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Upcoming Opportunity – Fulbright Grants for Study/Research Abroad

Event: Moving Forward with Fulbright – Get Ready to Apply!

For students who plan to apply for Fulbright grants for research abroad or English teaching, we will hold a work session on Thursday, June 12, 2014 from 10-11 am in room 1140 of the Marriott Library.

This session is recommended for anyone (graduates and undergraduates) who would like to apply for a Fulbright student award for study or research abroad. Come learn about what you can be doing now to lay the groundwork for the most competitive proposal possible. If you have attended other sessions or have started work on your application, please bring any written materials that you have been working on.

Recent Awards

Thomas G. Stockham Medal for Conspicuously Effective Teaching

Jennifer Y. Macias from the History Department is this year’s recipient of the Stockham Medal. The medal is named after the late Thomas G. Stockham, who is considered the father of digital audio recording and who taught for many years at the University of Utah. The award is reserved for individuals who demonstrate conspicuously effective teaching.

Jennifer Macias was nominated for the award by Dr. Eric Hinderaker, who says “Jenn Macias is an unusually capable and committed instructor, already well on her way to achieving a very high level of pedagogical excellence. Jenn has demonstrated a command of the material, a maturity of judgment, and a level of classroom effectiveness that gives us enormous confidence in her ability.” Ms. Macias was presented with an engraved medal and will also receive a $1,000 cash award.

Due to the uniquely talented pool of nominees this year, two student teachers were also selected for Honorable Mention: Cindy Huynh from the Department of Education, Culture and Society, and Lucas Matthews from the Department of Philosophy. We are inspired by the standard that these students have set for excellence in student teaching.

Garr Cutler Energy Prize

Chengshang Zhou from the Department of Metallurgical Engineering is this year’s recipient of the Garr Cutler Energy Prize. The certificate and $1,500 cash prize is awarded to a University of Utah graduate student who has published a paper that makes a significant contribution in an area of energy. Zhou’s paper, “Thermodynamic and Kinetic Destabilization of Magnesium Hydride by Using Mg-In Solid Solution Alloys”, addresses problems related to hydrogen storage. The paper was published in the Journal of the American Chemistry Society, one of the world’s preeminent chemistry journals.
The Diversity Office has been preparing for its fourth consecutive Graduate Preparation Institute (GPI). The GPI is a four-week intensive summer research program for 12 college juniors and seniors from historically underrepresented communities in STEM fields across the Western states. GPI students conduct research, attend a GRE preparation course, and learn how to create a competitive graduate school application.

Celebrate Diversity Mini-Grants

The Celebrate Diversity mini-grant helps support events that value contributions of historically underrepresented students in higher education through grant awards of up to $1,000.

In Spring 2014, the Diversity Office awarded six grants. The events that were funded included a keynote speaker, a high school conference, a STEM lecture series, two leadership conferences, and an etiquette dinner. Proposals for this grant are due at the beginning of Fall and Spring Semesters. Students are encouraged to submit Fall Semester proposals by September 30, 2014.

Fellowship Opportunities

Summer is a great time to start planning to apply for future fellowship opportunities. An extensive list of external fellowships and scholarships is available on our website. A variety of support is offered through outside agencies, including private foundations, academic associations, nonprofits, state and federal offices. Pre-doctoral, doctoral, dissertation, and postdoctoral fellowships, scholarships, and grants provide funding, resources, and mentorship. We encourage you to review the list and start working on your applications this summer.

For more information about the Graduate Preparation Institute, Celebrate Diversity Mini-Grant, and the External Fellowship list, please visit the Diversity Office website at http://gradschool.utah.edu/diversity/.
Attention All International Graduate Students!

Mandatory Orientation with International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS)

All international students need to complete certain requirements to be in compliance with the federal government regarding visas, etc. In addition to the Orientation Week advertised as August 18-22, there is also an earlier session on Friday, August 15 especially for graduate students. There are also a few more sessions that are targeted for graduate students during the following week. Contact the ISSS and/or your department coordinator for more information.

English Classes for Graduate Students

Remember that if you want to work on refining your English skills, the Linguistics Department has classes at the graduate level. These classes may be covered by tuition benefit. Contact Diane Cotsonas at diane.cotsonas@utah.edu for more information and referrals.

International Teaching Assistant Program (ITAP)

The mission of the ITAP is to provide the support, training, and evaluation of international graduate students who will serve as TAs while on our campus.

ITA Clearance

Clearance from the ITAP is required for ITAs to receive tuition benefit for TA duties. See http://gradschool.utah.edu/ita/ita-clearance-process/ for details.

If your department has registered you for the ITAP, you already should have received a welcome message from Diane Cotsonas, ITAP Manager. If you have not received this message, but think you should be registered, contact your department.

Spoken English Classes

The ITAP and the Linguistics Department partner to offer classes in spoken English to ITAP students who have not yet met the spoken English requirement. The ITAP Manager can also advise non-ITAP students and department personnel regarding resources for English improvement.

In addition to the spoken English classes coordinated by the ITAP, there are additional classes offered at the graduate level that focus on other important skills such as writing, presentation skills, and intercultural communication.

Mid-semester Course Evaluations

Partnering with the Center for Teaching & Learning Excellence (CTLE), the ITAP provides mid-semester course evaluations to give ITAs feedback from their students. This feedback can be useful not only to assure good results on end-of-semester evaluations, but also to further the student engagement that is so desirable to having a positive TA experience.
Thesis Deadlines

Friday, June 6:
- Suggested date for submission of oversized (200+ pages) defended manuscripts for Format Approval.

Friday, June 13:
- Deadline for first submission of defended manuscript for Format Approval.
- Manuscripts submitted after the deadline will be processed as time permits, not necessarily within the usual 5 to 10 working days.

Please note: Manuscripts submitted on June 13 with major formatting problems (margins, spacing, figure and table placement) will not make the deadline.

Monday, July 21:
- Deadline for submission of final approved PDF to ProQuest for Thesis Release.
- Students will receive periodic deadlines along with their corrections to make sure there is time to finish the editing process before the final deadline.

Graduate Records Deadlines

Sunday, June 1:
- Fall 2014 graduation deadline was June 1st, however the Graduation Office will still accept applications until December 12th.

Saturday, July 26:
- Summer 2014 grading begins

Wednesday, July 30:
- Summer 2014 graduation deadline was February 1st, however the Graduation Office will still accept applications until July 30th.

Monday, August 11:
- Grades must be posted no later than 11:00 pm

Tuesday, August 12:
- Grades are viewable by students

Friday, August 15:
- Hard deadline for departments to have student online files completed for Summer 2014

Please see the following for further information about these deadlines:
- [http://gradschool.utah.edu/current-students/graduation-overview-for-masters-candidates](http://gradschool.utah.edu/current-students/graduation-overview-for-masters-candidates)
- [http://gradschool.utah.edu/current-students/graduation-overview-for-doctoral-candidates](http://gradschool.utah.edu/current-students/graduation-overview-for-doctoral-candidates)

It is recommended that students periodically review their Graduate Student Summary in CIS. See the tutorial: [http://gradschool.utah.edu/current-students/electronic-graduate-record-file-tutorial](http://gradschool.utah.edu/current-students/electronic-graduate-record-file-tutorial)