

Fishing for Fellowships in the Sea of Science

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Department of Chemistry

GWISE Seminar – 28 September 2010



Or how to Belabor a Chinese Proverb

**Give a [woman] a fish and you
feed [her] for a day. Teach a
[woman] to fish and you feed
[her] for a lifetime.**

Why Fish?

- Prestige and recognition
- Career enhancement (travel, dissertation support)
- Excellent training for career in academia and industry
- Research independence
- Financial improvement
- Laboratory money runs out

Not to be Undertaken Lightly

- Need to find
- Need to understand the odds and requirements and institutional implications
- Need to ask yourself and others for a most valuable resource: time
 - Advisor – research and training plan
 - Letter writers
 - Institution
 - Your commitment to follow the process through
 - Your commitment to excellence

Finding Opportunities: Looking Inside

- “Close to home”
 - NSF IGERTs
 - NIH Training Grants
- Department-specific
 - Corporate
 - Sponsored funds

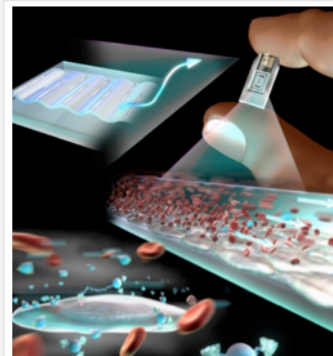
New Grant to Fund Nanobiotechnology Graduate Fellowships

The College of Engineering has received a highly competitive grant from the U.S. Department of Education that will provide fellowships to outstanding Biomedical Engineering or Electrical and Computer Engineering PhD students seeking to focus on nanobiotechnology. Fellows will receive a \$30,000 stipend for one to two years to pursue academic studies and research in this field, which is well-represented at Boston University through its Center for Nanoscience and Nanobiotechnology ([CNN](#)).

Offered by the Department of Education's Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) Program, the grant enables graduate students with financial need to obtain high quality training in disciplines recognized as critical areas of national need.

"Nanobiotechnology addresses key elements of next-generation clinical applications, information industries and communications, and will be essential to national competitiveness, personalized medicine, security and innovation in a flat world," said Professor Selim Ünlü (ECE), ENG associate dean for research and graduate programs.

"The GAANN grant will enable BU to train eight to 10 additional PhDs in this emerging field."



GAANN fellowships will support ENG PhD students focused on the use of nanostructures to study biological processes and advance healthcare solutions. (Image Courtesy of Lab on a Chip.)

Looking Outside

- Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences External Funding Database
<http://www.ais.columbia.edu/sws/gsas/search.php>
- Community of Science:
 – <http://www.cos.com/>
- Cornell University Graduate Fellowship Notebook:
 – <http://www.gradschool.cornell.edu/?p=132>
- GrantsNET Graduate Database
 – <http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/funding>
- Michigan State University (Jon Harrison)
 – <http://staff.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/3gradinf.htm>
- Blogs!!!
- Talk to People!!!

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
 GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

• Fellowship Search

Fellowship Search

The Columbia University Graduate School Fellowship Database primarily lists fellowships from non-Columbia sources. Anyone interested in consulting the database is welcome to do so.

[Search Fellowships](#)

Choose a category to view fellowships:

- [General/All Fellowships](#)
- [Humanities](#)
- [International Students](#)
- [Minorities](#)
- [Natural Sciences](#)
- [Open to Master's Degree Students](#)
- [Postdoctoral](#)
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COS is the leading global resource for hard-to-find information critical to scientific research and other projects across all disciplines. We aggregate valuable information so you spend less precious time and money searching for the information you need, leaving you more time and money for your projects.

Find funding with COS Funding Opportunities: search the world's most comprehensive funding resource, with more than 25,000 records worth over \$33 billion.

Identify experts and collaborators with COS Expertise: search among 500,000 profiles of researchers from 1,600 institutions throughout the world. Discover who's doing what -- current research activity, funding received, publications, patents, new positions and more.

