

Eugene F. Stoermer Diatom Scholarship

The Eugene F. Stoermer Diatom Scholarship was established by Gene's family, friends, and colleagues following his passing in 2012. A \$500 tuition scholarship is awarded annually to an advanced student or researcher participating in the Ecology and Systematics of Diatoms course at Iowa Lakeside Lab.

Dr. Eugene Stoermer was born in 1934 in Gillette Grove near Lakeside Lab. His childhood included summers at the family cottage on Miller's Bay on West Lake Okoboji. In 1963, shortly after completing his doctoral degree, Gene's advisor, Dr. John Dodd, suggested he teach a special "Diatom Clinic" at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory. At the time, few people and fewer institutions were supporting the study of diatoms. The Clinic encouraged students and researchers to gather annually at Iowa Lakeside Lab in a collaborative atmosphere where learning took place not only in the environs around Lakeside but through participants interacting in the class. Dr. Stoermer taught the Clinic for three years before he was hired as a Research Phycologist at the University of Michigan, Great Lakes Research Division. In 1990, Gene returned to Lakeside to teach the class, now called Ecology and Systematics of Diatoms, through 2000. Each summer he loaded his vehicle with computers, microscopes, cameras, and literature to share his passion for diatoms with the students and visiting researchers from around the world. He transformed the class to include digital photography, research microscopy, and computer databases.

Eligibility

The Eugene F. Stoermer Scholarship is awarded to a student or visiting researcher in the Ecology and Systematics of Diatoms class at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory.

Application Process

Applicants should e-mail the following to the Lakeside Lab Director at Mary-Skopec@uiowa.edu

1. A cover letter
2. Resume or CV
3. 1-2 page statement describing the applicant's background, qualifications, and motivation for taking the diatom class.
4. Unofficial transcripts

Deadline for application receipt is **April 1** each year. The recipient will be chosen in collaboration with the Ecology and Systematics of Diatoms course instructors.