

The Society for Conservation Biology and the Cedar Tree Foundation announce the recipients of the 2009 David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellowship.

The Smith Fellowship, the nation's premier post doctoral program in conservation biology, seeks to find solutions to the most pressing conservation challenges in the United States. Each Fellow's research is conducted in partnership with a major academic institution and "on the ground" conservation organization to help bridge the gap between theory and application.

The following fellowship recipients were selected on January 6 from a pool of highly qualified recent Ph D's from around the world:

- **Sarah Keenan Jacobi** will be based at Lincoln Park Zoo and complete a project titled, "A Framework for Optimal Spatial and Temporal Resource Allocation for Large Scale Conservation Problems" under the academic mentorship of Dr. Jeffrey Camm at the University of Cincinnati School of Business and in partnership with Dr. Eric Lonsdorf of the Lincoln Park Zoo.
- **Lekelia Jenkins** will be based at the University of Washington and complete a project titled, "Global Oceans, Global Knowledge: Codifying Approaches for Successful Cross-Cultural Adoption of Marine Conservation Technologies" under the academic mentorship of Dr. Patrick Christie and in partnership with Dr. Martin Hall of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and Dr. Wallace J. Nichols of California Academy of Sciences.
- **Raina Plowright** will be based at the Pennsylvania State University and will complete a project titled, "Climate Change, Wildlife Corridors, and Health Consequences in the US Northern Rockies" under the academic mentorship of Dr. Peter Hudson and in partnership with Dr. Andrew Dobson of Princeton University and Dr. Peter Daszak of the Consortium for Conservation Medicine.
- **Sarah Reed** will be based at Colorado State University and will complete a project titled, "Can conservation development conserve wildlife habitat connectivity?" under the academic mentorship of Dr. David Theobald and working in partnership with Dr. Jodi Hilty of the Wildlife Conservation Society.

While the Fellows' research projects focus on urgent conservation issues, they also learn first hand about the challenges and rewards of conservation applications. The program's focus is to enlarge their professional opportunities and ensure future success by helping them build relationships in the conservation and research communities and by providing opportunities for professional development through targeted workshops and training events.

The late Dr. David H. Smith, founder of the Cedar Tree Foundation, was a pediatrician, inventor and conservationist. He established the Smith Fellowship in 1998 with a grant to The Nature Conservancy. In 2005 the Fellowship was broadened to include the broader conservation community and is now administered by the Society for Conservation Biology.

The Smith Fellowship seeks to identify and support early-career scientists who will shape the growth of applied conservation biology.

Request for proposals for the 2010 Class of Smith Fellows will be announced in June 2009. For more information see the Smith Fellows website at www.SmithFellows.org.

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