


TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the Vice President for Research
Office of Graduate Studies
1113 TAMU • College Station, Texas 77843-1113
(979) 845-3631
FAX (979) 845-1596

Dec. 13, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans, Department Heads, and Graduate Advisors

FROM: Dr. Robert C. Webb, Dean, Office of Graduate Studies 

SUBJECT: **Call for nominations for the 2008 U.S. Senator Phil Gramm Doctoral Fellowships**
Departmental Deadline for submission to Colleges: Feb. 15
College Deadline for submission to the Office of Graduate Studies: Feb. 28

I am delighted to announce an invitation to submit nominations for the U.S. Senator Phil Gramm Doctoral Fellowships. This fellowship, available only to currently enrolled doctoral students at Texas A&M University, recognizes scholarly excellence. The Gramm Fellowship was established to promote, encourage and reward outstanding teaching and research by doctoral students whose command of their respective disciplines exemplifies the meaning of scholar/mentor in the highest sense.

In 2000, an endowment was created by the Texas A&M Foundation from donations given in honor of Dr. Phil Gramm, former U.S. Senator and Texas A&M University Economics Professor. This endowment reached maturity last summer, allowing the Office of Graduate Studies to begin making awards in 2007.

This spring, 5-10 students will be recognized as Gramm Fellows and receive fellowships of \$5,000 each. I encourage you to nominate the doctoral students in your department who are outstanding scholars for this award.

Please note that award nominations must be routed through the Colleges. Departments must submit their nominations to their respective College by Feb. 15. Interdisciplinary programs should send their nominations directly to OGS by Feb. 15; OGS will forward interdisciplinary nominations to the Council for Participating Deans.

Eligibility criteria and submission requirements are provided in the attached pages. **Nominations that do not meet eligibility requirements will not be considered by the selection committee.** For questions or more information contact Megan Palsa or Teresa Ford at 845-3631.

pc: Dr. Eddie J. Davis
Dr. Jerry Strawser
GC/GOC

U.S. Senator Phil Gramm Doctoral Fellowships

Nominee Eligibility

To be considered by the review committee, nominees for the Gramm Fellowship must meet the following requirements:

1. The nominee must, at the time of nomination and receipt of award, be an enrolled doctoral student in good standing with the University.
2. The nominee must have taught on at least a one-half time basis for two semesters or summer sessions (10 weeks) during his or her doctoral enrollment at Texas A&M University, or must be completing the second semester of teaching at the time of nomination for the award.
3. The nominee must have had **independent authority** to assign grades for course work or laboratory sections taught.
4. The student's approved dissertation research proposal should be on file in the Office of Graduate Studies.
5. The student should have completed a substantial portion of his/her research at the time of nomination, and the research should be considered of the highest quality for the nominee's field of study and have an outstanding command of the discipline.
6. The nominee should represent excellence in college-level teaching and research; have outstanding scientific, mentoring and pedagogical skills; and have a reputation for ethical behavior and methodologies in all aspects of scholarly life.
7. The nominee must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.
8. Previous nominees may be nominated again but no prior awardees may be re-nominated.
9. The nominee must not be a full-time member of the Texas A&M University faculty or staff at the time of nomination.

Submission Procedure

1. Departments are invited to submit student nominations to their college dean **by Feb. 15**. Interdisciplinary programs should submit their nominations by Feb. 15 directly to the Dean of Graduate Studies, as contact for IDP. These will be forwarded to the Council of Participating Deans. Each nomination packet should include the following information:
 - A. **A cover sheet** (first page of the nomination packet) that includes:
 - Title stating: Nomination for Gramm Doctoral Fellowship
 - Full name of student, student's email, and student's current address
 - Name of nominator, department, and nominator's email
 - B. **A letter of nomination**, summarizing the student's qualifications and why this student should be selected for the award (2 pages maximum).
 - C. **Personal, academic and career information** about the nominee, such as a curriculum vitae or resume.
 - D. **Letters of support** regarding the nominee's teaching and research abilities by:
 1. Faculty members of the nominating department
 2. Peers of the nominee
 3. Students previously taught by the nominee at Texas A&M University.**No more than two letters of evaluation in each of the three categories should be submitted.**

E. **The student's specific research, teaching and scholastic achievements.** This information can be provided as part of the letter of nomination or as a separate list, and should include some or all of the following:

- Information in support of the nominee's teaching abilities, including, but not limited to, courses taught, number of students enrolled, type of preparation required for teaching courses, course evaluations, and grade distributions.
- Academic awards, scholarships, fellowships, or other scholarly recognition since becoming a graduate student.
- Presentations at local, state, national, or international meetings of professional societies or topical conferences. Please do not include manuscripts (identify meeting or conference, title of presentation, place, date, and role played by student).
- Printed or submitted publications. Please do not include manuscripts (document those accepted but not yet published). List a complete bibliographic citation **with authors in the published order.**
- Other research-related, scholarly, creative or innovative activities (techniques, devices, or concepts developed; grant proposals written; etc).

2. Each college will review nominations, selecting the top two students and forwarding these two nominations to the Office of Graduate Studies **by Feb. 28** for the final selection of Gramm Fellows. College nominations should go to:

Teresa Ford
302 Williams Administration Building
tford@vprmail.tamu.edu

A selection committee will evaluate and choose the recipients of the Gramm Fellowship. Announcements of the 2008 Gramm Fellows will be made in March. Fellowship recipients will be recognized and receive their awards at a ceremony in April.