UNT TOULOUSE GRADUATE SCHOOL
FALL 2015, THESIS AND DISSERTATION FELLOW (TDF) AWARD
PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

Nomination DEADLINE for Fall 2015 Awards: Wednesday April 1st, 2015 at 5:00p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Students must be nominated by their degree program.

The Toulouse Graduate School Thesis and Dissertation Fellow (TDF) Awards support outstanding masters or doctoral students who have achieved candidacy and are in the last year of their thesis or dissertation work. A limited number of TDF Awards are available. These Awards are for outstanding students across disciplines who will be completing their thesis or dissertation or creative work during the year in which they hold the award. The TDF Award stipend will be based upon a competitive compensation rate for the student's major area. In addition to the stipend, the award will cover tuition and mandatory fees for enrollment in 3 to 9 graduate credit hours per semester for two semesters of thesis/dissertation or creative activity, and include health benefits.

Eligibility

Any masters or doctoral degree program may submit nominations. Eligibility criteria include:

- Be in academic good standing with the program and the graduate school
- Have completed all course work prior to the nomination deadline
- Passed all elements of the program’s qualifying examination prior to the nomination deadline
- Have defended successfully a thesis or dissertation proposal prior to the nomination deadline
- Be making timely progress toward graduation
- Be in the final year of their graduate program during the fellowship year

Procedures

Programs making multiple nominations must indicate the rank order of their nominations.

Graduate programs must also indicate the broad disciplinary area of the nominees' work.
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)
- Non-STEM
The nomination packet must include all of the following:

1. The nomination form, co-signed by the student’s Faculty Mentor and the Department Chair. The nominating department must notify the College / School Dean of each nomination.

2. The Nominee’s Statement which should detail the following:
   (a) describe the significance of the project or creative activity in the discipline or field
   (b) the timeline for completion of tasks (e.g., data collection, writing final draft) for the research or creative activity
   (c) projected time for final defense of the thesis/dissertation or creative activity.

3. The Nominee’s Vita

4. A letter of recommendation from the faculty member who will supervise the thesis/dissertation or creative activity detailing:
   (a) the significance of the project or creative activity in the discipline or field
   (b) the nominee’s ability to plan and successfully execute his/her master’s or doctoral project within one academic year
   (c) expectation regarding when final defense of the project can be expected and a clear timeline
   (d) supervisor’s availability to the nominee during the award year (and any anticipated absences during the year)
   (e) evidence and likelihood of the nominee’s commitment to continuing scholarly contributions to the field,

5. Two letters of recommendation from faculty other than the nominee’s thesis/dissertation or creative activity chair detailing:
   (a) the significance of the project or creative activity in the discipline or field
   (b) evidence and likelihood of the nominee’s commitment to continuing scholarly contributions to the field.

   To the extent that these faculty have sufficient familiarity with the nominee and/or the nominee’s project (e.g., a member of the student’s committee), they can comment on:
   (c) the nominee’s ability to plan and successfully execute the master’s or doctoral project within one academic year
   (d) evidence regarding when final defense of the project might be expected
   (e) their availability to assist the nominee during the award year.

6. Unofficial UNT transcript

   Nominee’s academic record should be strong. Any incongruous grades or interruptions inconsistent with continual progress toward completion of the degree should be addressed by the nominee’s statement and by the faculty supervisor of the student’s project.

7. Programs making multiple nominations must rank order their nominees.
Nomination and award processes

The nominating department must submit the completed nomination packet by email, as a PDF file to Rochelle Sykes (rochelle.sykes@unt.edu) by April 1, 2015.

Notification of the awards will be announced by May 11, 2015.

Award expectations

1. As the TDF is a fellowship, the recipients are expected to engage full time in the completion of their thesis/dissertation or creative activity throughout the award period and complete the thesis/dissertation in the award year.
2. TDF awardees are not to be engaged in instructional capacities.
3. TDF awardees are not to work as research assistants or as graduate services assistants.
4. The award is not renewable and will not be extended beyond Spring 2016.
5. The awardees’ thesis/dissertation or creative activity chair and committee members are expected to be available to the recipient throughout the award period.