WORKING TOGETHER: SUCCESS NOTHING LESS

OCTOBER 3 2012

Annual Workshop for Directors of Graduate Study and Graduate Contacts
GRADUATE COLLEGE
CAREER SERVICES

Rebecca Bryant, Assistant Dean & Director
Katherine Eriksen, Assistant Director
RESOURCES TO SUPPORT GRADUATE STUDENTS

- Career exploration
- Job search
  - Faculty
  - Business/Government/Non-profit
- Interviewing
- Negotiation
RESOURCES TO SUPPORT GRADUATE STUDENTS

• Web site
  www.grad.illinois.edu/careerservices

• CareerSTART
  www.grad.illinois.edu/careerstart

• Online video workshops
  www.grad.illinois.edu/video

• Workshops & events
  www.grad.illinois.edu/

• LinkedIn Group
  go.illinois.edu/JobTalk

• Individual advising
HELPING GRADUATE STUDENTS WIN EXTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS

Ken Vickery,
Director of External Fellowships
Thirty-three Students Offered NSF Graduate Research Fellowships

Date:
05/21/2012

Thirty-three current and incoming University of Illinois students have been offered National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships. Awardees include 15 current graduate students, 5 current seniors, and 13 seniors from other colleges and universities who will enter graduate school at Illinois this fall. Another 33 Illinois students received an honorable mention.

The NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program recognizes outstanding students who are pursuing research-based master’s and doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and select social science disciplines. It is a highly competitive program that seeks to identify the next generation of knowledge leaders who will contribute significantly to research and teaching in the sciences. Fellows receive a three-year funding package that includes a $30,000 annual stipend along with coverage of tuition and fees. This year, 2000 fellowships were awarded nationwide.

According to Dr. Ken Vickery, Director of External Fellowships in the Graduate College, “NSF fellowships are among the most prized of all graduate fellowships. Heartfelt congratulations are due to all the recipients and Honorable Mention awardees.”

The Graduate College applauds this year’s winners.
Two Illinois doctoral students awarded 2012 Google US/Canada PhD Fellowships

Date:
07/12/2012

Among the fourteen recipients of the Google US/Canada PhD Fellowships are two from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Hongning Wang and Ankit Singla, both doctoral students in Computer Science, have been awarded fellowships.

The Google Fellowship Program recognizes outstanding graduate students doing exceptional work in computer science, related disciplines, or promising research areas. This is a prestigious two-year fellowship with a stipend of $32,000 per year and tuition/fee coverage. It also has the additional benefit of pairing fellows with a Google research mentor. These mentors provide a different point of view beyond academic training, and introduce fellows to a professional network which will last throughout their careers.

Hongning Wang specializes in Search and Information Retrieval. Having already interned with Yahoo and Microsoft, Wang is very excited to have the opportunity to learn from Google as well, a name that is synonymous with the word “search” and surrounded by a bit of mystery in how those searches work. While Hongning has not yet decided whether to pursue a career in academe or industry, his research interests include how to help users gather knowledge and personalize information retrieval.

Ankit Singla focuses on Datacenter Networking. For Singla, having the chance to see some of the problems that Google sees is fundamental because of the scale and size of Google’s network. Singla is leaning toward a career in academe but is likewise not certain what career path he will take. He does, however, have some advice for fellow graduate students, “Take the time to write a good research proposal. It increases the odds of your getting the fellowship, but in any case, its contents could contribute to your thesis proposal.”

According to Ken Vickery, Director of External Fellowships, the Graduate College’s review committee was very impressed with both Ankit’s and Hongning’s applications. “[We were] confident that we were submitting a solid pair of nominations to Google,” says Vickery. “But for both nominees to win, especially given that there were only 14 awards offered, is certainly fantastic. This testifies to the vigor of Illinois’ Computer Science program as well as the promise of Ankit’s and Hongning’s individual research projects.”
Three U. of I. students win Howard Hughes Medical Institute fellowships

8/9/2012 | Madeline Lay, News Bureau intern | 217-333-1085 © | news@illinois.edu

[Email | Share] CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Three University of Illinois graduate students have been awarded International Student Research Fellowships from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Tolupe Agunbiade of Lagos, Nigeria; Junqi Li, of Singapore; and Maxim Prigozhin, of Samara, Russia, have each been awarded $43,000 per year for three years. The prestigious fellowship is open to international students pursuing a doctoral degree in biomedical or other related sciences.

Nearly 400 students nationwide applied for the fellowship this year, with only 50 applicants receiving the award. The fellowship is one of the few fellowships nationwide designed exclusively for international students.

