



McLane Assistantship for Returning Veterans at Thunderbird

History: Don McLane, T-Bird Class of '74, joined the U.S. Army in 1961 with the hope of saving money for college while completing his military obligation. He served in the Army Corps of Engineers as an enlisted construction surveyor in Alaska, and was later favored with an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He graduated and was commissioned as an officer in 1968.

After a total of twelve years in the Army, with tours of duty in Europe and Vietnam, Don decided to leave the service and pursue a career in international business. He was accepted at Thunderbird...then the "Thunderbird Graduate School of International Management"...in 1973. Here, with only the G. I. Bill to help pay for this added education, he appealed to Thunderbird for financial assistance. As luck would have it, T-Bird granted him an assistantship in the school's financial aid office, which helped to make his attendance at T-Bird possible. Likewise, his efforts in the school's finance office provided excellent work experience which, when it came time to interview for good job opportunities, reinforced his resume with an important assignment, well done, in a business setting, not just in a military environment.

With the freshly minted Master Degree in International Management, and his experience in Europe and Southeast Asia in the Army, Don landed an entry-level position in a small Ohio-based firm, Nordson Corporation, with just \$25 million in sales. His initial assignment was in Canada, followed by many others around the globe. Today Nordson is a world leader in the design, manufacture, and distribution of machinery for precise deposition and inspection of a wide range of materials (see www.nordson.com), now with over a billion dollars in annual revenue. Don's thirty-one year career with the company has been very fulfilling, both personally and professionally. He retired in late 2006 as Corporate Senior Vice President, and is quick to note that Thunderbird made a tremendous contribution to his success in his career, emphasizing also that the T-Bird assistantship truly helped to make it all possible.

It is for this reason that Don and his family, with the support of Nordson Corporation, wish to fund this McLane Family Assistantship for Returning Veterans at Thunderbird. Hopefully many other veterans in years to come, returning from challenging and dangerous military assignments worldwide, will find T-Bird to be a vital element in their career development, and this assistantship may, in some small way, help to make their success possible, as well.

Don has served on the Thunderbird Global Council since its inception in 1983, and continues to take an active interest in the school and its students.

Criteria: This assistantship is available to any T-Bird student who has served honorably on active duty in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, without limitation. It is offered to veterans currently attending Thunderbird.

- Any Thunderbird degree seeking student in the MBA-GM, MAGM or MSGM programs who has completed at least one trimester of full-time enrollment (12 credit hours) may apply for consideration.
- Applicants must be in good academic standing, including a cumulative GPA of 3.000 or greater. Recipient is required to work 5 hours per week in an administrative office or for a professor, depending on institutional project needs.
- Applicants must submit to Financial Aid a two-page, double-spaced essay describing experiences – educational, military and work – leading to your matriculation at Thunderbird and how Thunderbird will enhance your career expectations.
- Applicant must submit current resume.
- At the end of award term, the McLane Family would like recipient to provide, in written or verbal form, feedback from assistantship recipient regarding the impact of the assistantship award on their thunderbird experience.

Process:

- The Thunderbird Scholarship Committee reviews and ranks the applications and forwards the top candidates for the Donor to review.
- Donor will choose applicant and let Thunderbird Development office know of the decision.
- Thunderbird to let Donor know how much is available to award per year. Donor will decide on amount to award.

Amount: Based on endowment earnings.

Term: Awarded in the fall term.

In accordance with the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA), which affects endowments, the Investment Committee of the Thunderbird Board of Trustees has reviewed and revised Thunderbird's Investment Policy. Going forward, the annual spending amount for each donor-restricted endowment fund will be in the range of 0%-6% of the current endowment value. The investment goal is to achieve at least an 8% average annual total return on all donor-restricted endowment funds over the long term recognizing that the Investment Plan may at times target an annual total return of less than 8%.

In accordance with UPMIFA, each year the following factors will be taken into account in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds.

1. The duration and preservation of the fund
2. The mission of the School and the purpose of each donor-restricted endowment fund
3. General economic conditions
4. The possible effect of deflation and inflation
5. The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
6. Other resources of the School
7. The investment policies of the School