A Graduate Scholarship in Arid Lands Studies was established in 1985 by the faculty of the Office of Arid Lands Studies, University of Arizona, in honor of Dr. William G. McGinnies, our founder. The intent of the McGinnies Graduate Scholarship is to provide additional support to graduate students whose dissertation research concerns physical and biological processes in the world's arid and semiarid lands. The annual scholarship award is $2,500 and is celebrated with a luncheon at the historic Arizona Inn.

Eligibility: Any University of Arizona doctoral student is eligible. All recipients must be approved by the Office of Student Financial Aid.

Selection Criteria: Award is made on the basis of materials submitted by applicants, which (1) indicates their achievements and future as scholars, and (2) demonstrates significant contribution of ongoing research to understanding environmental processes and informing management of arid and semiarid lands.

Application: Applications should consist of (1) a letter of application of no more than 1000 words describing the student's research interests, their achievements to-date, and a concise description of their dissertation research and its broader relevance; (2) a curriculum vitae; and (3) two letters of recommendation (including one from the major advisor). It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that letters are received before the application deadline. For a list of previous recipients, including their dissertation topics, subsequent careers, and current whereabouts, visit http://snre.arizona.edu/academics/mcginnies

Deadline: Review of applications for the 2015 awards will begin on February 1, 2016.