

May 17th, 2011

Foundation Board of Trustees
American Association of Petroleum Geologists Foundation
1444 S. Boulder Avenue
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119

Dear Foundation Board of Trustees,

I would first like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to apply for your AAPG Foundation Grants-in-Aid program. It is greatly appreciated that the AAPG Foundation takes interest in research being done at a graduate level and provides some assistance.

My current research in improving geochronology in Lake Malawi sediment cores through tephrochronology is something that would be very difficult to perform without the funds you have provided. The funds received will provide an essential part of my research since they will be used to purchase required lab materials and will help fund the sampling and analyzing of cores. I am very grateful to have received the William E. and Jean Crain Named Grant and the opportunity to learn more about William Crain's story. He is an inspiration for continuing my education and also my plans to achieve a career as a petroleum geologist.

I would again like to thank the Foundation Board of Trustees and especially William and Jean Crain for giving me the opportunity to perform research that will benefit not only the geologic, but the scientific community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in brown ink that reads "Benjamin Chorn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Benjamin Chorn
University of Minnesota, Duluth
Geological Sciences