Gary E. Smith Summer Professional Development Award

The Graduate School is pleased to announce the Gary E. Smith Summer Professional Development Award. The award is designed to support outstanding master's and doctoral students pursuing academic, professional development or training enrichment opportunities during Summer 2012. The activity would provide unique opportunities not normally available as part of the degree program.

The purpose of the award is to provide support during summer term to engage in unique opportunities that are related to the degree program, but not a requirement of it. Previously funded activities include: intensive language training not available at the UO; training or seminars related to the use of specialized lab equipment, unique performance techniques or new research methodologies, field or career-specific instructor/facilitator training or certifications.

Activities not eligible for funding include academic work for UO credit, field research data collection or activities that are part of the regular degree program, travel to professional meetings/conferences to present research, language training that is available at UO, summer living expenses and/or final writing of the dissertation or thesis.

The Award & Eligibility Criteria

Up to three awards will be made in the amount of up to $3,000 each. Award recipients will be notified in late April.

Regularly admitted master's and doctoral students who will be continuing their program in Fall 2012 and who can demonstrate financial need for the activity are eligible to apply. All students must be registered as full time students at the time of application and in Spring 2012. Professional development or training enrichment activities must occur between June 1, 2012 and September 15, 2012.

Application Process and Deadline

A completed Applicant Information Form must be submitted by email, along with a statement by the applicant not to exceed three pages total. The email should be sent to kmfisher@uoregon.edu with “Graduate School Administered Award” in the subject line, and received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 2, 2012. The statement must:

a. Address the applicant’s financial need in whatever terms he/she feels are most informative.

b. Summarize the applicant’s summer professional development or training enrichment activities in relation to the degree program.

c. Include a budget for the summer activity.

Letters of Recommendation

This award requires two letters of recommendation— one from the student’s advisor and one from another faculty member. The letters should characterize the student’s past academic achievements, evaluate the proposed summer activity, and describe how the activity will contribute to the student’s academic progress. Each letter should be emailed directly to kmfisher@uoregon.edu and should include “Graduate School Administered Award” in the subject line. Letters must be received by the deadline stated above.

Contact

Kassy Fisher, Assistant Dean of Graduate Student Affairs, 541-346-2807 or kmfisher@uoregon.edu

Note for Graduate Student with Financial Aid

Receiving this award may reduce your financial aid award. Please contact the Financial Aid Office prior to applying for this award or any other type of support.