“There are very few graduate fellowships of this caliber available to international students, so HHMI is leading the way in terms of providing much-needed support and recognition for this critical segment of our graduate population,” said Ken Vickery, the director of external fellowships in the U. of I. Graduate College.

Agunbiade, an entomology student, is conducting research on the application of genomic tools in the study of the population genetics of cowpea pests in West Africa.

Li, studying chemistry, is researching the automated synthesis of small molecules, in particular developing a building block approach to asymmetric synthesis.

Prigozhin, also a chemistry student, is completing research on protein folding and transient aggregate formation studied by very fast pressure drops.

“Given the stature of the HHMI awards, Illinois’ three recipients have proven themselves as ranking among the top young biomedical researchers worldwide,” Vickery said.
Three University of Illinois students win DAAD graduate fellowships for research in Germany

Date:
05/01/2012

Lance Lubelski (PhD candidate, History), Renee Gordon Holley (PhD candidate, Musicology), and Scott Harrison (PhD candidate, History) have been awarded DAAD fellowships for dissertation research in Germany.

DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst), known in the US as the German Academic Exchange Service, is a nonprofit organization representing higher education institutions in Germany. DAAD promotes international academic cooperation by offering exchange programs and fellowships for students, faculty, and others in higher education from around the world. DAAD partners with 60 select universities in the US, including the University of Illinois.

"DAAD offers fellowships to students whose dissertations promise significant insights into German history, culture, language, or the arts," according to Ken Vickery, director of external fellowships in the graduate college. "All three of this year's winners are poised to do just that. Each has a cutting-edge project underway, and it's wonderful to see that DAAD has chosen to support them."

Lance Lubelski's dissertation, "Pamela Caregiving, Healing, and their Medical Networks in 16th Century Germany," proposes to uncover the role of women, particularly non-white women, in the caregiving and medical healing activities of the period. Lubelski's research suggests that women were essential to the development of German medical practice. His goal is "to broaden our understanding of early German medical developments and show the key role that women played in those developments."

Lubelski will focus on several archives in Stuttgart, Dresden, Marburg, and Heidelberg, and will serve as a Research Fellow at the Institute for the History of Medicine at the University of Stuttgart under the supervision of Dr. Robert Jutte, one of Germany's foremost authorities on early modern medicine.

Renee Gordon Holley is conducting research on her dissertation entitled "Singing the European Union: Cultural Policy and its Constituent Voices in Germany." Merging musicology with European Union Studies, Holley will examine the tension inherent in the EU's "Unity in Diversity" motto as it plays out among cultural policy institutions, the artists funded by those institutions, and the audiences whom those institutions are trying to reach. Whereas the EU strives to promote a sense of "European" identity through its support of certain "European" musical and artistic events, the success of that effort is unknown. Holley's project is among the first to address that question directly, asking what extent government-sponsored cultural events can actually enhance or alter people's sense of belonging.

Along with the DAAD fellowship, Holley also won a German Chancellor's Fellowship for Prospective Leaders from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Scott Harrison's dissertation, "Sex Under Socialism: Gender, Sexuality, and Everyday Life in the German Democratic Republic and Beyond - 1951-1990," examines how changing sexual norms in the German Democratic Republic both collided with the socialist state and facilitated its durability. Harrison hypothesizes that state-level policies in the GDR promoted a new understanding of sex — one that promoted sexual freedom and pleasure — and that this promotion actually carried state interests. Harrison has found that the state funded over 100 sexual counseling clinics during the socialist era, and he will interview doctors and nurses who worked at those clinics as well as patients who received treatment there. Harrison will be based at the Free University of Berlin, and he will work closely with Dr. Dorothee Wierling, one of the leading oral historians of the GDR era.

Graduate students interested in applying for external fellowships, such as the DAAD, should visit the Graduate College's Fellowship Opportunities database and online resources for writing effective proposals.
German Chancellor’s Fellowship

U of I graduate student wins prestigious German Chancellor Fellowship for Prospective Leaders

Date: 04/17/2012

Renad Gordon Holley, Illinois Ph.D. candidate in Musicology, has received the prestigious German Chancellor Fellowship for Future Leaders. No more than ten awards are given to fellows in the United States annually.

Awarded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the fellowship provides an opportunity to young leaders from a broad range of professional and academic backgrounds who have completed at least a bachelor’s degree, have gained work experience and have shown outstanding leadership potential in their careers. The Foundation aims to foster future leaders who are able to act as goodwill ambassadors between Germany and their respective home countries by providing one year of support for a project of merit.

Holley’s project centers on the European Union’s (EU) Cultural Program Initiative. The EU sponsors musical events with the goal of increasing a sense of shared identity among the EU member states. Holley will examine if these EU programs have the intended impact on participating arts and audience members. “I want to see if the cultural events that the EU funds actually achieve the goals of the EU cultural programs [which include] the creation of transnational identity and a sense of belongingness.”

