**Lori and Dr. Bob Luszczak Graduate Scholarship in Biology**

**AWARD CRITERIA**

**Frequency of award**: Annual

**Award amount**: $1,000 (pending Financial Aid eligibility) and a Certificate

**Eligibility:** To support a graduate student in the Department of Biology

 who is working toward a career in some aspect of the discipline.

**Award Background**

Lorraine “Lori” and Robert “Bob” Luszczak have been funding this scholarship since 2013. Bob graduated from CSUN in 1984 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology and earned his dental degree from UCLA in 1990. He did his residency training in hospital dentistry and the treatment of medically compromised patients at the Sepulveda Veterans Administration. Bob has owned White Oak Family Dentistry since 1992 and Lori manages the office. From 1991 until 1996, he was an assistant professor at UCLA School of Dentistry, and spent time at the LA Free Clinic where he received the Dental Volunteer of the Year Award. The Luszczaks have two children and have lived in the neighborhood for more than two decades. They are active members of the CSUN Presidents’ Associates. Bob believes strongly in “giving back.” He was recipient of a $500 Litton Industries scholarship at CSUN when the price of a semester was $99. He encourages all their scholarship recipients to do the same when they can.

**Submission deadline** normally 1 March, but for 2018 noon on Monday 7 May

**Other criteria**:

The winning applicant must:

* be a CSUN Biology graduate student registered in classes at the time of award distribution;
* be classified as a full-time student in good standing;
* should submit a 1-2-page letter (1” margins, 12-point font) describing:
* Personal background
* Why are they interested in biology
* His/her professional goal(s)
* How this scholarship will make a difference to him/her
* Arrange for a letter of support from their thesis advisor
* Include a completed cover form (next page) with the application.

**Nomination Process**

Applications (cover letter and personal letter) should be emailed as a single PDF to biograd.coordinator@csun.edu with the subject line “Luszczak Scholarship”. Letters of support should be emailed separately from the advisor to the biograd.coordinator@csun.edu. Applications received that are incomplete or do not follow instructions will not be accepted.

The winning candidate must (1) meet eligibility criteria through the Financial Aid office and (2) be registered in classes in the academic year the award is distributed.

**Selection Process**

The Graduate Selection Committee consisting of three (3) members of the Biology Department faculty will review the applications and select the recipient. Nomination packets should be forwarded to the Chair of the Scholarship Selection Committee and must include: (1) an unofficial transcript, (2) two nomination letters, and (3) a personal statement. The Scholarship Selection Committee will establish a date by which the awardee must be selected and make the decision on the scholarship recipient.

**Award Notification**

The Graduate Selection Committee Chair sends an award letter or email to the recipient and arranges for the Certificate to be sent to them or presented at the Departmental Awards Ceremony held near the time of spring commencement ceremonies. The Department of Biology confirms the financial aid eligibility of the awardees and arranges to send the eligible award amount to the recipients.

The awardee will not receive the monetary award until: 1) a thank you letter to the donor has been submitted to the College’s Director of Development and 2) the student agrees to meet with the donors at least once during the period of the scholarship. Both of these stipulations will be coordinated through the Director of Development.

**Lori and Dr. Bob Luszczak Graduate Scholarship in Biology**

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student ID:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Graduate Cumulative GPA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Classified Status (circle one): fully classified / conditionally classified

Semester / Year started at CSUN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Projected Graduation Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

List awards/scholarships/grants received as a CSUN graduate student

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