

PRESIDENT'S DISSERTATION YEAR FELLOWSHIP

Department Nomination Deadline: April 1, 2009

Guidelines and Information

The President's Dissertation Year Fellowship provides financial resources to devote full attention to completing the dissertation in a twelve-month period. The award requires a clearly defined, vital mentor relationship between the student and his/her dissertation advisor that will encourage completion of the doctoral degree during the tenure of this fellowship. Ultimately, this program aims to improve the rate at which award recipients complete their degrees and to improve the quality of their research training and scholarly output.

Eligibility

The program is designed for continuing doctoral graduate students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. At the time of application, applicants must be either registered in a full-time program at UCSB or on an approved Leave of Absence in Spring Quarter of the current year, be advanced to candidacy, have an accepted dissertation topic and a functioning dissertation committee, and demonstrate high academic performance. Award recipients are expected to finish their degree within the fellowship year, and will not be considered for future central fellowship support. Applicants should make a contribution to the graduate population in at least one of the following ways: low family socio-economic status; experience of a condition impeding advancement to graduate study (such as but not limited to the absence of a family member who had attended college; educational disadvantages such as matriculation in a school or schools with poor financial or curricular support; having a physical or mental special need; the necessity to work long hours while attending school; language background at home other than English); commitment to advancing economically or educationally disadvantaged segments of society (such as but not limited to academic research interests focusing on cultural, societal or educational problems as they affect economically or educationally underrepresented or disadvantaged segments of society); expressed interest in the use of the doctoral degree toward advancing economically or educationally disadvantaged segments of society.

Doctoral P3 (2A) class level students are not eligible for central fellowship funds. (A student enrolled for more than 9 quarters since advancement to doctoral candidacy is P3 class level.) For example, if Spring 2009 is a student's seventh registered quarter since advancement to candidacy, that student is not eligible to apply for this fellowship.

Terms of the Award

This award provides a \$16,000 stipend, plus a \$500 research allowance, and payment of fees and health insurance. Students also receive a travel allowance for a required presentation of their research at another University of California (UC) campus. This is a requirement of the President's Dissertation Year Fellowship. Dissertation advisors are encouraged to assist fellows in arranging for the presentation of their research at either formal or informal settings at another UC campus. The idea behind this requirement is to provide exposure for the students to other academic settings for potential career placement. Fellows are also required to present their research at UCSB. Recipients must maintain continuous full-time enrollment and good academic standing at UCSB throughout the entire tenure of the award. Please note, **award recipients may not be employed during the tenure of this award.**

Award Determination

Applications are reviewed by a multidisciplinary faculty committee which makes the selections based upon the applicant's academic merit, the quality of the proposal, the feasibility of finishing the dissertation within the award period, and the strength of the letters of recommendation. Awardees will be notified by mail, in care of the campus academic departments, by June of the current year.

Application

1. **Cover Sheet** (see attached)
2. **Curriculum Vitae** (include all publications, presentations, and/or performances)
3. **Summary of the Dissertation** - 600-900 words, double-spaced and typed for a general audience. It should be easily understood by a group of faculty from different fields. Discipline-specific jargon should be avoided if possible and explained when necessary.
4. **Diversity Statement** – A statement from the applicant identifying his/her contributions to the diversity of UCSB's graduate student population. The statement should be no longer than 1 page, and should address the potential contributions outlined in the eligibility section above.
5. **Letters of Recommendation** – three letters are required: one letter from the applicant's dissertation chair which must indicate that the applicant is capable of setting and meeting a reasonable timetable for the completion of the dissertation within the award period, and must address the intent that this award supports full focus, full-time, full-year on the dissertation, and two letters from other dissertation committee members.

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COVER SHEET

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Materials Submitted:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cover Sheet	<input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum Vitae
	<input type="checkbox"/> Dissertation Summary	<input type="checkbox"/> Diversity Statement
Letters of recommendation to be sent under	1.	_____
separate cover by:	2.	_____
	3.	_____

Name _____ Perm _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Department _____

Date Advanced to Doctoral Candidacy _____

Dissertation Title _____

Expected Date of Completion _____

Name of Chair of Dissertation Committee _____

Names of Other Dissertation Committee Members _____

It is required that applicants submit the FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid–
www.fafsa.ed.gov) for 2009-10 and have need analysis information in place at the Financial Aid Office prior
to submitting this application. While it is not necessary to be financially needy to receive this award, as a
public institution a large share of our fellowship funds are provided through financial aid monies and each
fellowship recipient is required to file the form.

Please indicate the date you submitted the 2009-10 FAFSA _____

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

PRESIDENT’S DISSERTATION YEAR FELLOWSHIP

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION – Dissertation Chair

Applicant Name _____

Please evaluate the research project and academic qualifications of the applicant. Please type. You may submit a separate letter or use this form.

PROJECT: Address the intent that this award supports full focus, full-time, full-year on the dissertation. (significance, feasibility, etc.)

TIMELINESS: Indicate the applicant’s ability to set and meet a reasonable timetable for the completion of the dissertation within the award period. (At what stage is the student in his/her doctoral study? Is this the appropriate time in the student’s career to apply for a dissertation fellowship? How realistic is completion within a year?)

APPLICANT: (academic record and promise; please indicate in what percentile this student falls compared to other students you have supervised.)

Dissertation Chair’s Name (please print) _____

Dissertation Chair’s Signature _____ Date _____

Title _____

Department _____

PRESIDENT'S DISSERTATION YEAR FELLOWSHIP

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION – Dissertation Committee Member

Applicant Name _____

Please evaluate the research project and academic qualifications of the applicant. Please type. You may submit a separate letter or use this form.

PROJECT: (significance, feasibility, etc.)

TIMELINESS: (At what stage is the student in his/her doctoral study? Is this the appropriate time in the student's career to apply for a dissertation fellowship? How realistic is completion within a year?)

APPLICANT: (academic record and promise; please indicate in what percentile this student falls compared to other students you have supervised.)

Committee Member's Name (please print) _____

Committee Member's Signature _____ Date _____

Title _____

Department _____

PRESIDENT'S DISSERTATION YEAR FELLOWSHIP

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION – Dissertation Committee Member

Applicant Name _____

Please evaluate the research project and academic qualifications of the applicant. Please type. You may submit a separate letter or use this form.

PROJECT: (significance, feasibility, etc.)

TIMELINESS: (At what stage is the student in his/her doctoral study? Is this the appropriate time in the student's career to apply for a dissertation fellowship? How realistic is completion within a year?)

APPLICANT: (academic record and promise; please indicate in what percentile this student falls compared to other students you have supervised.)

Committee Member's Name (please print) _____

Committee Member's Signature _____ Date _____

Title _____

Department _____