



## **KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF MAPPERS**

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THE KANSAS PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY FOR MAPPING AND GIS

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# **John Cowan Memorial Scholarship**

Established January 2012

## **Overview**

K. John Cowan, of Manhattan, Kansas, passed away in February 2010 after a battle with cancer. He attended high school at Topeka High School, and graduated from Kansas State University with his Bachelor's Degree in Architecture; he also attended Graduate School in Architecture.

John began working for Riley County, Kansas in the Appraiser's Office in 1984. He became the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator of Riley County's GIS Department in 1999. He had been a member of the Kansas Association of Mappers since 1986, served on the Board of Directors as Director in 1991 and as President in 1992. He received his KM (Kansas Mapper) Designation and his IAAO (International Association of Assessing Officers) Certification in 1988. John also received KAM's Outstanding Mapping Project Award in 1988, and was voted KAM's Most Valuable Member in 1990, 1991, and 1994.

In remembrance of one of the Kansas Association of Mappers' (KAM) most respected members, the John Cowan Memorial Scholarship was created for the purpose of assisting students of higher learning in their pursuit of a geographic-based education. John was passionate and outgoing about the importance of geographic knowledge, and this scholarship seeks to symbolically carry on John's passion by providing financial assistance to those with a desire for a higher education in geography.

## **Conditions**

The intent of the John Cowan Memorial Scholarship is to provide financial assistance to students within the State of Kansas pursuing a professional career in the field of Geography attained through a geographic-focused education. Upon acceptance of this award, the recipient will be asked to agree to the following:

1. Be a member of the Kansas Association of Mappers
2. Attend the KAM Annual Meeting/Conference (generally in September or October), if possible
3. Present at the KAM Annual Meeting and/or submit an article for publication in the *KAM Metes & Bounds Newsletter* during the year of award acceptance
4. Maintain academic achievements and complete coursework during the semester of accepting the award, keeping in contact with the KAM Executive Board throughout the school year

## **Award Eligibility**

In order to qualify as a candidate, the following criteria must be met:

1. Be enrolled as an undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, or graduate student in a post-secondary educational institution within the State of Kansas
2. Be enrolled in coursework that is necessary to begin a career in a Geography-based profession (documentation of enrollment is required with application)
3. Be able to show the intent to make Geography or a Geography-related career the major focus of your higher education

In addition, the following additional conditions are desirable, but not required:

1. Grade point average of 3.25 or higher
2. Past employment or internship in a field related to Geography

## **Award Application process**

Complete the application and submit it to KAM. Include any additional documentation with your submittal such as awards or other types of professional recognition. All applications must be received by April 15<sup>th</sup>. All applications will be reviewed by the Executive Board of KAM. After a decision is made, you will be notified immediately and will be asked to accept the award by signing the *Terms of Acceptance*.

## **Terms of Eligibility**

Awardees may receive the John Cowan Memorial Scholarship for no more than two consecutive years of college enrollment.

## **Award Amount and Disbursement**

A maximum scholarship of \$500 will be awarded annually at the beginning of the upcoming school year (Fall Semester).

This is a needs-based scholarship. Please be clear on your application why you are in need of and how you intend to use the awarded funds. The KAM Executive Board will review all applications and a consensus vote will determine the award winner. You are encouraged to be forthcoming with any and all applicable information relating to your desire for this award. John Cowan was forever genuine and professional – keep these traits in mind while completing your application.

If you have questions or need assistance completing the application, please contact the Kansas Association of Mappers at: [KAMappers@gmail.com](mailto:KAMappers@gmail.com).