The fellowship will allow Holley to conduct research in Germany on musical performances supported by the European Union’s (EU) Cultural Program Initiative. She will be based in Bonn, where she will have access to a variety of German cultural organizations that are key to her project, including the European Choral Association and Germany’s Cultural Contact Point, the organization that supports those interested in applying for EU cultural funds.

Holley’s project is the result of the confluence of several key experiences. Her earlier studies in German and music, and her membership in several choirs led her to a semester of undergraduate study abroad in Salzburg, Austria, and one year of coursework in musicology in Freiburg, Germany via a Fulbright scholarship. She has also won several shorter-term fellowships which allowed her to study in Germany and continue to improve her German language skills and knowledge of German culture and institutions.

For the past year, Holley has worked as a graduate assistant at the European Center at the University of Illinois, which has led to a deepened interest in the EU, and a minor in EU studies as part of her doctoral coursework. When it came to her dissertation topic, it seemed a natural step for her to combine her love of musical performance and her interest in musicology with EU-funded musical activities.

When asked what advice she might have for graduate students applying for fellowships, Holley recommends that they “do their homework” and tailor their proposal for the specific funding institution, noting that it took her two tries to develop a winning proposal. Her previous application for another fellowship did not yield results, so she talked with a couple of friends who were having more success to find out what they had done differently. She also met with Dr. Ken Vickery, director of External Fellowships in the Graduate College, who gave her advice on how to improve her proposal, and she conducted mock interviews with Dr. Rebecca Bryant, director of Career Services Office in the Graduate College, in preparation for her interview in Washington, D.C.

With the stress of the application process behind her, Holley is looking forward to her year abroad, and to one event in particular: “I am so excited that I will get to meet and have dinner with Angela Merkel, the German Chancellor!”
FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES DATABASE

Welcome to the Fellowship Opportunities database, maintained by the Office of External Fellowships in the Graduate College. This database contains over 800 graduate student funding opportunities. To search, select the relevant category below and browse the listings. Though it requires an investment of time, this is the best way to locate all the fellowships appropriate for you.

If you want information only on one particular award, enter the name in the box below and click "Search Fellowships."

For tips on searching the database as well as information on our grantwriting workshops and proposal advising services, watch the short video at the lower right.

Browse fellowships by category:

- Campus
- Dissertation Support
- External
- Humanities/Social Science
- International Students
- Postdoctoral
- Research or Study Abroad
- Science/Engineering
- Underrepresented Groups
- Women
- All Fellowships

Search Fellowships  Advanced Search
Office of External Fellowships Services

1. Fellowship Opportunities database

2. Presentations & workshops
   - Orientation presentations
   - Proposal-writing workshops
   - Targeted-fellowship workshops

3. One-on-one proposal advising
GOALS FOR 2012-2013

• Increase success rates

• NSF-GRF 100% submission rate

• Raise awareness
POSSIBLE DEPARTMENT SERVICES

• Workshop
• Internal review committee
• Set expectations
• Grantwriting course
• ...?
Thank you!

Office of External Fellowships
Ken Vickery, Director
Colleen Vojak, Assistant Director
ExtFellowships@illinois.edu
217-333-3464
MENTORING

Andrea Golato,
Associate Dean
MENTORING WORKSHOP

- Workshop for faculty on mentoring and advising
  - Tuesday, January 8, 2012
  - Illini Union
GRADUATE STUDENT APPRECIATION WEEK

• April 1-7, 2013
• Variety of offerings from Graduate College and organizations around campus
• Program will be emailed to units
• Kick-off of Wellness/Financial Health workshops offered by the Graduate College
POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

Alexis Thompson,
Director of Postdoctoral Affairs
ABOUT THE OFFICE

• Started summer 2011
• Serves as a resource for postdoctoral scholars, faculty mentors, departments & units
• Partners with faculty, campus units, career services to support postdocs
• Guided by advisory committee
POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARS

• Recently received doctoral degree
• On campus for mentored, advanced training
• Duration: often 1-3 years
• About 600 postdocs at Illinois
• Mostly in STEM, some in humanities and social sciences
OFFICE SERVICES

• Professional development programs
• Email newsletters with events and announcements
• Orientation resources for postdocs
• Comprehensive website with information about policies and services
Postdoctoral Affairs Office

The Postdoctoral Affairs Office is a central resource for the postdoctoral community. Postdoctoral researchers are an important part of what makes Illinois a vibrant center for research.

