

November 2009

TO: Directors of Graduate Studies

FROM: Patricia Jones Whyte, Acting Director
The Graduate School Diversity Office



SUBJECT: Diversity of Views and Experiences (DOVE) Recruiting Fellowship Competition for 2010-2011

Deadline: 12:00 noon, Wednesday, January 27, 2010

Enclosed are the nominating instructions for the Diversity of Views and Experiences (DOVE) Recruiting Fellowship for 2010-2011 and the request form for travel award funds.

The DOVE Fellowship Program seeks to assist graduate programs to promote a diversity of views, experiences, and ideas in pursuit of research, scholarship, and creative excellence. This diversity is promoted through the recruitment and support of academically excellent students with diverse ethnic, racial, economic, and educational backgrounds and experiences as suggested in the review/selection consideration list. Programs are encouraged to consider students from groups that have been traditionally underrepresented in graduate programs.

Please note - The nomination packet should include the nominee's narrative statement discussing how her or his background, experiences, and achievements will contribute to the university's goal of promoting excellence through diversity. If applicable, nominees should mention hardships or obstacles that they have overcome to complete their undergraduate education (e.g. coming from a low-income background or being a first-generation college student). Essay #2 from the Graduate School Application can be used to address these issues.
(http://www.grad.umn.edu/prospective_students/announcements3.html)

Programs are limited to four (4) nominations. If more than four (4) nominations are received from a program, The Graduate School Diversity Office will return all the nominations. The program will need to select four (4) to resubmit by the deadline.

The Graduate School Diversity Office has limited funds to assist with the expense of bringing one or more of your fellowship nominees to campus for a visit. Graduate programs do not have to wait until after submission of their nominations to request travel funds. We will begin reviewing requests for recruitment travel funds December 1, 2009. The DOVE Fellowship and the travel program are designed to assist graduate programs in enhancing diversity within their programs.

Both the fellowship nomination form and the travel request form are in our website:
http://www.grad.umn.edu/outreach/forms/dove_nomination.pdf

If you have questions about the fellowship or the travel funds programs, feel free to contact us at 625.6858 or dove@umn.edu.

I look forward to receiving your nominations.

Enclosure
PJW/jgg

DOVE FELLOWSHIP 2010-2011

Diversity
Of
Views &
Experiences



Recruiting Fellowship for New Students
Program Nomination Packet

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
The Graduate School Diversity Office



**2010-2011 Diversity of Views and Experiences (DOVE)
Recruiting Fellowship for New Students**

**University of Minnesota
The Graduate School Diversity Office**

DEADLINE: 12:00 Noon, Wednesday, January 27, 2010

Program Description: The Diversity of Views and Experiences (DOVE) Fellowship Program seeks to assist graduate programs to promote a diversity of views, experiences, and ideas in the pursuit of research, scholarship, and creative excellence. This diversity is promoted through the recruitment and support of academically excellent students with diverse ethnic, racial, economic, and educational backgrounds and experiences as suggested in the review/selection consideration list. Programs are encouraged to consider students from groups that have been traditionally underrepresented in their graduate programs.

Approximately twenty fellowships are available. The award includes a stipend of \$22,500.00, academic-year tuition at regular Graduate School rates for up to 14 credits per semester, subsidized health insurance, and dental care for the academic year and for summer 2011. **(Note: Fellows are responsible for all other fees or charges, tuition beyond 14 credits, and tuition in non-Graduate School colleges, such as the Carlson School of Management, the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, and the School of Public Health.)**

Terms of Award: Fellows will be expected to be enrolled full time (6-14 credits) each semester while maintaining a minimum 3.50 GPA. Fellowships may not be renewed or deferred, nor may they be used to supplement other full-support awards. Fellows may hold a supplemental appointment not to exceed the monetary equivalent of a twenty-five percent (25%) graduate assistantship in either semester. The DOVE Fellowship is a non-service award.