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Fellowship database

Field:

Keyword search:

Deadline between: and

Any deadline:

Sort by: Deadline Award

Results of your search for *All fields + ** with a deadline between 09/20/2010 and 10/4/2010:*

Deadline	Award

Science AAAS.ORG | FEEDBACK | HELP | LIBRARIANS | Science Careers | Enter Search Term | SEARCH | ADVANCED

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Grants & Funding

Welcome to GrantsNet

This is your one-stop resource to find funds for research and training in the sciences. This service is completely free.

fellowships

Funding Tools

Funding News The Funding News, now published weekly, provides the latest index of science research funding, scholarships, fellowships, and internships.

Deadline Watch The Deadline Watch, now part of the Funding News, provides upcoming due dates for science research funding, scholarships, fellowships, and internships in GrantsNet.

International Grants and Fellowship Index The International Grants and Fellowships Index offers the latest listing of funding opportunities from Europe, Asia, and the Americas.

Sign up for GrantsNet Express GrantsNet Express offers a new e-mail alert each week of science funding opportunities from government agencies, private foundations, and not-for-profit organizations.

Featured Grants

Foundation for Polish Science: Welcome Program
The objective of the Welcome Program is to engage outstanding researchers from abroad in creating research teams in Poland and intensifying international cooperation of the Polish institutes and universities. The program is addressed to foreign researchers with at least a Ph.D. degree who either plan to work in Poland, or have already established their research teams in our country, however not earlier than 5 years prior to the cut-off date. Polish researchers with at least a Ph.D. degree, who either have stayed abroad for at least 2 years and intend to come back to Poland or have already returned to Poland (however not earlier than 2 years prior to the cut-off date), are also eligible for this award.
Deadline Date: 2010-10-15

Welcome Trust/DST India Alliance: Early Career Fellowships for Researchers in India
The Welcome Trust/Department of Biotechnology India Alliance provides fellowships for newly qualified postdoctoral scholars to help them launch their independent research careers in India. Applicants in their final year of a Ph.D. program, or with no more than 3 years postdoctoral research experience since their Ph.D. viva date may apply. The fellowships are for 4 years and provide (1) competitive personal support for the fellow, (2) generous funding for research consumables, and (3) funding to work overseas. The preliminary application deadline is 23 July. The invited full application deadline is 8 October.
Deadline: 2010-10-08

American Kidney Fund: Clinical Scientist in Nephrology (CSN) Program
The goal of the Clinical Scientist in Nephrology...

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Fellowship-MD-United States

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Franklin & Marshall College
Lancaster-PA-United States

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George Washington University
Washington-DC-United States

POSTDOCTORAL OPENING
Los Alamos National Laboratory
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MSU > MSU Libraries > Jon Harrison's Home Page > Grants and Related Resources > Grants for Individuals > Graduate Scholarships

Graduate Scholarships, Fellowships, and Loans

Web Sites | Databases | Books | Articles

Web Sites
Note: Some listings are filed by surname.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Educational Advancement Foundation
<http://www.akaaf.org/>
Usually offers several scholarships to graduate students. Information is usually posted in November of each year.
(Last checked 04/12/10)

American Institute of Physics Congressional Science Fellowships
<http://www.aip.org/sov/f.html>
The American Institute of Physics annually sponsors one scientist to spend a year providing scientific and technical advice to Congress. The American Physical Society also runs its own APS Congressional Science Fellowship program, with the same purpose. Both programs are operated under the auspices of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which sponsors its own Fellows, as well.
(Last checked 04/12/10)

American Institute of Physics State Department Science Fellowship Program
<http://www.aip.org/sov/fellowships/sdf.html>
The American Institute of Physics in collaboration with the Department of State and with the American Ass Advancement of Science has established an AIP State Department Science Fellowship program. Under this will sponsor at least one Fellow annually to spend a year working in a bureau or office of the State Department opportunity for a scientist to provide scientific and technical expertise to the Department, and help raise a value of scientific input, while learning about and contributing to the foreign policy process.
(Last checked 04/12/10)

