The Nelson Scholarship

The Nelson Scholarship is named in honor of Pete Nelson, who served the University of Minnesota as the Supervisor of Andrew Boss Laboratory of Meat Science from 2007 to 2013. In honor of Pete Nelson, the Minnesota Association of Meat Processors offers two $500 scholarships to students currently enrolled as either an undergraduate or graduate student at the University of Minnesota in the Department of Animal Science or the Department of Food Science and Nutrition.

After serving his country in the United States Marine Corps, Pete Nelson spent 36 years as the owner and operator of Community Market, a federally inspected meat and poultry processing establishment in Lindstrom, Minnesota. Pete served 3 consecutive three-year terms on the Board of Directors of American Association of Meat Processors. Additionally, Pete served as President, Vice President, and Treasurer of AAMP. Pete also served as President of the Minnesota Association of Meat Processors, and served several terms as a member of the Board of Directors of MAMP. He also served a 3 year term on the National Livestock and Meat Board.

Pete was inducted into the American Cured Meats Hall of Fame after having received over 275 awards for Ham, Bacon and Sausage products in state and national competitions throughout his processing career. Pete received the Friend of Agriculture Award from the MN Farm Bureau and was inducted into the Chisago Lakes Hall of Fame for contributions to youth and leadership. Additionally, Pete was a recipient of the C.W. Ludwig Leadership Award, the Chisago Lakes Area Outstanding Citizen of the Year award, the Guardian of Small Business Award, and twice received the “Friend of the Tax Payer” Award from the Minnesota Tax Payers League.

Outside of the meat industry, Pete served in the Minnesota State House of Representatives from 2002-2006. Additionally, Mr. Nelson served as Mayor for the City of Lindstrom, Minnesota. He also served as a Council Member for the City of Lindstrom. Pete was a founding member of the Chisago Lakes Rescue Squad, as well as the Lindstrom Police Reserve

Prior to his passing in June of 2013, Pete served as the Supervisor of the Andrew Boss Laboratory of Meat Science, in the Department of Animal Science at the University of Minnesota. Due to his excellent service to the university in the areas of research, teaching and business management, Pete was awarded the Outstanding Service Award from the College of Agriculture. Additionally, due to his tremendous accomplishments in the meat industry, as well as forging a strong partnership between the university and meat processors in the state, Pete received the 2013 Minnesota Association of Meat Processors Honored Member Award.

MAMP is offering two $500 scholarships to students currently enrolled as either an undergraduate or graduate student at the University of Minnesota in the Department of Animal Science or the Department of Food Science and Nutrition. Applicants must provide a copy of their University of Minnesota student
transcript (unofficial copies also accepted). In addition, applicants must submit an essay (1,000 words or less) discussing their education and academic activity, their professional goals, and their future role in the meat and/or food industry. All application materials must be received by **11:59pm (CST) on March 5, 2015.** All application materials must be received electronically by e-mail (ryancox@umn.edu).

Award recipients will be notified of award decision no later than March 14, 2015, in conjunction with the MAMP Annual Convention. The recipients of the Nelson Scholarship are announced at the Minnesota Association of Meat Processors Annual Convention as part of the awards banquet.

For any questions, please contact:

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The Minnesota Association of Meat Processors (MAMP) is a network of Minnesota companies involved or with primary interest in the meat industry. This network is designed to aid in new technology development, further education, and maintaining viability of the meat industry as a whole. We grow together sharing ideas, solving problems, attending educational sessions and regional meetings and communicating with each other. Our network reaches far beyond the borders of Minnesota and reaches even the smallest processors that can be found. To learn more about MAMP, please visit www.mamponline.com.