Program Support for DOVE Fellows: The Graduate School views this fellowship program as a partnership with graduate programs in recruiting and supporting outstanding students. Graduate programs will:

- Provide continuing support for their successful nominees for the duration of their graduate work, at the level of support normally provided their best students - such as a half-time teaching or research assistantship - subject to satisfactory progress and performance;
- Provide a \$4,000 stipend for DOVE fellow participation in the Summer Institute experience; (DOVE fellows will be offered the opportunity to participate in the Summer Institute and the Community of Scholars Program. Participation is optional and not a condition of accepting the award. Should the student elect to participate, the graduate program receiving the DOVE will cover the cost of the stipend for the DOVE fellow and provide an appropriate research or educational experience for the summer.)
- Commit a minimum of \$1,000 to support the participation of DOVE fellows in research/conference travel.

Eligibility: U. S. citizens and U. S. permanent residents entering the University of Minnesota Graduate School for the first time in the 2010-2011 academic year may be nominated. Students with terminal degrees are not eligible (such as M.D., J.D., Ph.D., Ed.D. etc.). Students need not have been admitted at the time of nomination, but they must have applied and be admissible under the program and The Graduate School standards. Recipients must be admitted to a Graduate School degree program by fall semester, 2010.

Review/Selection considerations: An interdepartmental faculty committee reviews all nominations. Selection considerations include:

- The strength of the nominee's undergraduate academic records, recommendations, and test scores (if required) in the context of the rigor and reputation of the undergraduate college and major (and the graduate record, if applicable).
- Evidence that the nominee has achieved academic success while overcoming substantial educational or economic obstacles.
- Demonstrated experience with, or commitment to, serving or working with historically underserved or underprivileged populations.
- The strength of the nominee's goals/career statement.
- The level of commitment by the program to fund the student beyond the first year and to provide support for participation in the Summer Institute as well as research and conference travel.
- The extent and level of the nominee's preparation, suitability, and high academic potential for the proposed program.
- The overall effectiveness of the nominating program's presentation.

Nominating procedure: PROGRAMS ARE LIMITED TO FOUR (4) NOMINATIONS. If more than four (4) nominations are received from a program, The Graduate School Diversity Office will return all the nominations. The program will need to select four (4) to resubmit by the deadline.

An original and four copies (five sets) of the following materials for each nominee constitute a complete application:

- 1) Nomination form for the Diversity of Views and Experiences Fellowship (copy attached).
- 2) Evaluation statement from the Director of Graduate Studies.*
- 3) Nominee's narrative statement on career objectives.
- 4) Nominee's narrative statement on how her or his background, experiences, and achievements will contribute to the university's goal of promoting excellence through diversity. If applicable, nominees should mention hardships or obstacles that they have overcome to complete their undergraduate education (e.g. coming from a low-income background or being a first-generation college student).
- 5) Transcripts from each college/university attended (photocopies acceptable).
- 6) Photocopy of GRE scores (if required for admission to program).
- 7) Letters of recommendation.

* ***The evaluation letter from the Director of Graduate Studies is particularly important.*** The letter should describe aspects of the nominee's record or interests not readily discernible from the application itself - e.g. a description of the research interests and the match with a potential adviser's research, an appraisal of the undergraduate college or department, etc. At a minimum, the letter should contain the following elements:

- Evaluation of the student using the selection considerations listed above.
- Assurance that the student has completed formal Graduate School admission requirements.
- Description of the financial support that the program will offer or arrange for the successful nominee beyond the fellowship year.
- Statement of intent to provide support for the nominee's participation in the Graduate School Summer Institute and support for research and conference travel.
- Notation of any missing documents, such as a letter of recommendation, and the date by which it will be forwarded to The Graduate School Diversity Office. Be advised, however, that missing documentation at the time review begins may well result in an unfavorable decision.

In the past, the most successful nominees have had a grade point average of at least 3.50. Programs should provide especially careful defense for the nomination of students with grade point averages below 3.50 (e.g., high quality

undergraduate institution, all A's in major work but lower grades in elective courses, etc.). Nominees with an undergraduate GPA of less than 2.80 will normally not be considered. It is expected that nominees will complete all required undergraduate coursework prior to entry to The Graduate School; programs should justify the nomination of students who have not.