Anson Fellowship
http://www.tif-inc.net/scholarships/jack_anson/
The Jack Anson Fellowship is presented annually to a current or former staff member of a national social fraternity who is currently enrolled or has applied for graduate study at an accredited college or university, if he is pursuing degrees in student personnel, college administrative work, or contemplating work for their sor Fraternity professional staff. The Fellowship was established to honor Jack Anson of Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity of dedicated service to his Fraternity and to the interfraternal movement.
(Last checked 04/12/10)

Jon Harrison

What Next?

- Explore the site
- Contact the program officer
- Determine the odds
 - How many applications
 - How many awards
- Previous winners (network with them)
- Zero in on “what they are looking for” (review criteria)
- Follow Instructions

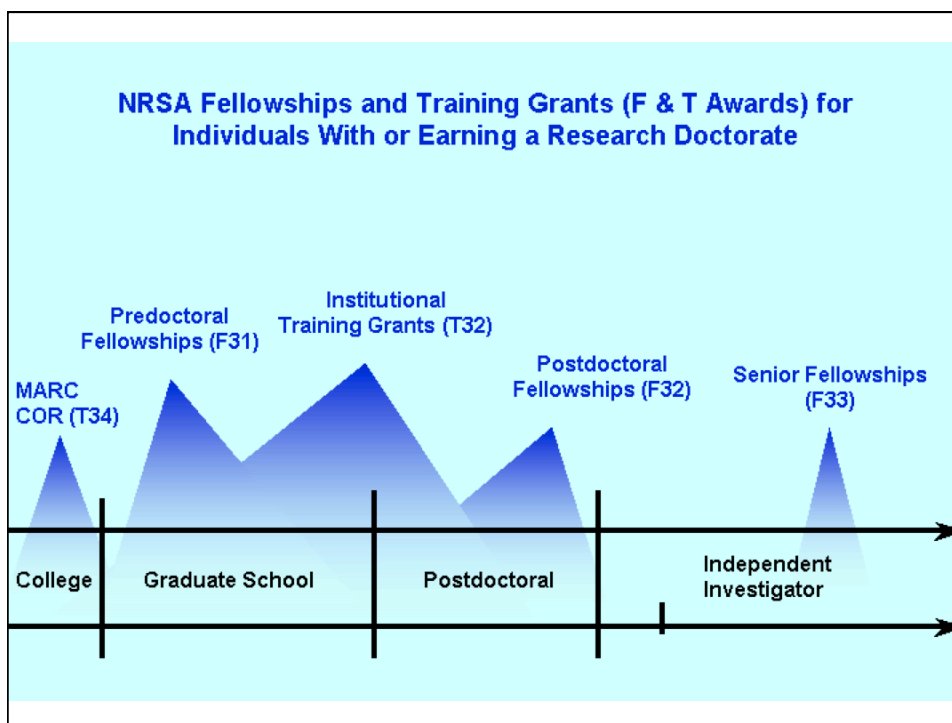
Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA)

- <http://grants.nih.gov/training/nrsa.htm>
- Named in honor of the 1st woman to direct an NIH institute (NIGMS)
 - <http://www.msa.md.gov/msa/educ/exhibits/womenshall/html/kirschstein.html>

**Ruth L. Kirschstein,
M.D.**

(1926 - 2009)





Other Important Fellowships

- Department of Defense
- Department of Energy
- Foundations
- Hertz Foundation Fellowships
- NSF's Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program

- Funds and promotes basic research and education in science and engineering
- Established fellowship program in 1952
- **Goal: to promote the vitality and diversity of the human resource base in science, technology, engineering and mathematics**
- 1,654 new awards offered in 2010 (\$66,987,000)
- Generous stipend (\$30,000 per year) and tuition/fee payment (\$10,500 per year) for 3 years; travel allowance; use of national laboratories
- Honorable mention
- <http://www.nsfgrfp.org/>

