

## **ROBERT G. and MARY LOU GAST GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN SOIL SCIENCE**

The Robert G. and Mary Lou Gast Graduate Fellowship in Soil Science was established in 2007 by Robert and Mary Lou Gast. Following 10 years in basic research at the University of Tennessee-Atomic Energy Commission Research Laboratory, 7 years on faculty of the Department of Soil Science at the University of Minnesota, and 6 years as head of the Department of Agronomy at the University of Nebraska, Dr. Gast joined Michigan State University as Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station in 1983. He served in that capacity until 1996, when he was appointed Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies. Bob Gast was tenured in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, and retired in 1998.

It is the intent of the Donors that this endowment fund a graduate fellowship program in the Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences. The recipient should be a graduate student doing research in soil science. For the academic year 2015-2016, the award amount will be up to \$2,000 to one student, and shall be credited FS15 during the tuition payment process.

Proposals and nominations should be no more than two pages in length and include the following:

- Name
- Country of origin
- Degree objective, area of study, and GPA
- Description of the request, including budget
- A statement of need
- Brief statement of support from Major Professor
- Names of two individuals familiar with the work/project

The Robert G. and Mary Lou Gast Graduate Fellowship in Soil Science Award Committee will select the awardee(s) based on the following criteria:

- Scholarship/quality of science
- Personal need
- Programmatic need
- Potential to enhance graduate experience

**All recipients will be required to make appropriate acknowledgment to the donors within six weeks of notification of the award:**

Mrs. Mary Lou Gast  
3805 Viceroy Drive  
Okemos, MI 48864

Proposals must be submitted to: Sandie Litchfield, A286-D PSSB, Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences, by 5:00 p.m. on February 20, 2015. Awards will be announced on or after April 1, 2015.