



Ann Hoyt Award for the Study of Cooperative Associations

Description

Thanks to the dedication of Professor Emerita Ann Hoyt and her colleagues in the Department of Consumer Science, the School of Human Ecology has had a long association with cooperative businesses and organizations. In honor of Dr. Hoyt's impact on the field, and in order to continue to advance research, teaching, and outreach related to cooperatives, SoHE has designated the Cooperatives Initiatives Fund to support graduate student education, research, and professional development in this area. This includes scholarship around credit unions. Awards are available to recognize graduate students' pursuit of research, outreach activities, or further knowledge related to cooperative businesses or associations in all sectors, both domestic and international. Students are encouraged to connect with the [UW Center for Cooperatives](#) for additional resources.

This award provides up to \$1,500 each year in two categories: (1) **Student research, outreach, and other scholarship (including efforts to build new collaborations and/or support for ongoing activities)** and (2) **Conference travel to present scholarship or to gain professional training.**

Eligibility

SoHE MS, MFA, or PhD graduate student in good academic standing and making satisfactory progress

Application Materials

Students may apply to one of the following categories:

Student research, outreach, and other scholarship – \$1,500

Students may request funds to begin or continue research, outreach, or scholarship related to cooperatives. To apply for this category, please submit a summary of the following (no more than 3 pages):

- a. Describe the nature, purpose, and significance of the planned or ongoing research, outreach, and/or community-based scholarship relating to cooperatives. If ongoing, describe achieved results. If this is new scholarship, discuss anticipated results.
- b. If the proposed work is a joint project, describe the nature of your contribution to the project.
- c. Describes the relevancy of the work (i.e. How does this work enhance or contribute to a cooperative organization?)
- d. Budget outlining how money is used to support student time or cover the cost of research, outreach and scholarship activities
- e. A confidential letter of support from the faculty advisor

Conference travel – Up to \$1,500

Students may submit a request to attend a conference or similar professional development opportunity that includes:

- a. Statement on how the conference relates to the student's career goals or professional development
- b. Description of how the proposed activity enhances cooperative organizations
- c. Itemized conference travel budget

Review Criteria

Applications are evaluated and ranked by the SoHE Graduate Program Committee. Applications will be evaluated based on the clarity and quality of materials, as well as the overall impact and significance of the work described. Conference travel applications will be evaluated on the extent to which the student's participation in the proposed conference will enhance both cooperative organizations and the student's own professional development.

Applications are due by November 1. Materials should be submitted via the Wisconsin Scholarship Hub:

https://wisc.academicworks.com/users/sign_in

About Dr. Ann Hoyt

These awards are named for Dr. Ann Hoyt, who is internationally recognized for her innovative research and contributions to co-op education. Her work, including nearly 30 years as a professor in consumer science at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, has had an indelible impact on cooperatives and the cooperative movement. Her extension work and research focused on consumer cooperatives, with an emphasis on governance and management particularly in food cooperatives and cooperatives in international development. She promoted governance methods that delineate clear board and management responsibilities, incorporate transparent accountability and emphasize strategic focus. These methods are now the predominant model used by contemporary consumer food cooperatives.

Ann is an active author, reviewer, teacher, researcher and consultant on a wide variety of issues related to cooperatives, national and international cooperation, and cooperative governance. She is a dedicated cooperative practitioner, having served on numerous cooperative and foundation boards, including 22 years with the National Cooperative Business Association, two as chair; six years with the National Cooperative Bank; and 20 years, nine as chair, with the University of Wisconsin Credit Union. Ann is currently the president of the Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin.

What is a Cooperative?

A cooperative is a business that is owned and controlled by its members. The cooperative is operated to benefit its members, not to maximize profits for outside investors. Cooperatives also differ from other business structures because they often operate on principles that encompass broader social or community, as well as business, concerns.

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training and Information
6. Cooperation among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

Learn more by visiting: <http://www.uwcc.wisc.edu/whatisacoop/> and <http://articles.extension.org/pages/30195/basic-cooperative-principles>