



Graduate Student Fellowships, Spring 2027

The UF Biodiversity Institute encourages interdisciplinary research and training with three main foci: (1) using big data – informatics, AI, modeling, computation of heterogeneous data – to describe, understand, explain, and predict patterns of biodiversity and the processes that generated those patterns, (2) conducting large-scale, collaborative biological surveys to document and monitor biodiversity on a global scale, and (3) translating knowledge on biodiversity into action – conservation, policy, law, education, etc. – through relevant partnerships with journalists, social scientists, education specialists, lawyers, representatives of state and federal agencies, and others.

To enhance interdisciplinary training in biodiversity-related fields, the UFBI is announcing its Graduate Student Fellowships for the Spring 2027 academic semester. These Fellowships are geared toward mid-PhD students whose dissertation projects could particularly benefit from interdisciplinary opportunities with faculty, post-docs, and students outside their departments or programs.

AWARD INFORMATION

Number of Awards: Up to 5 Awards

Amount of Awards: \$13,000 for Spring 2027 academic semester, plus tuition

Submission Deadline: 5:00PM, October 23, 2026

EXPECTATIONS OF AWARDEES

Fellows will be provided with office space at the UFBI (CSE Building, Rms. E252-268; shared with AIIRI) and will be expected to participate in UFBI activities, including seminars, discussions, and other events, and to spend on average one day per week at UFBI. Applicants may propose specific synergistic activities at UFBI that are relevant to their work.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Students from any department, interdisciplinary program, or College/School with an approved doctoral program in the Graduate School are invited to apply.

A complete application for a UFBI Graduate Student Fellowship consists of the following:

- A cover sheet completed by the student (see below, attached to this announcement).
- A 1-page proposal that: (1) summarizes the dissertation research and how it will benefit from the interdisciplinary opportunities provided by the UFBI; (2) describes the applicant's goals for the semester; and (3) details how the applicant plans to achieve the goals, including a specific plan of work and the names of the faculty and programs with whom the applicant plans to work. The proposal should address the importance of the student's proposed work and its interdisciplinary nature and make a strong case for why the fellowship will be beneficial in meeting the goals.

- A current curriculum vitae (CV).
- An endorsement form (attached) that includes:
 - Endorsement by the applicant's advisor, limited to 250 words and focusing on (i) why the applicant is particularly suited to this fellowship program and (ii) how the applicant will benefit from participating as a UFBI Fellow.
 - Signature of the applicant's Chair/Director, acknowledging that if a fellowship is offered and accepted, the student will not be assigned any teaching or other departmental duties that would require a significant time commitment during the fellowship period.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications, composed of a single merged pdf that includes the cover sheet, 1-page proposal, and CV, must be submitted by email to Ms. Flora Marynak at flora.marynak@ufl.edu. The subject line of the email should use the format UFBI APPLICATION LASTNAME FIRSTNAME.

The endorsement form, completed by the advisor and departmental/program chair, should also be submitted as a pdf to Ms. Flora Marynak at flora.marynak@ufl.edu. The subject line of the email should note the name of the applicant and use the format UFBI ENDORSEMENT LASTNAME FIRSTNAME.

The submission deadline is **5:00PM, October 23, 2026**

FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

Applications must be single-spaced; font size no less than Times New Roman 11-point or Arial 10-point; 1-inch margins.

REVIEW PROCESS

A selection committee composed of members of the UFBI Advisory Board and other UF faculty will evaluate the applications and select the awardees.

NOTIFICATION OF AWARDS

We anticipate announcing the award recipients by **October 28, 2026**.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

All fellows are required to submit a one-page report at the conclusion of their fellowship, summarizing their accomplishments, including posters, oral presentations, publications, etc., during the fellowship year.

QUESTIONS

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact:

Dr. Pamela Soltis, FLMNH, UFBI Director

Email: psoltis@flmnh.ufl.edu



Graduate Student Fellowships, Spring 2027
Application Cover Page

Name of Applicant:

Department/Program:

Year in Program:

Passed Qualifying Exam (y/n)?:

Name of Advisor:



Graduate Student Fellowships, Spring 2027 Endorsement Page

Name of Applicant:

Name of Advisor:

Endorsement by Advisor:

(250 words, focusing on (i) why the applicant is particularly suited to this fellowship program and (ii) how he/she will benefit from participating as a UFBI Fellow)

Advisor's Signature

Endorsement by Department/Program Chair/Director:

By signing below, the Chair/Director acknowledges that the applicant, if a fellowship is offered and accepted, will not be assigned any teaching or other duties during the fellowship period that would require a significant time commitment or otherwise interfere with the fellowship goals.

Name

Signature