

McPherson Eye Research Institute (MERI)
David G. Walsh Research Travel Awards Spring Semester 2018

This spring semester, with funding from *Cycle for Sight* as well as from the *David G. Walsh Research Fellowship Fund*, two *David G. Walsh Research Travel Awards* will be awarded to support graduate students and/or postdoctoral researchers.

All applicants must be involved in McPherson ERI member research programs.

The application process is open to postdoctoral researchers and graduate students currently in training in any McPherson ERI member research lab/program. Two \$1,000 travel awards will be given to attend and present vision-related work at a professional conference/symposium.

- Spring semester applications may be for attending & presenting at a conference/professional meeting between March 2018 and March 2019.

Spring Application Deadline: March 7, 2018

Award recipients notified: by March 20, 2018

Submit completed applications to Gail Stirr via email. (gmstirr@wisc.edu)

Applications will be reviewed by the McPherson ERI Research Committee.

Note: An applicant not selected in the Fall 2017 competition may resubmit for this Spring 2018 competition if the conference/meeting they plan to attend has not already passed.

Applicant Requirements

- graduate student or postdoctoral researcher currently working in a McPherson ERI member's lab/mentored by a McPherson ERI member; OR, status as a Trainee Member of the Institute
- graduate student or postdoctoral researcher must be the primary presenter on a poster or paper being presented at the meeting to be attended

- poster or paper must share vision-related research

** A graduate student is eligible to receive Walsh Travel Awards twice during their years of training, with an interval of two academic years between awards; a postdoctoral researcher is eligible to receive a single award.

** If unable to attend the meeting for which a Walsh Research Travel Award has been awarded, the recipient must notify McPherson ERI administration so that the award can be extended to another deserving applicant. Carryover of an unused award is not allowed.

Please submit the following:

1. Application cover sheet; include signature of your McPherson ERI mentor/advisor
2. Title of poster/paper
3. Presentation abstract (required but supplemental; Research Committee members reviewing these applications come from varied areas of expertise, and will not all be able to understand an abstract written for experts in your field)

4. Two paragraphs**:

a.) describe the significance of this work for vision-related research

b.) describe the potential for broader impacts and interdisciplinarity of this work

****Limit both paragraph responses to a combined total of 2500 characters, including spaces.**

Write these two paragraphs using lay language; avoid using jargon and technical terms that assume common expertise. Referencing the research work you describe in your abstract, make it clear and understandable for readers who are not experts in your area, explaining how/why the work is important in your vision-related context. **Please make your descriptions accessible by writing so that your work is understandable by a general audience. This is a key factor in the judging process.**