

E-IPER Summer Research Funding Proposal For Summer 2011

Thanks to the generosity of the School of Earth Sciences (SES) and our donors, we're able to provide modest summer grants for your research and research-related travel. **E-IPER Summer Research Grants** are intended to support, in part, summer research activities such as travel, field expenses, supplies, equipment, and other expenses directly related to research that advances you towards your degree. Funds can be used to support undergraduates or research assistants (typical rate \$15/hour), though we encourage you to investigate other sources for undergrads (VPGE, Woods, SES, etc.). Individual awards will not exceed \$4000; the method of disbursement will be described in the award letter.

Our electronic proposal submission system, which will include this information, will be up in a few weeks but we wanted to get this information out to you asap in case you're thinking about your summer plans over spring break....

Our funds are limited, so we expect you to seek support from your faculty advisors and other sources, including SES's McGee, Levorsen, Chevron and Speer funds, which Roni announced this week. As you plan your summer, talk with your advisors to see if they have or know of available funds. Any external or supplementary funds you have or anticipate having for summer research expenses should be listed in your proposal budget.

Because all E-IPER students receive a summer quarter stipend, your summer research proposal should not include regular, daily living expenses that would normally be covered by your stipend, such as cell phones, Internet access, rent, food, maintenance of a car, etc. Such expenses in your proposal, unless required exclusively by your research, will be deducted from your budget request.

Recognizing that when you are traveling by plane, car, train, etc. you may incur expenses that exceed your regular living costs and put a strain on your stipend, "meals and incidental expenses" will be allowed on limited travel days only, at the mid-point of the US Government rate of \$59/day (see www.gsa.gov/mie). Lodging or other extraneous expenses on travel days may be included as a separate line item. Travel days are those when you might unavoidably incur expensive airport food or hotel costs – not any day in which you might take a short flight or train ride. International plane tickets may be booked in advance with the travel card so that those large expenses will not be included in your taxable research stipend.

We encourage you to consult with us ahead of time if you have questions about whether a particular expense is allowable or with any other questions about the proposal process.

Proposal Guidelines (Sections A-C):

A. Name, Year, and Advisors. No cover sheet is necessary. Include your name and your two primary faculty advisors (First Year Advisors, Lead Advisors, etc.) on your proposal. Information about IRB approval will be requested when you **submit to the on line system** but you might start

B. Core proposal. Include the following information in your proposal (2 single-spaced pages maximum):

1. *Proposal title.*
2. *Central, overarching question.* State the main question or problem that frames your proposed work. While your summer's work will necessarily be limited in scope, the overarching question should be stated in a way that reflects the broad significance of your research.
3. *Background.* A brief review of what's been done before, with reference to the literature (~5-10 references).
4. *Your approach and methods.* Briefly describe the project design and location, the data collection and analysis methods you plan to employ, and how and where you will gather the information.
5. *Significance.* Indicate how this research will contribute to planning or conducting your dissertation

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research.

6. *Faculty Sponsors and Collaborators.* Describe the involvement of your advisors in the planning or implementation of your proposed summer research. Also note any individuals, universities, or other organizations you plan to collaborate with or whose resources (space, field sites, research assistants) you might use in conducting this research.

C. Budget. In one (additional) page max, itemize and explain briefly your **total** estimated summer research funding needs. Indicate all other sources of funding to which you have (or are) applying and the amount(s) requested (including other SES funds). Be sure to include research funds you may have received during the academic year if relevant to your summer work and any funds your faculty advisors are contributing.

Please compile the above information into one Word or PDF file and submit electronically (we'll announce when site is available). Note that your Lead Advisors will be automatically prompted to review, and the first listed will be required to approve your proposal, so you are advised to discuss it with them before submission.

Deadline: **May 2, 2011 by 5:00 pm.** Awards will be announced the week of May 24.