Deadline: 12:00 Noon, Wednesday, January 27, 2010. Five (5) sets of each nomination should be sent to The Graduate School Diversity Office, 333 Johnston Hall. Programs are urged to submit their nominations earlier, if possible, to speed the process of preparing the materials for committee review. If you have questions about the nomination process, please call the The Graduate School Diversity Office at 612-625-6858 or send an e-mail message to dove@umn.edu. Every effort will be made to inform you of the results by March.

GSDO-09/08

Deadline: 12.00 Noon, Wednesday, January 27, 2010

To be completed by the Director of Graduate Studies

Nominating Program: _____

STUDENT INFORMATION (please print or type)

Last	First	Middle	Social Security No.	ID Number
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PERMANENT ADDRESS

Street	City	State	Zip
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E-mail Address	Phone No.	Country of Citizenship
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Demographics
 African American or Black American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian American or Pacific Islander Caucasian
 Mexican American (Chicano) Other Latino/a Puerto Rican Biracial/Multiracial/Other (please specify) _____

Gender Female Male **First** **Generation College**

DEGREE OBJECTIVE

Proposed Major Field	Degree Sought
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Has student been admitted formally by The Graduate School? Yes _____ No _____

EDUCATION

Undergraduate Institution(s)	Major	Degree Earned	Year	Cumulative GPA
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Undergraduate Institution(s)	Major	Degree Earned	Year	Cumulative GPA
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Undergraduate Honors (attach additional page if necessary)

Graduate Institution(s)	Major	Degree Earned	Year	Cumulative GPA
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*******IMPORTANT*******

Attach a copy of this nomination form to each of five sets of nomination materials, in the following order:

- _____ Nomination Form
- _____ Evaluation statement from the Director of Graduate Studies
- _____ Photocopy of GRE scores (if required for admission to program)
- _____ Nominee's narrative statement on career objectives
- _____ Nominee's narrative statement on how her or his background, experiences, and achievements will contribute to the University's goal of promoting excellence through diversity
- _____ Transcript from each college/university attended (photocopies acceptable)
- _____ Letters of recommendation

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL DIVERSITY OFFICE

Mission Statement

The mission of The Graduate School Diversity Office (GSDO) is to coordinate and lead The Graduate School initiatives in support of the recruitment, funding, retention, and graduation of a diverse student body. In addition, GSDO works closely with other University of Minnesota offices that are concerned with diversity and multiculturalism. We fulfill this mission by:

- Providing top quality service to prospective graduate students, currently enrolled graduate students, faculty, funding representatives, and university colleagues.
- Providing accurate and timely information about the University of Minnesota and its commitment to enrolling a diverse student population by attending graduate and professional school fairs and receptions in Minnesota, the Upper Midwest Region, and nationally.
- Supporting a diverse student body in recruiting, funding, retention, and graduation with strategies for clarifying goals; selecting an appropriate graduate program; preparing the best possible graduate school application; and funding graduate work through assistantships and fellowships.
- Serving as the administrative unit for funding programs that support a diverse graduate student body.
- Promoting professional development and scholarship across disciplines and working toward creating the institutional environment necessary for facilitating the academic achievements of graduate and professional students through the Community of Scholars Program.
- Encouraging undergraduate students to consider graduate study by participating in research and other academic projects outside of their regular coursework.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The Graduate School Diversity Office

Travel Award Funds

Request Form

The Graduate School Diversity Office has limited funds to assist with the expense of bringing one or more of your fellowship nominees to campus for a visit. Request should be limited to the students in whom you have the most interest. Requests should be made *before March 22, 2010* for authorization, and *visits must take place no later than April 12, 2010*. *Programs must request reimbursement before May 17, 2010*. These travel funds will pay for *up to \$400 of transportation expenses only* in a first-come, first-serve basis.

Name of nominee: _____

Department: _____ DGS Name: _____

Date of visit: _____ Departing from: _____

Travel used: _____ Total cost: _____ Amount request: _____
(E.g. airfare, car mileage, bus ticket, etc)

Departmental contribution: _____

Brief statement on how the student meets the DOVE Fellowship criteria:

Commitments to graduate programs will be made until funds are no longer available. If multiple requests are made, the graduate program should indicate their priority.

Mail or E-mail the attached form to: The Graduate School Diversity Office, 333 Johnston Hall, or dove@umn.edu *before March 22, 2010* for authorization for travel award funds.