

The **Young Fellowship Program Fund**, named for U.S. Congressman C.W. Bill Young, is awarded to full-time or part-time graduate students in the College of Marine Science whose current and/or newly proposed research involves or will involve the development or use of new technology for the investigation of biological, chemical, geological, or physical processes operating in the oceans, estuaries, freshwater environments, or at the air-sea interface. Special consideration will be given to research projects that involve direct interactions with engineers from CMS Ocean Technology (COT – previously known as the CMS Center for Ocean Technology). These interactions can include but are not limited to the implementation, development, and/or advancement of new/improved chemical, biological, or physical sensing systems. *Any students using new technology or developing new technology are encouraged to apply, even if they, or their projects, are not involved with COT.* **The Young Fellowship provides \$16,000 for one year.** Past recipients may reapply and there are no restrictions on the numbers of times that a student can apply for this fellowship.

Selection Process:

A panel consisting of 3 USF-CMS faculty members and 3 COT engineers will evaluate applications through a process containing two phases (detailed below) and make funding recommendations to the Dean. Decisions during all phases of the selection process will require consensus from the committee accomplished through open table discussion and debate followed by an oral vote.

Phase 1: Initial review of applicant pool will be used to identify those with "hands on" COT interactions. An open table discussion will review the applicants' research, technical skills and COT interactions. Applicants that simply apply technologies will be excluded. All committee members, regardless of potential conflicts, participate in phase 1 of selection process.

Phase 2: An open table discussion will focus on the type of technological development, (with emphasis on critical and novel advancements) and the potential of success of the applicant (i.e. CV including publication record, technical experience and references/working relationship). During this phase conflicts of interest may arise which could exclude up to 3 members. If necessary, the Dean can appoint a sufficient number of interim committee members in order to arrive at a fair and equitable decision.

Deadline: Applications and letters of reference must be received by Sami Francis (sfrancis1@usf.edu) by 5 pm on Wednesday, January 31, 2024.

The following application components must be provided as a single PDF in the order described below to Sami Francis (sfrancis1@usf.edu) by the deadline of 5 pm on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Use Times New Roman size 12 font and one-inch margins on all sides. Follow the template below.

1. Cover page.
2. Two-page, single-spaced curriculum vitae.
3. Answers to the three prompts.
4. List of three references, with a short (~100 words per person) biographical sketch detailing their credentials and a brief description of your professional relationship to them on a separate page. The letters should be addressed to CMS Faculty but emailed solely to Sami Francis (sfrancis1@usf.edu) as an original or scanned PDF file. Students are encouraged to choose the references who will provide them with the strongest and most impactful letters. By submission of the fellowship application, students waive their rights to read the recommendation letters.
5. Unofficial transcript or academic record for your undergraduate and graduate course work. Scanned versions of transcripts (or an accurate self-created summary) are acceptable.
6. Two-page, single-spaced description of the proposed research and how it will incorporate new technology.

Application components 1-5 can be identical to those submitted for the Endowed Fellowships, but should be compiled into a separate PDF (as detailed above) for the submission for the Young Fellowship. The same letters of recommendation can be used for the Endowed Fellowships and for the Young Fellowship or the applicant can submit distinct letters for this purpose (the letter writers to be considered should be indicated in item #5).

Young Fellowship Application Cover Page

Progress to Degree

Name: _____ U# _____

Date of initial entrance into the CMS graduate program: _____

Will you be a MS or PhD student at the start of the Fall Semester 2024?

Check: MS or PhD

In what term and year did you start your *current* degree program? _____

Have you completed all four core courses with a final grade of B- or better?

Check: Yes or No If yes, when? _____

Have you formed a thesis or dissertation advisory committee?

Check: Yes or No If yes, when? _____

Has your thesis or dissertation proposal been approved by your committee?

Check: Yes or No If yes, when? _____

PhD Only: Have you passed the PhD Candidacy (prior to 2019) or Comprehensive Qualifying Exam (2019-present)?

Check: Yes or No If yes, when? _____

Only if taking Thesis or Dissertation hours, anticipated defense date: _____

Academic Background

College/University Dates of Attendance Major/Minor field Degree Awarded

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

(Add more lines if needed...)

GPA while in the College of Marine Science: _____ (enter N/A if no GPA exists)

GPA during last 2 years of previous institution: _____ (even if a GPA is provided above)

(This page should start with the **Curriculum Vitae – 2-page single-spaced limit**)
(The CV could include the following, listed in the preferred order, if possible)

Name

MS or PhD Student/Candidate in which Marine Science emphasis (biology, chemistry, geology, marine resource assessment, or physics)

Educational Background

Employment History

Honors and Awards

Published (or in press) Manuscripts in Peer-Reviewed Journals

Published (or in press) Chapters or Books that are Peer-Reviewed

Published Abstracts (i.e., abstracts that have an official reference associated with them, such as those related to presentations made at National and International Professional Meetings such as AAAS, AGU, GSA, etc...)

Non-published Abstracts or Presentations (e.g., CMS Graduate Student Symposium)

Non-refereed Publications, Reports, or other creative works not listed above

Service on international, national, or local committees (inside and outside of USF)

Other or miscellaneous items such as educational outreach activities (no reprints)

**Please answer the below prompts in a maximum of 300 words each
(Note: this replaces the 1-page statement of professional goals required in previous years)**

1) Describe your research project (or anticipated research project) and the impacts you hope your work will have.

2) Describe your proudest accomplishment in the past year.

3) Describe your proposed strategy and timeline for completing the graduate program and your current progress towards this goal.

List of Three Reference Letter Writers, their email address and phone number, a short description detailing their credentials and your professional relationship to them (~100 words per person). By submission of the fellowship application, students waive their rights to read the recommendation letters.

Unofficial Academic Record(s) From Undergraduate Program(s)

Page Following Undergraduate Record(s)

Unofficial Academic Record(s) From Graduate Program(s)

Page Following Graduate Record(s)

Two-page, single-spaced description of your proposed research and how it will incorporate new technology.