Eligibility Requirements

- U.S. citizen, national or permanent resident alien
- Field, Degree Program and Research Topic
- Senior year or early stages of graduate study:
 - Level 1: seniors
 - Level 2: 1st-year graduate students
 - Level 3: 2nd-year graduate students
 - Level 4: students changing fields
- Applications are evaluated by level

November 2010 Deadlines

- 11/15 - Interdisciplinary Fields
- 11/16 - Engineering
- 11/18 - Mathematical Sciences & Computer Information Sciences and Engineering, Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy
- 11/19 - Social Sciences, Psychology and Geosciences
- 11/22 - Life Sciences
- ? - STEM

GRFP Milestones


- Applications available early August via FastLane (electronic application process)
- November electronic submission deadline
- Late-March award announcement
- Tenure begins fall 2008

Criterion: Intellectual Merit

- How important is the proposed activity to advancing knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields?
- How well qualified is the proposer (individual or team) to conduct the project? (If appropriate, the reviewer will comment on the quality of prior work.)
- To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts?
- How well conceived and organized is the proposed activity?
- Is there sufficient access to resources?

Criterion: Broader Impact

- How well does the activity advance discovery and understanding while promoting teaching, training, and learning?
- How well does the proposed activity broaden the participation of underrepresented groups (e.g., gender, ethnicity, disability, geographic, etc.)?
- To what extent will it enhance the infrastructure for research and education, such as facilities, instrumentation, networks, and partnerships?
- Will the results be disseminated broadly to enhance scientific and technological understanding?
- What may be the benefits of the proposed activity to society?

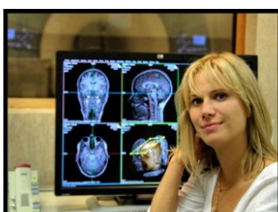

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Graduate Research Fellowship Program
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Applicant Resources

In this section:

- [Tips for Applying](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Find Experienced GRFP Resource Persons - Institutions A-L](#)
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Fellow Emily Jacobs at the Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute at the University of California at Berkeley performs a functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) brain scan on a female volunteer. She's exploring how dopamine-related genes and estrogen influence cognition by scanning women at specific stages in their menstrual cycle.



National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program
Operations Center Administered by: American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE)
1818 N Street NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20036 | 866-NSF-GRFP, 866-672-4737
(toll-free from the US and Canada) or 202-331-3542 (international) | info@nsfgrfp.org

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Application

- Personal / Academic Background
- 3 Essays – Personal and Scientific
 - 12-point font
 - one-inch margins
 - comply with the two-page limitation for each essay
 - address both NSF Merit Review Criteria of Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts in each essay

Personal Statement

Purpose: to demonstrate your potential to become experts and leaders who can contribute significantly to research and education

- Describe any personal, professional, or educational experiences that have contributed to your desire to pursue advanced study
- Provide your evidence of leadership potential
- Discuss your career aspirations and how the NSF fellowship will enable you to achieve your goals

Examples of Broader Impact

- Volunteer in science or engineering outreach activities
- Participation/leadership of science society, other student groups on campus
- Tutor and mentor to other students
- Student representative in departmental committees

Previous Research Experience (2 pages)

- Description of scientific research activities, both academic and job-related
 - Undergraduate research experience
 - Volunteer job or internship program
 - Industrial or government experience
- Explain purpose and your role
- Include publications and presentations

Original Plan of Research

- Format of the Plan of Research
 - Title
 - Key words
 - Hypothesis
 - Research Plan (strategy, methodology and controls)
 - Anticipated Results
 - References
- Statement attesting the originality of the research proposal

Formulating a Research Plan

- Reflect upon what captures your attention
 - Your advisor
 - Your own research and thinking
 - Reading journals in your field
 - Talking to others in your field
- Analyze and develop an original research question
- Use your understanding of research principles and approaches to address this question
- You must be at a stage of your graduate studies that you are prepared to undertake research

