GSA Research and Travel Grants Workshop

November 8, 2018
3PM-4PM
GSC Fireside Lounge

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OUTLINE

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Overview

- The GSA Research and Travel Grants program provides funding for the following:

- **Travel:** This includes travel for thesis-related research, conferences, workshops, and professional development.

- **Research Related Supplies:** This includes funding to help cover the costs of supplies, subscriptions, and books needed for graduate students' research.
Overview

• Fall Applications due November 16, 2018 at 5pm to the GSC
• If you have any extenuating circumstances that limit your ability to submit in person by that time, please email travelgr@ucsc.edu
Overview

Research and Travel Grant Eligibility

• To qualify for a GSA research and travel grant, you must meet the following requirements:
  - Currently enrolled graduate student (during the quarter you apply)
  - Must have either traveled to or will be traveling to a conference or program or workshop OR traveled to a field research site and engaged in research directly related to your thesis work.
  - For past travel, departure must be within the past 2 calendar years.
  - Must have a complete application received by Research and Travel Grants Committee on or before the deadline. Late or incomplete applications are not eligible and will be returned.
Application Updates

No more Direct Payment forms.

• You will just include the necessary information on your application and our Treasurers will fill it out for you if you are awarded a grant.

• As a reminder, because we now award grants through direct payment, your grant will be taxed at a rate of 15%.
Application Updates

Increased anonymity and number of reviewers.

• Your name will be left off the main application (you will be identified by your Student ID number) and each application will be reviewed 3 times.

• As a note, we need members for the application review committee ($100 stipend per quarter)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Yes (2)</th>
<th>Partial (1)</th>
<th>No (0)</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant is not receiving (or planning to receive) funding from any other source, including their advisor or department.</td>
<td>Is not receiving any other funding</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Is receiving other funding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant has not received a GSA travel grant in the last two academic years.</td>
<td>Has not received a GSA travel grant in the past 2 years</td>
<td>Has received a GRAF grant</td>
<td>Has received funding in the past 2 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presenting/ engaging in original research</td>
<td>Original research</td>
<td>Collaborative research/not lead researcher</td>
<td>Not presenting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearly explains how travel will help degree/career</td>
<td>Fully explains how travel will help degree/career</td>
<td>Partially explains how travel will help degree/career</td>
<td>Does not explain how travel will help degree/career</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant put effort into the application</td>
<td>Applicant clearly put time and effort into application</td>
<td>Applicant put some effort into application</td>
<td>Applicant put little to no effort into application</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Financial Hardship</td>
<td>Applicant is experiencing severe financial hardship (i.e. no funding, TAship, debt, family to support etc.)</td>
<td>Applicant is experiencing moderate financial hardship (i.e. debt)</td>
<td>Applicant is not experiencing or does not mention any financial hardship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Filled Out Correctly</td>
<td>All appropriate sections are filled out, all signatures are there, followed all directions (i.e. single pages, no staples)</td>
<td>One mistake</td>
<td>More than one mistake</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Application Updates

An online information form.

- To save us time in data entry and to collect some demographic data, we will be asking you to fill out a short google form as a part of your application.
- The form can be found [here](#).
- Note: the demographic data is optional.
Application Updates

Decreased strictness on double-sided printing and staples.

• We don’t care if you double-side print it, just be sure to have signatures in pen (electronic accepted only in extenuating circumstances).

• Signatures in pen are required by Grad Division (currently)

• As a heads up, we are working with them to fully digitize the application process and hope to have that completed by Spring Quarter!
Application Updates

No more GRAF or Travel Grant distinction.

- Due to the difficulty of keeping track of the GRAF/Travel Grant Awarding process (in terms of awarding money) we have unified the application.

- Now each graduate student has the opportunity to receive up to $1000 per academic year for travel-related expenses or supplies.
  - Note: You can only receive one grant for travel per year (up to $750).
  - One would only receive $1000 if they were awarded money for travel and supplies.
  - Both can be applied for at the same time!
Application Updates

Changes in maximum grant amount for travel and supplies.

• You can now be awarded up to $750 for international travel.
• The maximum amount one can be awarded for supplies has been reduced to $750.
Funding Process

• We have $28,000 per round to award

• We aim to have all applications reviewed by Week 10
  - You will receive an email that week letting you know if your application was accepted or not

• At that point, information will be given to the GSA treasurers who will create Direct Payment forms and submit them to be awarded

• If you have any questions about when your grant will be awarded after this point, please email the Treasurers (gsatreas@ucsc.edu)

• This process will take between 4-8 weeks
International Students

- Unfortunately, neither Juliana or I are experts on the forms required for International students
- If you need any help, please reach out to Barb Holland (bahollan@ucsc.edu) or to our International Grad Student Chairs (IGSC@ucsc.edu)
- Note: only to be completed if awarded a grant
International Students

Differences in Taxation

• It was brought to our attention that International Students are taxed 30% on their grant (as compared to 15% for domestic students)

• To address this inequality, once applications have been reviewed and awarded, we will slightly increase the grants of international students so that they will receive an amount after taxation that would be as if they were taxed 15%
Application Practice

- We will fill out an application together to help answer any questions!
Application Notes:

• For funding for research related travel, please add use Section 3.
• You do not have to include a print out of the google form to your application
• Don’t forget to add your proof of attendance for travel
Any Other Questions?