2020 Pardee Center Graduate Summer Fellows Program

Application deadline: Tuesday, March 17, 2020

The Pardee Center Graduate Summer Fellows Program offers graduate students from across Boston University an opportunity for intensive interdisciplinary research and writing on topics aligned with the future-focused research interests of BU’s Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future.

The Pardee Center conducts interdisciplinary, policy-relevant and future-oriented research that can contribute to long-term improvements in the human condition. The Center is especially interested in rigorous analysis relating to longer-range human development. We especially encourage proposals for research that has the potential to identify actions that can be taken today to make our collective global tomorrow better. More details are available at www.bu.edu/pardee.

The 10-week fellowship (May 26 – July 31, 2020) includes a financial stipend of $6,000, structured interaction with Pardee Center affiliated faculty and research fellows, and a collegial atmosphere that fosters peer support and intellectual growth. Summer Fellows occupy workspace provided at the Pardee House while they conduct independent research and produce a substantive research paper that may be considered for publication by the Pardee Center. Fellows are expected to work at the Pardee House each Monday through Friday for the duration of the Fellowship and to participate fully in Pardee Center activities and all Summer Fellows’ events.

The Graduate Summer Fellowships are open to all Boston University graduate students from all its Schools and Colleges. First-year master’s and early to mid-stage doctoral students, including ABDs, are especially encouraged to apply. (Students completing degrees in May 2020 are not eligible.) Research proposals that link directly to the student’s own and/or BU faculty’s ongoing research are especially desirable.

Proposals for any topic related to the Pardee Center’s longer-range global human development research mission will be considered. Winning proposals will be interdisciplinary in nature with a clear sense of the topic’s importance and policy relevance to the longer-range future. We are especially interested in topics related to the great challenges of our time (such as, but not limited to, the future of human and sustainable development, democracy, information and new media, social and economic inequities, technological and business innovation, climate change and environmental degradation, human and international security, etc.). Successful proposals will clearly convey how the research is related to improving quality of life, especially of the most marginalized; clearly articulate how the research is relevant to the longer-range future; and explain why and how it can be completed in a 10-week period. Applications are encouraged from ALL fields, including the social and natural sciences, humanities, arts, business, public health, engineering, etc.

Applications should be submitted by email (as Word or PDF attachments) by close of business on Tuesday, March 17, to gsfellow@bu.edu with the subject line SUMMER FELLOWSHIP and your last name (e.g., SUMMER FELLOWSHIP JONES) and should include as separate, attached documents:

- Your CV
- 1,500-word (maximum) proposal for your research paper, including how the topic relates to the Pardee Center’s research agenda and your own research interests. Please make sure your proposal has a title and page numbers.
- A 250-word abstract at the beginning of the proposal, written for a general, interdisciplinary audience (this is in addition to the 1,500 word limit)
- A copy of your unofficial transcript
- One letter of support from a Boston University faculty member familiar with your research proposal conception and goals. (The letter should be emailed directly from the faculty member to gsfellow@bu.edu.)

Questions regarding the Summer Fellowship Program may be directed to gsfellow@bu.edu. Candidates will be notified of the outcome of their applications by late April.