**Graduate Student Funding Opportunities**

**October 7, 2011**

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1. **External Funding Types**
   1. Type of Work: Study Abroad, Dissertation or Research Fellowship
      1. Study Abroad: Fulbright or Rhodes Scholar
      2. Dissertation: NSF, Ford Foundation, American Association of University Women, Charlotte Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships, etc.
      3. Fellowship: NSF Fellowships or NIH Pre-doctoral Training Grants (F31)
   2. Type of Funding: Government or Private
2. **External Funding Resources**
   1. Community of Science (<http://www.luc.edu/ors/COS_Services.shtml> or [www.cos.com](http://www.cos.com))
      1. COS is a comprehensive search engine with more than 25,000 funding opportunities, covering all academic research disciplines. Register with COS for free to do a search. (Subscription fee is paid by Loyola.)
      2. Register for an account: <http://registration.cos.com/cgi-bin/register>, while using a computer connected to the Loyola network. Once you have an account, you can access it from any computer.
      3. Searches can be restricted by factors such as key word, location, citizenship, funding type, etc.
      4. You can save searches and have new results automatically emailed to you.
   2. Grants.gov ([www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)): All federal opportunities, free search engine
   3. <http://foundationcenter.org/findfunders/>: RFPs from private and corporate foundations
3. **Search Tips** 
   1. Don’t just look at the funding announcements before deciding to apply; these can sometimes be very general and don’t always give a clear picture of an agency’s interests. Read through the complete application instructions and the “fine print”. If available, read through abstracts of their recently funded projects to get a better idea of what they are funding.
   2. Investigate funding sources of peers with similar research interests.
   3. *Check out the professional organizations in your field*. Many of them offer grant opportunities to students who are members of the organization.
   4. Don’t always restrict searches to your research discipline. For example, you may be able to find funding for graduate work that is restricted only by location, such as Chicago, which may not come up during a discipline-related search.
   5. Have a general budget and project timeline in mind, to help guide your research.
   6. Give yourself plenty of time! You will want to find a funding opportunity several months to a year before you need the funding.
4. **Writing Tips**
   1. Deadlines (start early!)
   2. Clear and sound methodology
   3. Make an outline
   4. Strong and jargon-free writing
   5. Address every area of the RFP
   6. Use wording from agency as much as possible
   7. Have others read proposal
   8. Revise and revise again – is the proposal as strong as it could be?
   9. Gather strong references – give them ample time to write it
   10. Use your CV to paint a picture of who you are
   11. If rejected, ask for comments
   12. Resubmit if possible
5. **Graduate School Resources**
   1. Internal Funding
      1. <http://www.luc.edu/gradschool/admission_financialaid.shtml>: Internal funding opportunities, inc. fellowships and assistantships.
      2. Research Incentive Award for Graduate Students (RIAGS) consists of a $200 award for a Loyola graduate student who is submitting a proposal for external funding, as well as a bonus award of $1,000 if that proposal is funded. <http://www.luc.edu/gradschool/RIAGS.shtml>
         1. Proposals must be for student-directed research; graduate students working as staff on faculty-led grants are not eligible for these awards.
         2. Incentive funds are **not** intended to subsidize internal Loyola awards, such as merit awards or the Schmitt Fellowship.
         3. To be eligible for incentive funds, proposals must have been routed through the Lakeside Office of Research Services and obtained a PTAP number PRIOR to submittal to the funder, even if this step is not a requirement of the funder.  Proposals submitted through the Maywood Research Services Office are not eligible.
         4. Only one award is available per student per year
   2. Website Resources
      1. <http://www.luc.edu/gradschool/external_funding.shtml>: The Graduate School website lists external grant databases and individual government agencies and foundations that fund graduate research.
6. **Contact Information**
   1. For assistance with general proposal writing issues, contact Dr. Jessica Horowitz at [jhorow@luc.edu](mailto:jhorow@luc.edu).
   2. For questions related to grant budgets, internal Loyola procedures, RIAGS and administrative information for forms, contact Tracy Foxworth at [tfoxwor@luc.edu](mailto:tfoxwor@luc.edu).