Each year the Graduate School awards a limited number of Arthur J. Schmitt Dissertation Fellowships. The fellowships provide support to Ph.D. students who have demonstrated excellence in all aspects of graduate study and are in the final stage of doctoral work, i.e. completing the dissertation. The fellowships include a stipend, a tuition scholarship to cover the fee for Dissertation Supervision (course #600), and health insurance.

The Arthur J. Schmitt Foundation supports graduate level study at several Catholic universities and the directors of the foundation work to fulfill the late Mr. Schmitt’s educational mission by stressing the importance of intellectual development and service to others. Given this emphasis, two conditions of receiving the fellowship are to participate in a lunch seminar on the subject of pursuing knowledge in the service of humanity and to complete a service project during the year the fellowship is awarded.

Eligibility Requirements

By the application due date of January 19, 2017, applicants are required to have:

1) completed successfully all coursework and been awarded candidacy;
2) an anticipated defense of the dissertation no sooner than January 30, 2018 and no later than the end of the award year in August 2018;
3) submitted all required application material so that it is received electronically by the Graduate School no later than midnight on Thursday, January 19, 2017.

The fellowship is conditional upon the applicant’s meeting all eligibility requirements, which are solely the applicant’s responsibility. The application of a student who does not meet the eligibility requirements will not be considered. If it is determined after awarding a fellowship that the recipient has not met the eligibility requirements, the fellowship will be withdrawn.

Decision Criteria

The Graduate Fellowships Committee, an independent body of Graduate School faculty members from a variety of disciplines, reviews the applications and makes award recommendations based on the following criteria:

1) graduate academic record of the applicant;
2) significance of the applicant’s research project;
3) essay on the relationship between the applicant’s research and a commitment to the service of humanity;
4) supporting faculty member recommendations; and
5) departmental evaluation of the applicant and the research.

Conditions of Receiving a Fellowship

In accepting a fellowship, each recipient agrees to:

1) participate in a lunch seminar on the subject pursuing knowledge in the service of humanity;
2) participate in a service project during the award year;
3) engage in full-time work on the dissertation; and
4) not hold a concurrent funding from another source.

Applications

Application material is available on the Graduate School web site under Forms. The application deadlines are:

- **Wednesday, January 4, 2017:** Department Evaluation Form and supporting material must be received by the department;
- **Thursday, January 19, 2017:** A PDF of the nominee’s required application material must be sent to Michelle Cerullo, Awards Coordinator in the Graduate School, at mcerullo@luc.edu, by midnight.