The John L. Bryan Chair endowment provides support for up to two Graduate Research Assistantships (GRA) every year. The support is provided to outstanding, incoming Master of Science (MS) students, domestic or international, in the UMD Department of Fire Protection Engineering (FPE) and is awarded on a competitive basis. Incoming students are defined as students who start their MS program in Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Winter 2022 or Spring 2022.

In 2021, we anticipate offering two John L. Bryan GRA Awards. The support will go to two individuals who have already applied or will be applying to the FPE MS program. Identification of a research project and a MS Thesis Faculty advisor is welcome but is not required. The recipients of the John L. Bryan GRA Awards are expected to complete their proposed research project under the supervision of members of the Faculty of the FPE Department. Because of a possible delay between the time of the announcement of the Awards (March 2021) and the start of the MS program (possibly as late as Spring 2022), changes to the original plan submitted by the Awardees may be allowed (e.g., changes in the proposed research area, the start date of the MS program, etc); in that case, changes need to be authorized by the FPE Director of Graduate Studies.

The John L. Bryan GRA Awards include standard tuition credits (up to 25), health benefits, and a stipend ($32,800). The duration of the support is up to 12 months. Mandatory fees are not covered by the Awards (see http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/ for details regarding these fees). A (new) requirement in the Awards is that the Awardees agree to serve as Teaching Assistants for one course during both the Fall and Spring terms (1/2 TA positions).

Interested applicants should provide a one-page statement of purpose explaining their interest in the MS degree program in general and in fire research in particular. Applicants should also provide an updated résumé. Applications should be submitted via email to Dr. Arnaud Trouvé, Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the FPE Department (atrouve@umd.edu). The deadline for application is Friday February 19, 2021. A decision on the recipients of the 2021 John L. Bryan GRA Awards will be made by March 5.