funds are allowed. The grant application should include the mentor's signature, or be accompanied by an email from the mentor, indicating support of the student's proposal. Award funds must be spent within one year from the date of the award notification, unless other arrangements are made with the Fogel Committee.
- **Review:** Applications will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee for the Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund. The primary judging criteria will be the clarity of the research proposal, the potential impact of funding on the student's progress, the feasibility of the experimental approach, and the justification of the budget in terms of impact on research progress. The Advisory Committee will recommend priority and funding.

#### **PH.D. STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD PROGRAM OF THE SEYMOUR FOGEL ENDOWMENT FUND**

- **Purpose:** To provide up to a maximum of \$500 (based on the cost of the travel) for Ph.D. students to report on their genetic and/or genomic research at national or international conferences, to attend a conference on topics on genetics and/or genomic, or to participate in a course specifically on genetics and/or genomics in order to encourage the use of these tools in doctoral student research.
- **Eligibility:** Ph.D. students whose mentor is a Queens College faculty member and is conducting genetics and/or genomics research or developing new genetic and/or genomic tools.
- **Application:** Submit your application request as a single PDF document by email to john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu by March 1, 2015. Late applications will not be considered. Combine the following documents into a single PDF: a copy of the meeting/course announcement with fees, a copy of your abstract (if submitted) or application form, and a cover letter describing the purpose of the trip, how it relates to genetics and genomics and a statement of how the total costs of the travel will be financed (if the total cost is greater than \$500). Paid receipts must be submitted for reimbursement. Original receipts are requested unless these are to be used for reimbursement from other sources, which must be enumerated when submitting for reimbursement. Award funds must be spent within one year from the date of the award notification, unless other arrangements are made with the Fogel Committee.
- **Review:** Applications will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee for the Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund who will recommend priority and funding. The primary criteria for judging proposals is the expected impact on the student's career prospects. Please address this explicitly in your application.

#### **PH.D. STUDENT DISSERTATION AWARD PROGRAM OF THE SEYMOUR FOGEL ENDOWMENT FUND**

- **Purpose:** To provide to a maximum of \$500 for Ph.D. students doing genetic and/or genomic thesis research. The funds may be used for thesis preparation, to defray the costs of depositing the thesis and binding, and professional advancement, including travel expenses relating to presentations and attendance at scientific meetings or postdoctoral interviews.
- **Eligibility:** Ph.D. students whose mentor is a Queens College faculty member and is conducting genetics and/or genomics research or developing new genetic and/or genomic tools.
- **Application:** Submit your request as a single PDF document to john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu by March 1, 2015. Late applications will not be considered. Include a copy of the abstract from your thesis or from publications/presentations resulting from your thesis and a letter from your thesis mentor indicating that you will be scheduling your Third Exam (thesis defense) within the next 12 months. Students applying for this award are expected to complete all of the requirements for the Ph.D. degree within the current academic year (September 1 to August 31) including the Third Exam. Students may receive this award only once. Award funds must be spent within one year from the date of the award notification, unless other arrangements are made with the Fogel Committee.
- **Review:** Applications will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee for the Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund who will recommend priority and funding. The primary criteria for judging proposals is the expected impact on the student's career prospects.

#### **GENETIC / GENOMIC SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM OF THE SEYMOUR FOGEL ENDOWMENT FUND**

- **Purpose:** To provide seed money to support Queens College based symposia on special topics in genetic and/or genomics.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must be Queens College faculty members.
- **Application:** Application requests are to be emailed to the chair of the Advisory Committee, john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu. There is no specific deadline date for these applications. Include a brief overview of the special topic, its relevance to the fields of genetics and genomics, and provide a tentative outline of the topics and/or speakers. Indicate how much money is needed, estimate costs for specific expenses, and list other resources available.
- **Review:** Applications will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee for the Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund.

#### **PUBLICATION COST AWARD PROGRAM OF THE SEYMOUR FOGEL ENDOWMENT FUND**

Funds are available to supplement the cost of publication of research articles in the areas of genetics and/or genomics to include page charges, submission fees, and other costs. Faculty members with greater than \$25,000 in unencumbered extramural funding are not eligible. It is assumed that the faculty member will have applied to the journal requesting a waiver of the publication costs. Please submit a cover letter including the title, authors, and abstract of the manuscript and attach a copy of the invoice, the editor's response to a waiver request, a

complete description of the funding available to the faculty member, and the amount that the faculty member is able to provide to supplement these publication costs. Requests will be reviewed on a rolling basis by the Advisory Committee of the Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund. Submit your request by email to [john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu).

**EMERGENCY AWARD PROGRAM OF THE SEYMOUR FOGEL ENDOWMENT FUND**

Funds are available to supplement the cost of equipment repairs or other one-time emergency expenses. Faculty members with greater than \$25,000 in unencumbered extramural funding are not eligible. Please submit a cover letter describing the emergency and attached a copy of estimate for the repair, a complete description of the funding available to the faculty member, and the amount that the faculty member is available to the faculty member to address the emergency. Requests will be reviewed on a rolling basis by the Advisory Committee of the Seymour Fogel Endowment Fund. Submit your request electronically to [john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:john.dennehy@qc.cuny.edu).