



College of Natural Science  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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**TRACY A. HAMMER  
GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD  
for PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
NOMINATION FORM**

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This award recognizes and supports an outstanding graduate student with a one-time stipend that can be used for travel support, research, or educational materials (books, computer hardware or software). Nominees must be pursuing a degree in the College of Natural Science for the 2025-2026 academic year.

The award was renamed in 1996 to memorialize 1995 co-recipient Tracy Anne Hammer. A native of New York, Hammer was the first dual degree candidate to pursue a doctoral degree in animal genetics through the Department of Microbiology and Veterinary Medicine. Her research centered on canine dilated cardiomyopathy. Hammer died in a plane crash shortly before graduation and her degree was awarded posthumously.

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**NOMINEE:**

**CAMPUS ADDRESS:**

**OFFICE TELEPHONE (IF KNOWN):**

**EMAIL:**

**MSU DEPARTMENT(S):**

**PLEASE ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING (ON A SEPARATE PAGE):**

- 1) Describe the nominee's academic accomplishments.
- 2) Describe the nominee's research activities.
- 3) Describe how this award would benefit the nominee's professional development (travel support, software needed for research, support for field research, etc.)

*The above information should be no longer than one (1) page in length TOTAL.*

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**THIS NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY:**

**NAME:**

**COMPANY/ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION:**

**EMAIL:**

**DAYTIME TELEPHONE:**

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:**

- Nominee's CV
- Any additional supporting documentation supporting the nomination i.e. journal article on current research, newspaper citation for community service or philanthropy. *Additional supporting documentation is not required, but may be helpful in assessing the nomination*

**RETURN NOMINATION FORM AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION TO [DRAEGER3@MSU.EDU](mailto:DRAEGER3@MSU.EDU).**

All submissions should be emailed to Melody Vincke ([draeger3@msu.edu](mailto:draeger3@msu.edu)). Submissions will receive a confirmation of receipt within two days. If you do not receive any confirmation, please contact Melody to make sure the email was received.

The winner will be celebrated at an in-person awards ceremony in April 2027.

**NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2026.**

Questions? Contact Melody Vincke, [draeger3@msu.edu](mailto:draeger3@msu.edu).