Our office serves postdoctoral scholars and their faculty mentors by enhancing the postdoctoral experience and cultivating professional development opportunities.

The Postdoctoral Affairs Office:

- Coordinates and expands postdoctoral career and professional development resources
- Provides resources for faculty mentors creating mentoring plans for postdoctoral professional development and grant proposals
- Leads collaborative efforts to address policy impacting postdoctoral scholars

Learn more about the resources for new postdocs, current postdocs and faculty as well as how to sign up for the mailing list to learn about upcoming events.

If you have a question or are looking for resources, contact the Postdoctoral Affairs Office.
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DURING THE LAST YEAR

• Monthly emails to listserv of postdocs and interested members of campus
• Events on topics including science writing, start-up packages, and starting a research lab
• Bimonthly lunches to welcome new postdocs
• Postdoc definition and tax information
**STARTING THIS FALL**

- Professional development programs timeline
- Certificates in Professional Development for Postdocs

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORE PROGRAMS**

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<th>Communication and Grant Writing</th>
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<td>Writing Successful Grant Proposals</td>
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<td>Developing a Teaching Philosophy</td>
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**EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS**

**ODD-NUMBERED YEARS**
WAYS WE CAN WORK TOGETHER

• Direct postdocs and interested faculty and staff to the office
• Call if you have questions about postdocs
• Share ideas about ways to serve the postdoc community
ANNUAL REVIEWS

Andrea Golato,
Associate Dean
ANNUAL ACADEMIC PROGRESS REVIEWS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Campus policy stipulates that graduate units must conduct annual academic progress reviews for all graduate students enrolled in degree-seeking programs at least once every academic year. A written copy of the review must be given to the student and be placed in the student’s academic file.

Ideally, academic progress reviews should include the following elements:

• A student self-report and assessment of academic progress
• A review prepared by the adviser and at least one other faculty member to focus on an assessment of degree progress and student strengths and weaknesses. A copy of this written review is given to the student.
• An opportunity for the student to discuss this review in person.
ANNUAL REVIEWS (CONTINUED)

• Resources available on our website:
  http://www.grad.illinois.edu/annualreview
  – Template description of annual review procedures
  – Template annual review forms
  – Powerpoint of information sessions conducted with DGSs and Contacts

• For feedback and help contact:
  golato@illinois.edu
ASSISTANTSHIPS & STUDENTS ON PROBATION

Anne Kopera,
Assistant Dean
ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANTSHIPS

• Degree Seeking Student

• In Good Standing
PROBATION OR LIMITED STATUS?

- MUST PETITION EACH TERM TO HOLD AN ASSISTANTSHIP

- NO EXCEPTIONS BEGINNING JANUARY 2013
CHANGES TO DOCTORAL COMMITTEE POLICIES, FORMS, & PROCESSES

Rebecca Bryant, Assistant Dean
Mark Zulauf, Thesis Coordinator
KEY CHANGES TO DOCTORAL PRELIM/FINAL EXAMS & COMMITTEES

- Combining of policy and handbook
- Committee membership and examination format:
  - The preliminary exam committee chair must be a member of the Graduate Faculty (note: this was already the case for final exam committees).
  - Co-chairs and co-directors of research may be appointed (note: this was already the case but was not clearly stated).
  - The committee chair, student, and at least one additional voting member of the committee must be physically present for the entire duration of all oral components of the prelim and final examinations. If the committee has more than one chair, all chairs must be physically present; in these cases, no additional voting member is required to be physically present. Finally, all voting members of the committee must be present in person, or participate via teleconference or other electronic communication media, during the examination, deliberation and results determination.
CHANGES (CONTINUED)

Registration requirement for students:
• Students must now be enrolled for the entire academic term in which the preliminary exam occurs (note: this was already the case for the final exam).

Number of attempts:
• After a “fail” result, a student will only be allowed to take the prelim or final examination one additional time while working toward the completion of any one program of study.

Exam decisions:
• The “deferred” examination result has been eliminated for final examinations. It remains an option for preliminary exams.
# Changes to Forms

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<tr>
<th>Old name</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>New name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Result (CoR)</td>
<td>Verifies that student has completed exam, regardless of outcome.</td>
<td>Preliminary Exam Result (PER)/Final Exam Result (FER) form</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate of Committee Approval (CCA)</td>
<td>Indicates adviser/committee approval of thesis or dissertation (including requested revisions).</td>
<td>Thesis/Dissertation Approval (TDA) form</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
PER/FER FORM

• Provided by Grad College on appt of exam committee
• Must be signed by dept head
• Submit to GSAS
**TDA Form**

- Available on Grad College website
- Required for completion of deposit
- Submit to Thesis Office