



In 2005, Benjamin Pierre Bousert, a sixth-year graduate student in the laboratory of Professor Paul Alivisatos in the Department of Chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, perished in a car accident along with graduate student Jason Choy and visiting scholar Giulia Adesso. He was awarded the Ph.D. posthumously. Benjamin's strong character, sharp intellect, and generous spirit are dearly missed by his family and friends. Through their generous gifts, Ben's family, friends, peers, and teachers endowed the Benjamin Bousert Memorial Award in 2008.

The award: The Bousert Memorial Award will be presented at commencement to a graduating doctoral student who best exemplifies Ben's commitment to creating positive social or environmental change. These contributions may have been realized either through the nominee's dissertation research or through other channels such as science policy or educational outreach projects.

This \$2000 award will be made directly to the student, for use as he or she embarks upon the next phase of life, whether for travel to a conference, moving expenses, or another purpose.

Eligibility: Award nominees should be Ph.D. students in the College of Chemistry whose degree will be awarded in the 2014-15 academic year (i.e. before September 2015).

How to apply: Applications are submitted by online [here](#). The due date for submission is April 1, 2015. Applications will be reviewed by a committee of Benjamin's peers. The winner will be notified during the week preceding commencement, and the award will be presented at commencement.

<https://sites.google.com/site/boussertmemorialaward/home>

http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2005/07/21_gradstudentdeaths.shtml

Boussert, Benjamin Pierre Clovis

Benjamin Pierre Clovis Boussert died Saturday, July 16, 2005, in Berkeley, Calif., as a result of an on-coming 18-wheel truck crashing through the median barrier and landing in the path of his vehicle. Two friends, Guilia Adesso and Jason Choy, also were killed in the crash. Benjamin was born in Baton Rouge on Nov. 17, 1977. He attended Sacred Heart School, Baton Rouge Magnet High, then went on to LSU, where he earned degrees in chemistry and chemical engineering in four years. He was accepted to several of the nation's premier chemistry graduate schools and chose the University of California at Berkeley. He received a Ph.D. in chemistry from Berkeley in May of this year. Benjamin had a very full life and many wonderful friends. He traveled to many places in the United States and Europe, as well as to India. He was a voracious reader, interested in literature, politics and many other subjects in addition to science. He enjoyed bicycling, running and soccer. He was very charitable and volunteered for the Union of Concerned Scientists. He was planning to pursue a career in science public policy. Benjamin was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Alfred Boussert; maternal grandmother, Barbara Smitherman; and first cousin, Shawn Stuekerjuergen. He is survived by his parents, Anne and Christian Boussert of Baton Rouge; brother, Joel Boussert of Baton Rouge; paternal grandmother, Colette Boussert of Paris; maternal grandparents, Robert and Betty Smitherman of Mount Pleasant, Texas; aunt, Gayle Smitherman of Dallas; cousins, Kristin, Corey and Cole Granger, all of Rockwall, Texas; great-aunts and great-uncles, Joy and Charles Smitherman of Houston, and Nancy and David Smitherman of Baton Rouge, and their children and grandchildren. He will be buried in the Boussert family grave in the Cimetiere Parisien de Bagneux near Paris. A funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday July 27, at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, 2250 Main St. Visitation at the church from 9 a.m. until service. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to a favorite charity or to a scholarship fund being established at LSU in his name.