

# BIOSCIENCES AT RICE

## BioSciences Department Requirements for the DIR award:

### Criteria for research in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

1. All candidates must be certified by one of their research mentors, and are recommended to ask their advisor to submit a supporting letter to the awards committee.
2. Applicants must be in good academic standing and have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.30 in courses completed at Rice.
3. The quality and quantity of the candidate's research contributed substantially to research efforts in one or more labs (which do not have to be at Rice).
4. Competitive candidates' research findings have commonly been disseminated through presentations at meetings and/or publications (papers and abstracts).
5. Candidates have customarily completed EBIO 403 or HONS 471, and have concurrent registration in EBIO 404 or HONS 472. Students performing exemplary research in other courses are also eligible for the award.
6. Candidates should list any previously earned undergraduate research awards.
7. Candidates are typically Biological Science or EEB majors.
8. EEB degree recipients automatically qualify for the EEB DIR award by a) the student being first (or equal contribution second) author on a research manuscript, either published or accepted by peer-reviewed journal, or b) the student winning an undergraduate research award at a national, professional society conference (e.g., ESA, Evolution).

### Criteria for research in Biochemistry & Cell Biology

1. Please consult with your research advisor before making application. All candidates must have a letter of recommendation or supporting statement from their research advisor.
2. Applicants must be in good academic standing and have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.30 in courses completed at Rice.
3. The quality and quantity of the candidate's research contributed substantially to research efforts in one or more labs (which do not have to be at Rice).
4. Competitive candidates' research findings have commonly been disseminated through presentations at meetings and/or publications (papers and abstracts).
5. Candidates have customarily completed BIOC 401 or HONS 471, and have concurrent registration in BIOC 402 or HONS 472. Students performing exemplary research in other courses are also eligible for the award.
6. Candidates should list any previously earned undergraduate research awards.
7. Candidates should be BCB or Biological Science majors, or their research project must fall squarely within the discipline.

### What are the required application materials?

- 1) Completed Application Form (found below), including description of research or creative work (500 words maximum).
- 2) Recommendation letter from supporting faculty (required for the BCB DIR; optional for the EEB DIR, but recommended)



**BioSciences Department Awards for Graduating Seniors**

<b>Biochemistry &amp; Cell Biology Majors</b>	<b>Ecology &amp; Evolutionary Biology Majors</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. James B. Walker Award for Outstanding Seniors in Biochemistry</li> <li>2. Frederick B. Rudolph Award for Outstanding Biochemistry &amp; Cell Biology Senior</li> <li>3. George J. Schroepfer, Jr. Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research in Biochemistry</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Julian Huxley Award for Excellence</li> <li>2. Clark P. Read Award for Excellence</li> <li>3. Award for Best EEB RURS Poster</li> </ol>
<p><i>All BCB Undergraduate Senior Awards are nominated by faculty advisors. Students must be graduating with a BCB or Biological Sciences major to be eligible.</i></p>	<p><i>The Distinction in Research and Creative Work award will be required for a student to be a candidate for the Julian Huxley and Clark Read awards that currently recognize distinction in research in EEB.</i></p>

**Kathleen S. Matthews Teaching & Mentoring Award**

For the undergraduate student in BioSciences who has provided outstanding service as a teaching assistant or similar position for courses in the department and/or served as a mentor for developing independent researchers.

*The KSM award is nominated by faculty advisors.*

# Distinction in Research and Creative Works Application

## Department of BioSciences

### Student Application:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Residential College: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Rice Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Criteria:

- I am currently in good academic standing and have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.30 in courses completed at Rice.  
 I am currently enrolled in or have already completed any courses included in my department's "Distinction in Research and Creative Works" criteria.  
 I will submit my final thesis/project/presentation/portfolio/creative work on or before **the last day of finals for the spring semester.**

**Attach a separate document that includes the title and description of your Research or Creative Works: (500 maximum word count)**

List any Research Presentations:

List any Research Awards:

List any Research Publications:

Title of Research Project (to be listed at commencement):

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Research Advisor:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Department:

Please indicate by signing below that you recommend this student be considered for the award of Distinction in Research and Creative Work. This honor is awarded upon graduation to select students whose achievements go "above and beyond the norm" in their area of research, design, or other creative work. The supporting faculty member is expected to have worked with the student on a regular basis and have intimate knowledge of the student's accomplishments, capabilities, and/or contributions in research, design, or other creative work. **If you have a supporting statement from faculty (approximately 1 page) for the awards committee, please attach the statement to this page. The statement should address the substance and significance of the research/design/creative work and/or, if appropriate, the student's contribution to a research/design/creative project.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_