

Robert and Beth Czerniak Awards in Support of Geography Studies at NMSU Award Announcement and Call for Applications

Robert and Beth Czerniak Early Geographers Seed Grant

To provide financial support to new Geography Majors at NMSU, Robert and Beth Czerniak have established the Early Geographers Seed Grant to be awarded to a newly declaring Geography Major in the Spring of every academic year. The intent of the grant is to give new majors a bit of financial assistance as they start their geographic journey, and the grant of \$200 is awarded to students through the financial aid office at NMSU. The only eligibility requirement is that students considered for the award be a newly declared major in the year in which the grant is to be given, and the winner will be drawn by chance from a list of all eligible newly declaring Geography Majors. The winner must be present at the Spring Awards Luncheon when certificates will be awarded, which means all eligible new majors should plan on attending the Spring Awards Luncheon!

Robert and Beth Czerniak Outstanding Geography Major Award

Background - In recognition of excellence in course work during students' time as Geography Majors, Robert and Beth Czerniak have established the Outstanding Geography Major Award. This award is to be granted to a geography major in their junior year award is to recognize excellence in coursework and progress towards earning the Bachelors of Science in Geography and to provide a bit of assistance to the winner in their last year in the program. The award of \$200 is awarded to students through the financial aid office at NMSU. The award seeks to recognize the following qualifications of Junior Geography Majors at NMSU:

- Sincere interest in using geographic principles to ask and answer interesting geographic questions,
- Leadership activities within the campus community, and
- Excellence in coursework as recognized by high marks in classes in the Major.

Submission and review process - Applications for this award should be made to the NMSU Department of Geography Awards Committee (MSC MAP in Campus Mail) no later than 15 April 2009. Winners will be notified prior to the Spring Awards Luncheon when certificates will be awarded. Copies of a current transcript should also be included in the application packet, and the nominations should consist of a short narrative that does the following:

- Identifies the student being nominated and notes their academic qualifications and

- Speaks to the student's interest in using geographic principles to ask and answer interesting geographic questions.