

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Graduate Program Committee Chairs

DATE: January 9, 2009

SUBJECT: Presidential Graduate Fellowships

The University of Nebraska at Omaha has been granted two fellowships for graduate students; these were originally authorized by President Roskens with funds available through the University of Nebraska Foundation. The fellowship stipend is \$12,000 plus tuition remission for master's students and \$15,000 plus tuition remission for doctoral students.

The students selected for these prestigious fellowships are expected to devote all their time to their graduate studies during the tenure of the award. They will not be allowed to have other employment. Students who accept these fellowships also should be aware they may not be eligible for loan monies.

As indicated in the Council's policy, we should receive the name of your nominee and all supporting documentation by **Monday, February 23, 2009**. If you have any questions concerning the fellowship, please contact the Office of Graduate Studies at 554-2341.

Enclosure

cc: Department Chairs/School Directors
Deans

PRESIDENTIAL GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- I. **Master's Students:** *completion* of 12 graduate hours within a graduate degree program; **Doctoral Students:** *completion* of 18 hours within their program of study
- II. Nomination by the department/school (1 nomination only)
- III. GPA of at least 3.75 in graduate course work taken as part of the students present program
- IV. An up-to-date unofficial transcript
- V. 3-5 letters of recommendation

SELECTION CRITERIA

The criteria below are not listed in any intended order of priority. The list is exhaustive and other criteria, such as financial need, shall not be used to select from among the eligible nominees. Evaluation of the nominees will be based on the evidence provided in the documentation, particularly in the letters of recommendation listed in the procedures.

1. Academic performance;
2. Scholarly or creative achievement;
3. Professional accomplishments in the field;
4. Additional contributions to the discipline, e.g., through work in academic or professional organizations.

PROCEDURES

1. Each graduate department/school may submit the name of no more than one nominee for the Award. With the name of the nominee, the department/school should submit a resume and at least three and no more than five letters of recommendation which

address the selection criteria; at least one letter should be from a Graduate Faculty Member of the nominee's own department/school. The nominated student must submit an "unofficial" up-to-date transcript. Other documentation that confirms to the criteria for selection also may be submitted at the discretion of the department/school.

2. All nominations and accompanying documentation must be in the Office of Graduate Studies by **Monday, February 23, 2009**. The final selection of the Fellows will be announced by the Dean for Graduate Studies no later than July 2, 2009.
3. The Selection Committee for the Presidential Graduate Fellowship will be the Graduate Scholarship/Fellowship Committee.
4. At no time will a faculty member on the Graduate Scholarship/Fellowship Committee advocate a nominee from his or her own department/school.
5. The Graduate Scholarship/Fellowship Committee shall recommend to the Dean for Graduate Studies its selections, to consist of one master's and one doctoral nomination.
6. The vote will be by written ballot, to be submitted directly to the Dean for Graduate Studies.
7. It is understood the Graduate Scholarship/Fellowship Committee's recommendation to the Dean is advisory. The Dean may select other recipients or another alternate from among the nominees as she or he sees fit, but in the event this occurs, the Dean shall provide the Graduate Scholarship/Fellowship Committee with her or his rationale.

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