Create a “Proposal Review Process”

- Discuss plan with mentors and peers - GWISE
- Revise your plan
- Finalize your Proposal Plan of Research

References: Make it Easy

- Arrange for meeting or telephone call with potential reference
- Discuss your current work and your plans for future graduate study
- Ask if he/she can write a great reference for you
 - Provide CV and other supporting documents to assist in writing.
 - Follow up to confirm receipt of Reference Report Form

Application Review

Intellectual Merit Criterion

Demonstrated intellectual ability and other accepted requisites for scholarly scientific study, such as the ability (1) to plan and conduct research; (2) to work as a member of a team as well as independently; and (3) to interpret and communicate research findings.

Overall Assessment of Intellectual Merit Excellent Very Good Good Less Good Fair

Mandatory - explain assessment to the applicant:

Application Review

Broader Impacts Criterion

Contributions that (1) effectively integrate research and education at all levels, infuse learning with the excitement of discovery, and assure that the findings and methods of research are communicated in a broad context and to a large audience; (2) encourage diversity, broaden opportunities, and enable the participation of all citizens--women and men, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities--in science and research; (3) enhance scientific and technical understanding; and (4) benefit society.

Overall Assessment of Broader Impacts Excellent Very Good Good Less Good Fair

Mandatory - explain assessment to the applicant:

Evaluation sheets are available after the awards are made. Request evaluations if award is not made to help you improve next year's application

Real World

Intellectual Merit Criterion
Demonstrated intellectual ability and other accepted requisites for scholarly scientific study, such as the ability (1) to plan and conduct research; (2) to work as a member of a team as well as independently; and (3) to interpret and communicate research findings.
Overall Assessment of Intellectual Merit <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Good <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Less Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair
<i>Mandatory</i> - explain assessment to the applicant: Applicant develop a synthetic problem and project. Nicely done. To even further develop this proposal some hypothesis driven focus is needed and. Applicant is a strong candidate and has already completed a research project/publication.
Broader Impacts Criterion
Contributions that (1) effectively integrate research and education at all levels, infuse learning with the excitement of discovery, and assure that the findings and methods of research are communicated in a broad context and to a large audience; (2) encourage diversity, broaden opportunities, and enable the participation of all citizens--women and men, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities--in science and research; (3) enhance scientific and technical understanding; and (4) benefit society.
Overall Assessment of Broader Impacts <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Very Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Less Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair
<i>Mandatory</i> - explain assessment to the applicant: Applicant is a good communicator and one she develop further ideas and objectives with regard to teaching and broader impact issues of being a "principal investigator" the application will be much stronger.

Tips

The screenshot shows a web interface with the following elements:

- At the top, two buttons: "Begin a Fellowship Application" and "Register Here".
- A section titled "Log In Applicants and Fellows" containing:
 - Fields for "User Name:" and "Password:".
 - A "Log In" button.
 - A link for "Forgot Password?".
- A section titled "Log In Coordinating Officials" containing:
 - Fields for "Last Name:", "SSN:", "Privacy Act", and "Password:".
 - A "Log In" button.
 - A link for "Forgot Password?".

As a security measure, your GRF session will expire after remaining idle for 120 minutes.

- Start Early
- You must use Fastlane, NSF's on-line document submission system
 - Don't wait until the last minute – system could be clogged & you won't get in
- Read the FAQs

Tips

- Follow directions
- Supporting documents matter
 - Letters of Reference and Statements of Purpose can make a difference in the selection process
 - References – Must truly know you!
 - Get Feedback on Your Writing / Plans
- Keep trying
 - If you don't get an award one year, apply again next year

Summary

- Think about fellowships as a part of career building – what you get out of it is important
- Spend time researching opportunities, develop a plan
- Write great applications
 - Seek advice
 - Develop review support system

Good luck!

