The Stable Isotope Facility at the University of California-Davis seeks applicants for Graduate Student Research fellowships. This program will support collaborations between M.S. or Ph.D. students, their advisors, and Stable Isotope Facility scientists to develop methods and applications of stable isotope analysis coupled to research in biological or geochemical systems. This program is not intended to support routine isotopic analysis, such as $^{13}$C or $^{15}$N of solid samples, or other analyses which are currently provided by the Stable Isotope Facility (See http://stableisotopefacility.ucdavis.edu/ for details). Rather, the goal of the program is to promote development of new methods and applications through collaborative efforts with the Stable Isotope Facility. Among the possibilities is development of $^{13}$C isotope analysis of compounds separated by gas or liquid chromatography, including volatile organic compounds, flavor compounds, pheromones, etc. There are numerous potential research applications for the study of biosynthesis or metabolism in microbes, plants, or animals in fields ranging from biogeochemistry to biomedical research.

This fellowship will support 50% of the total cost of tuition, fees, and stipend with matching funds provided through the Major Professor or other sources. Incoming and currently enrolled UC-Davis graduate students in any Graduate Group are eligible to apply. Fellowship awards begin September 1, 2009 and end August 31, 2010. Application deadline is March 2, 2009. Selection decisions will be made by March 13. Fellowships may be renewed, depending on satisfactory progress and the availability of matching support.

The fellowship program supports graduate students with high potential for achievement during their degree program and beyond. Applicants must describe how development and application of a novel stable isotope technique will promote their scholarly and professional achievement.

Application Requirements:

1. **Statement of Purpose** (2-3 pages, double spaced, 12 pt font). Propose a project to develop and apply a novel method of stable isotope analysis to improve understanding of biogeochemical, metabolic, or physical processes. Explain how this research will advance your academic goals.

2. **Curriculum Vitae.** State academic/professional goals. List academic background and accomplishments, such as honors, awards, or publications.

3. **Letters of Reference.** Two letters evaluating previous accomplishments and/or specific indicators of future promise. One letter must be from the student’s major professor.

4. **Academic Transcripts.** Copies are acceptable.

Submit application materials to William Holmes (weholmes@ucdavis.edu) electronically as PDF or MS Word documents or by mail (Stable Isotope Facility, Plant and Environmental Sciences Building, University of California-Davis, Davis, CA 95616). For additional information or feedback on ideas, contact William Holmes (530-752-8100).