



Beth Calabotta Sustainability Grant Criteria

The Beth Calabotta Sustainability Grant was established to help deserving fulltime students interested in science, research and biodiesel sustainability. The National Biodiesel Foundation is seeking endowment grants to establish this grant program. Beth worked more than 25 years at Monsanto in St. Louis, MO as a Chemical Engineer, with increasing responsibilities focused on the development and commercialization of new technologies. Beth completed her tenure at Monsanto in October 2014 as Director & Fellow of Monsanto's Bioenergy Development Program.

The Indirect Land Use Change Theory stated that increasing commodity prices would result in more land put into agriculture production. Beth rejected that theory and made the opposite claim which was "increasing commodity prices" are good for the environment because farmers will be able to optimize production, producing more food per acres which is better for the environment. Based on Beth's work the Foundation and the National Biodiesel Board want to continue building on the idea that adopting innovative technologies and diversifying markets will produce environmental benefits that can be documented through research and data. In addition, Beth's impact while serving on the Foundation board led to soybean-based biodiesel qualifying as an Advance Biofuel in the RFS and reduced the carbon score for soy based biodiesel by 50% and corn ethanol by 30% in the California and Oregon low carbon fuel standards.

The work Beth started at NBF on ILUC has garnered international attention and support as well. NBF has received financial backing from the European Biodiesel Board and FEDIOL, the EU vegetable oil and protein meal industry association, to evaluate and compare GTAP-BIO and European GLOBIOM models. The international collaboration will serve to spread what we have learned about ILUC modeling to the European continent and better inform policy decisions. The European Commission is now reconsidering the data inputs GLOBIOM models used in Europe to predict ILUC impacts.

Beth was an advocate for student development and a supporter of biofuel sustainability. She had an unquenchable love for agriculture and life-sciences. Later in her career, Beth's efforts focused almost solely on the development of biofuels as viable energy alternatives to conventional fuels.

NBF Intent: To create a grant memorializing Beth Calabotta for her lifetime achievements and dedication to biodiesel sustainability and Indirect Land Use Change research while employed by Monsanto.

Grant Purpose: This grant provides financial aid to students studying initiatives that promote or support the use of biodiesel or renewable diesel. A portion of the financial award should be used to cover the recipient's costs to attend and participate in the Biodiesel Sustainability Workshop and related pre-and post-activities. The remaining funds should be applied toward academic expenses.

Applicant Eligibility: Students must be a US citizen, full-time student, and have a minimum GPA of 3.0. The grant is open to both undergraduate (juniors and seniors preferred) and graduate students. An eligible student must describe how his or her studies support the growth of biodiesel or renewable diesel (to be justified by the student). Recipients must attend the Biodiesel Sustainability Workshop, usually held at Monsanto Head Quarters in St. Louis. Recipients are strongly encouraged to become a member of the Next Generation Scientist for Biodiesel (<http://www.biodieselsustainability.com/next-generation-scientists-for-biodiesel/>)

Submission Format: Applications will be submitted online or by email to susan@biodieselfoundation.org. Online applications are preferred.

Application Schedule:

- Applications are due by midnight on March 31;
- Winner will be announced and notified by April 30;
- Grant process is expected to occur every two-years.

Award Criteria:

1. Statement about the student's involvement in a minimum of one of the following categories: a) biodiesel feedstock development or research, b) research or study related to indirect land use change, c) promotion of biodiesel or renewable diesel or e) petroleum industry students;
2. Likely impact of long-term project, research or studies;
3. Personal Statement telling the NBF about yourself and why you are interested in the grant, brief background on why you are ideal for the program, may include pertinent community involvement;
4. One letter of recommendation required (two preferred);
5. Winner expected to attend the bi-annual Biodiesel Sustainability Workshop (normally held in September in St. Louis, MO); grant will be forfeited if student cannot attend;
6. Student signs a letter of acceptance confirming he or she will attend the Sustainability Workshop and may be asked to participate (i.e., sharing current research);
7. Preferred undergraduate junior, undergraduate senior or graduate student; and
8. Minimum GPA of 3.0.

Grant gift: The grant award is \$2,000.00. This will provide travel expenses (~\$1,000.00) to attend the Sustainability Workshop and the remaining funding (~\$1,000.00) is to be used for college expenses.

Foundation Mission: The National Biodiesel Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization, incorporated in Iowa in 1994. Our mission is to accomplish outreach, education, research and demonstration activities for the advancement of biodiesel. Our goal is to address national issues affecting us all – cleaner air, greater economic development for rural communities, and enhanced national security through energy independence.