

# **Ph.D. Fellowships in Tiger Conservation for serving officials and conservation practitioners from India**

## **Call for Applications**

**U.S. Tiger University Consortium  
in partnership with the Global Tiger Initiative Council  
and the Global Tiger Forum**

### **Background:**

Auburn University, Clemson University, Louisiana State University, and the University of Missouri have formed the U.S. Tiger University Consortium for the purpose of partnering with the Global Tiger Initiative Council (GTIC) and the Global Tiger Forum (GTF) to promote tiger conservation in India and beyond (for more details about Global Tiger Forum see <https://www.globaltigerforum.org>). One of the goals of this multi-institution partnership is to build both human and research capacities relating to tiger conservation in India.

### **Fellowship details:**

As part of the above partnership, **the U.S. Tiger University Consortium is announcing a 2nd Call for Applications.** One Ph.D. fellowship is available in the *School of Veterinary Medicine* or the *School of Renewable Natural Resources* at Louisiana State University (LSU), and 2 Ph.D. Fellowships at the University of Missouri (one in the *College of Veterinary Medicine* and another in the *School of Natural Resources*). The fellowships are open to Indian citizens (more tiger range countries will be added in subsequent years as the program continues to expand).

The LSU fellowship consists of an annual \$25,000 stipend and tuition waiver for four years. The fellowship at the University of Missouri carries a minimum \$24,000 stipend and tuition waiver per year for 2.5 years. Students selected for these fellowships are expected to conduct doctoral-level tiger conservation research important to global tiger conservation in India, or in select situations in the U.S., in accordance with faculty approval and doctoral program requirements.

Research topics may include:

- wildlife veterinary medicine;
- genetics & genomics of health and population management;
- genetics & genomics to identify poaching hotspots;
- habitat management
- landscape ecology and planning;
- tiger and prey population and health dynamics;
- human-wildlife conflict;
- ecotourism and community development;
- conservation finance;
- governance and policy;
- conservation communication;
- institutional capacity building.

## **Application process:**

The Global Tiger Forum will coordinate an India-based shortlisting and evaluation process in collaboration with the Global Tiger Initiative Council. Interested students should send their CV, statement of research interest and experiences working in tiger conservation or related field, and scanned transcripts of the educational qualifications to Global Tiger Forum [research@globaltigerforum.org](mailto:research@globaltigerforum.org).

### **Selection Phases**

#### **Phase 1**

Initial shortlisting and screening of candidates will be done by a selection committee coordinated by the GTF.

#### **Phase 2**

The details of a pool of shortlisted candidates will be forwarded to the U.S. Tiger University Consortium for further selection. A review board of Consortium faculty will match applicants with faculty advisors and university programs.

### **Basic qualifications:**

- Master's degree or equivalent in the related field
- At least 2 years professional experience
- Current involvement with a conservation agency or organization (government, academic or NGO) **who will support leave for program of study**
- Support to conduct research in Tiger range after 2 years of US-based study, and availability to return to US after research is completed to conclude and defend dissertation
- GRE is encouraged but may be waived in accordance with existing admission policies of specific academic programs. This decision is based solely at the discretion of the respective university.

Following review, selected applicants will be directed to apply to the University which best fits their project and educational needs.

Beginning now, **3 students** will be selected for enrollment in August 2019 – 1 for LSU, 2 for Missouri.

All applicants must meet admission requirements and expectations of the accepting university's schools, colleges, and departments.

**Last date for submission of an application to the Global Tiger Forum will be 15 January 2019.**

**About the institutions:**

**Louisiana State University (LSU)**, located on the banks of the Mississippi River in Baton Rouge, Louisiana (USA) is the State's Flagship institution and most comprehensive university. Founded in 1853, LSU currently has an enrollment of over 25,000 undergraduate and 3,000 graduate students in 235 academic fields of study. The University is designated as a [land-grant](#), [sea-grant](#) and [space-grant](#) institution and has a world-class faculty that contributes to research, education and service at an international level. The *School of Veterinary Medicine* is dedicated to improving the lives of people and animals through education, service and research; in 2013-14, the School had over \$38 million in externally funded research. The *School of Renewable Natural Resources* focuses on natural resource research, education, and service in forestry, wildlife, fisheries with a faculty that studies a wide range of topics and species both nationally and internationally.

**The University of Missouri** was founded in 1839 in Columbia, Missouri (USA) as the first public university west of the Mississippi River. Today, with an enrollment of more than 30,000 students, 13,000 full-time employees and 317,000 alumni, Mizzou is an important investment for the state and nation. MU is one of only 60 public and private U.S. universities invited to membership in the prestigious [Association of American Universities](#). The state's largest and most comprehensive university, Mizzou has more than 300 degree programs, including more than 90 online options through 19 colleges and schools and is one of only six public universities nationwide that can claim a medical school, veterinary medicine college and a law school on the same campus. Missouri is located in the central region of the USA, along the Mississippi River and Columbia is located in the north central region of Missouri.

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