

# The Davis Graduate Nutrition Enhancement Award



The Davis Graduate Nutrition Enhancement Award is given as an enhancement of \$5000 annually to a graduate student studying nutrition at the University of Florida. The award is available on a competitive basis to any student starting a new nutrition degree program. Davis enhancement award recipients will receive the award as a supplement to an assistantship or fellowship. The assistantships are typically for a period of 2 years (MS) or 4 years (Ph.D.).

Dr. George K. Davis and his wife, Ruthanna W. Davis, created this endowment in the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) in 1993. Dr. Davis and his wife are longtime and generous friends of UF/IFAS.

A former University of Florida professor, Dr. George K. Davis' career spanned five decades in the field of nutrition. He received his Ph.D. from Cornell University in 1937. During his long and dedicated service to the University of Florida in the Animal Science Department he authored or coauthored 250 scientific articles and numerous popular articles published in English and several foreign languages. Dr. Davis was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Davis and his colleagues were the first to use radioisotopes as tracers in the study of nutrition of large domestic animals. He also discovered the interrelationships of the minerals necessary to successfully raise cattle on soil similar to that found in the Florida Everglades. Davis' research assisted in identifying the roles of trace minerals in human and animal medicine world-wide. His work led to the discovery of a water-soluble form of vitamin D and further defined the function of vitamin D<sub>3</sub> in animals and humans.



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