Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships
For Achieving Excellence in College and University Teaching

Administered by
The National Research Council of
The National Academies
Through its program of Diversity Fellowships the Ford Foundation seeks to:

- Increase the diversity of the nation’s college and university faculties by increasing ethnic and racial diversity
- Maximize the educational benefits of diversity
- Increase the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students
Eligibility

- All citizens or nationals of the United States
- Evidence of superior academic achievement
- Committed to a career in teaching and research at college/university level
- Studying a research-based discipline
Eligible Fields of Study

- Behavioral and Social Science
- Humanities
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Physical Sciences
- Life Sciences

Practice-oriented programs such as law, business, and nursing will not be supported
The following will be considered as positive factors in choosing successful candidates:

- Evidence of superior academic achievement
- Degree of promise of continued achievement as scholars and teachers
Criteria for Selection

- Capacity to respond in pedagogically productive ways to the learning needs of students from diverse backgrounds
- Sustained personal engagement with communities that are underrepresented in academics and use these experiences as a tool for teaching
- Likelihood of using the diversity of human experience as an educational resource in teaching and scholarship
Membership in one or more of the following groups whose underrepresentation in the American professoriate has been severe and longstanding:

- Alaska Native (Eskimo or Aleut)
- Black/African Americans
- Mexican Americans/Chicano
- Native American Indians
- Native Pacific Islanders (Polynesian/Micronesian)
- Puerto Ricans
Additional Predoctoral Requirements

- Must be able to use three full years of graduate support
- Applicants already enrolled in a PhD or ScD Program must submit a “Verification of Predoctoral Status” form signed by their adviser
- GRE General Test Scores are optional
Must complete all requirements for PhD or ScD except writing a dissertation

A form signed by the adviser must be received by January 2008

The dissertation should be completed while on the Ford program, or at the latest, no more than 6 months after completion of program
Additional Postdoctoral Requirements

- Ph.D. or Sc.D. must have been completed between December 2000 and November 2007
- Applicants may not have held this degree longer than 7 years
- Applicants should select a host institution other than their employing institution
Fellowships Awarded
- 60 Predoctoral
- 35 Dissertation
- 20 Postdoctoral

Notifications will be published in April 2008
Stipend and Benefits

- Predoctoral - $20,000 annual stipend for three years
  - $2,000 Annual Cost-of-Education Allowance
- Dissertation - $21,000 – for one year
- Postdoctoral -$40,000 – for one year
  - $1,500 Employing Institutional Allowance
- Expenses paid to attend at least one Conference of Ford Fellows
- Mentoring by Ford Liaisons
How to Apply

- All applicants are asked to apply via the web
  http://nationalacademies.org/fellowships

- Each essay should be saved as a separate file
  Word (doc), Rich Text (rtf), or PDF

- Be sure to “SUBMIT” your application
Simple Things

- Start Early
- Follow Instructions
- Get Help
- Be Consistent
- Proofread
- Cultivate your letters of reference
Proposed Plan

- Start early
- Show it to your adviser, roommate, etc.
- Be concise and specific
- Avoid excessive jargon
- Use Times New Roman or other legible font
- Use a size 12 font
- Revise until submission
- On-line review of file to check for completeness
Express commitment to the goals of the Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships Program

Describe long-term career goals
Mention all undergraduate and graduate research experiences

Make clear how your experiences have prepared you for graduate study
Letters of Reference

- An e-mail address must be provided for each referee
- Applicants click a button in the application to forward a sign-on and password to referees
- Completeness of file may be checked on-line
Introduce yourself early

Tell referees about your plans

Provide biographical information/C.V.

Follow up

Express thanks
Application Deadlines

- Predoctoral - November 15, 2007
- Dissertation - November 29, 2007
- Postdoctoral - November 29, 2007
Conference of Ford Fellows

A select group of high-achieving scholars from diverse backgrounds

- Networking with peers and elders
- Meetings with university & academic presses
- Career advancement workshops
- Interaction with established & emerging scholars in diverse fields
Feel free to contact the Fellowships Office

- 202-334-2872
- Infofell@nas.edu
- http://national-academies.org/fellowships
Contact Information

UPRM Liaison: Dr. Ingrid Padilla
- 787-832-4040 x-3417
- padillai@uprm.edu