



PATRICIA F. WALLER SCHOLARSHIP



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About Patricia F. Waller

Dr. Waller had a distinguished career as a leading research scientist and advocate for policy reform in the area of transportation safety and injury control. She worked tirelessly to ensure that research findings were implemented through legislative and administrative measures, and to ensure that injury control and the health and human dimensions were incorporated into the national transportation agenda. She believed in the importance of translating scientific knowledge into tangible action. Most importantly, she devoted untold hours towards nurturing and encouraging students who showed an interest in applying their scientific training and skill to improve the safety of the transportation environment.

In 1989, Dr. Waller was appointed director of the Transportation Research Institute at the University of Michigan, where she also held academic appointments in the Schools of Medicine and Public Health and the Department of Psychology. She retired from the University of Michigan in 1999, but continued to be actively engaged in research projects around the world, authoring publications until shortly before her death August 15, 2003. Prior to coming to Michigan, Dr. Waller served as Associate Director for Driver Studies

at the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center (HSRC), and she was a faculty member of the UNC School of Public Health. In 1987, she became the founding director of the UNC Injury Prevention Research Center, a center of excellence funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She joined the HSRC in 1967 after practicing and conducting research as a clinical psychologist.

Patricia F. Waller Scholarship

To celebrate Patricia Waller's tenure as director of the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI), and to honor her many contributions to the field of transportation safety and injury control, UMTRI created the Patricia F. Waller Scholarship Fund. The purpose of the Patricia F. Waller Scholarship fund is to provide scholarships for highly qualified, University of Michigan graduate students who elect a curriculum, thesis, or special project that addresses the human impact of transportation practice. The goal is to stir curiosity and support scholarly study on the issues of transportation policy and highway safety that represent Dr. Waller's remarkable career. Funds will support internships, directed study, or other special needs and projects.

Scholarship Funding Criteria

Purpose: The Patricia F. Waller Scholarship provides funding to eligible graduate and senior undergraduate students from all University of Michigan departments and schools who are interested in conducting research on human aspects of transportation safety and issues related to transportation equity.

Topics include, but are not limited to:

- the role of alcohol and other drugs in motor vehicle crash injury
- psychosocial correlates of high-risk driving behavior
- issues relating to old age and transportation accessibility and safety
- human welfare and equity as they relate to transportation

Scholarship funding is intended to support students who are new to the field of transportation while doing internships, conducting research on a masters or doctoral thesis, completing an independent study, or fulfilling the requirements of other special projects focusing on an eligible safety issue.

Student Eligibility: Graduate or senior undergraduate students at the University of Michigan are eligible to apply. Candidates applying for support to complete a graduate thesis must have completed all pre-thesis requirements. If the funding is to support an internship or independent study, applicants must be able to demonstrate their eligibility for such programs. All applicants must have approval from their own major department of the topic of the research to be supported by the scholarship. Finally, the applicant's

topic must fall within the purview of expertise represented by the faculty at the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI), and an UMTRI faculty member must have agreed to act as a mentor, supervising or assisting in the supervision of the applicant's research.

Awards: Awards are made throughout the year in amounts ranging from \$500 to \$5,000, depending on the scope of the project, and can be used for direct expenses connected with the project to be conducted at UMTRI. These expenses may include travel, books, microfilming, taping, copying, computer services, or other similar expenditures. Other purposes for this funding require the approval of the Patricia F. Waller Scholarship Committee prior to the award. Contributions to the scholarship fund are from individuals, businesses and corporations.

Applications: Students' applications are due by October 15th for projects to be conducted beginning Winter or Spring terms, and by February 15th for projects beginning either Summer or Fall terms. Applications must include a resume, copy of university transcript(s), a one-page proposal (8.5 by 11 inch page, no smaller than 0.5 inch margins, font no smaller than 12 pt New Times Roman, or 11 pt Arial, and no less than single-spacing), an approval letter from an appropriate representative (i.e., advisor, instructor, Department Head) from the applicant's major department, and a letter from an UMTRI faculty member expressing agreement to mentor the applicant.

Send applications to C. Raymond Bingham at rbingham@umich.edu.

Contributing to the Patricia F. Waller Scholarship Fund

Contributions to the scholarship fund in honor of Dr. Waller are always welcome. Checks are to be made payable to The University of Michigan. Please send contributions or requests for information to

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