

# **Support for Graduate Student Research & Training in the Graduate Program in Political Science at Penn State University (Spring 2006)**

## **(1) Summer Programs**

All graduate students are guaranteed funding to attend special summer programs for at least one summer (for the study of subjects crucial to the student's program of study, such as foreign languages or advanced statistics).

Tuition is covered for any program at a Big-Ten/CIC university.

## **(2) Membership in the American Political Science Association (APSA)**

We provide you with two years of membership in the American Political Science Association. Members receive the *American Political Science Review* (the discipline's leading journal), as well as *PS* (a journal providing information about the profession and the APSA) and a relatively new journal called *Perspectives on Politics*.

## **(3) Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant Program**

The Department of Political Science awards grants throughout the year to help fund students to present research at national or international professional conferences. All currently enrolled students presenting papers or posters are eligible to apply but preference will be given to students who have completed successfully their master's essay. *Funding requests from first and second year students who have not yet received a master's degree will be supported only in exceptional circumstances.* There are rolling deadlines linked to conference proposals. Applications for travel grant funds must be submitted when conference proposals are submitted (e.g., applications for travel to APSA are due on November 15). Travel funding will not be awarded retroactively.

## **(4) Graduate Research Support Program**

The Research Support Program within the Department of Political Science offers awards to continuing graduate students for specific research-related activities that are tied to their professional development and progress toward the Ph.D. The department and the Research and Graduate Studies Office (RGSO) within the College of the Liberal Arts both have funds available to support student research. *RGSO funds are specifically designated for dissertation related research; RGSO requires ABD status to award funds.* Funds from the Department of Political Science Research Support Program are available before students reach ABD status, although preference will be given to advanced/dissertation-related research. Note that these research support funds are separate from funds designated to support travel to summer statistics and language courses at other universities.

Several awards may be made each year. RGSO awards are limited to \$2000; the department does not have a specific ceiling, but is likely to provide funding up to a similar or slightly higher level. All currently enrolled students are eligible to apply. Students receiving partial funding in one award cycle may apply again in future cycles, even for the same project, but with a lower probability of success. Application deadlines are November 1 and March 15.

### **(5) Summer Graduate Research Award**

The Department of Political Science Summer Graduate Research Award within the Department of Political Science awards \$2500 during the summer to a continuing student for the purposes of supporting collaborative faculty/student research leading to a joint or sole student-authored publication. The award pays the student \$2500 in summer wages, but the recipient will not have any assigned duties besides those required for the research project in question. This project should represent the student's primary task for the summer (i.e. the student should not accept this award and also work for an additional 10-20 hours weekly in another position).

In 2005, we anticipate awarding two to three awards in the amount of \$2500 each. All currently enrolled students are eligible. The application deadline is April 30.

### **(6) Outstanding Graduate Student Awards Program**

The Outstanding Graduate Student Awards Program within the Department of Political Science rewards continuing graduate students who have achieved an excellent record of performance in their graduate studies. In recognition of their achievements, funds are made available to students in the form of research accounts to be spent at the student's discretion on educationally relevant expenses. Up to five awards in the amount of \$2000 each may be given each academic year. All currently enrolled students are eligible and will be considered for these awards by the graduate studies committee.

### **(7) Friedman Teaching Award**

The Friedman Teaching Award within the Department of Political Science rewards an outstanding student instructor. In recognition of his/her achievement, funds are made available to the student in the form of a research account to be spent at the student's discretion on educationally relevant expenses. Students who have taught in the department in the past year are eligible and will be considered for this award by the graduate studies committee.

### **(8) Martz Award for Research in Comparative Politics**

The Martz Award is given to a student in comparative politics to assist with his/her research expenses. Comparative politics students who will incur expenses to conduct research are eligible and will be considered for this award by the graduate studies committee.

## **(9) Best MA Essay Award**

The Best MA Essay Award within the Department of Political Science is awarded to one student each year. Nominations for this award are made by the student's MA essay committee. The graduate studies committee selects the winning nominee.