CASP Research Award for Geological Fieldwork 2018-19

CASP is a not-for-profit charitable trust affiliated to the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge. CASP exists to conduct and publish research into regional geology. It does this largely through geological fieldwork and related analytical studies. One of its charitable aims is to promote geological fieldwork. Funding comes entirely by subscription from the oil and gas industry and most of its projects therefore relate to the understanding of hydrocarbon prospectivity in under explored basins.

Development of fieldwork skills has become less well supported in recent years. CASP is therefore offering a series of annual awards specifically to promote fieldwork for geologists who are starting their research careers.

Annually some 5 awards of up to £3,000 each will be given.

Bearing in mind the hydrocarbon focus of our subscribers, examples of relevant research areas include sedimentology, hydrocarbon source rocks, structural geology, stratigraphy, basin analysis, source to sink/ provenance, palaeoecology and stratigraphic palaeontology. All applications must be applied in aspect and fieldwork focused.

The typical applicant will be an undergraduate masters (MSci or MGeol), postgraduate (MSc, MRes, PhD) student or early career researcher within an EU-based institute looking for fieldwork funding for an individual project. The funding will be for the fieldwork element alone and therefore excludes any significant analytical budget and will not include the student’s stipend.

The application should be on the attached form and accompanied by a 1 page CV and the names and contact details of two academic referees. The application should have a clear scientific rationale and address a clearly stated scientific question. It should have specific objectives and deliverables and include a proposed work plan with itemised expenditure. An official letter showing proof of academic status is also required. Successful applicants must complete their fieldwork within a year of receiving their award.

On completion of the project a report will be submitted to CASP. This should be within one academic year of the award being made for a masters student, 1 year after the fieldwork for a PhD student (but no later than the submission of the formal research thesis) and 18 months after fieldwork for an early career researcher. The report will be in the form of a detailed receipted account of expenditure, plus an A0 scientific poster demonstrating the research findings. Successful/selected applicants will also be invited to CASP’s offices to deliver a short talk on their fieldwork results.

Deadline: 1st February 2018. Application to be submitted by email attachment to awards@casp.cam.ac.uk

Further information on CASP can be found at https://www.casp.cam.ac.uk/