NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

Introduction

April 8, 2019
Today's Agenda

• Welcome and Introduction to NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program
  – Michael Jacobson, Division of Research

• Student Experience
  – Elizabeth Cope Feurer, Department of Psychology

• NSF Perspective
  – Susan Brennan, Program Director, Graduate Research Fellowship Program, NSF

• Reviewers Perspective
  – Gretchen Mahler, Department of Biomedical Engineering
  – Valerie Imbruce, Director of Undergraduate Research Center
GRFP Program Goals

- https://www.nsfgrfp.org/
- Help ensure the vitality and diversity of the scientific and engineering workforce of the United States
- Select, recognize, and financially support future STEM leaders
- Broaden participation in science and engineering of underrepresented groups
Supported Disciplines

- Chemistry
- Computer and Information Science
- Engineering
- Geosciences
- Life Sciences
- Materials Research
- Mathematical Sciences
- Physics and Astronomy
- Psychology
- Social Sciences
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education (research-focused)
Not Supported by NSF GRFP

- Business administration or management
- Social work
- Medical, dental, law, or public health programs
- Joint science-professional degree programs, e.g., MD/PhD, JD/PhD, etc.
- Education (except research-focused STEM Education programs)
Key Elements

• Three years of financial support
  • $34,000 Stipend per year
  • $12,000 Educational allowance to institution per year
• International research opportunities
• Access to cyber-infrastructure resources
• Applications due in October, Awards announced in April
• Value of Honorable Mention designation
General Eligibility

- U.S. citizens, nationals, and permanent residents
- Early-career students
- Pursuing research-based MS or PhD in NSF fields
- Enrolled in accredited U.S. institution by the following Fall
Number of Applications

• Undergraduates
  – Apply as a Senior or as a post-baccalaureate

• Graduates
  – Limited to one application in 1\textsuperscript{st} or 2\textsuperscript{nd} year of Graduate School- no more than 12 months of graduate school
Application

- Personal, Relevant Background, and Future Goals Statement (3 pages)
- Graduate Research Plan Statement (2 pages)
- Transcripts, uploaded into FastLane
- Three letters of reference required
Fellowship Application Support

• We are here to help!
  – Graduate School
    • Gretchen Mahler- gmahler@binghamton.edu
  – Undergraduate Research Center
    • Valerie Imbruce- vimbruce@binghamton.edu
  – Office of Strategic Research Initiatives
    • Michael Jacobson- mjacobso@binghamton.edu
    • Robert Lawrence- rlawrenc@binghamton.edu
Applying for the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program

Elizabeth Cope Feurer, M.S.
Clinical Psychology
Binghamton University
Background before applying

- Graduated with a B.S. in Psychology from UNC Chapel Hill
- 2 year post-bac research position
Preparing to apply

- Read the official NSF GRFP program solicitation
- Start early!
- Read examples of prior NSF essays: www.alexhunterlang.com/nsf-fellowship
- Make sure your two statements are cohesive
Intellectual Merit

- The potential of the applicant to advance knowledge based on a holistic analysis of the complete application including both statements, academic record, previous research experience, and publications and presentations
Broader Impacts

- The potential to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes

- Both by the research itself and activities related to the project
Merit Review Criteria Tips

- Gain research experience early (if possible!)
- Use headings
- Give your letter writers the merit review criteria along with your application
- Make sure your broader impacts are feasible
THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

efeurer1@binghamton.edu