Travel Funding in FY 2018 for Interdepartmental Graduate Students

The Graduate College is pleased to announce a trial initiative to support students in interdepartmental graduate majors. The trial period will be one year starting July 1, 2017. Proposed travel must be completed by June 30, 2018.

Purpose: To make possible educational/scholarly activities that require domestic or international travel that otherwise would not be financially feasible.

Examples of fundable activities include but are not limited to:

- participation in domestic or international conferences,
- domestic or international trips to enhance dissertation or thesis research, and
- registration in graduate courses that include domestic or international travel.

Funds from the Graduate College must be matched in an equal or greater amount with funds from one or more university accounts not associated with the Graduate College. Possible sources of matching funds include accounts under the control of a major professor or other faculty member, and accounts controlled by an academic college, a department, an interdepartmental major, a center, etc.

Matching funds may not include PAG allocations made by the GPSS. When possible, however, PAG funds should be used to reduce the funds needed from this program.

Any student who is classified as majoring or co-majoring in an interdepartmental graduate major is eligible. Depending on the response to this program, the Graduate College may elect to prioritize some categories of students. For example, if demand exceeds available resources, students may be prioritized by the Graduate College based on degree objective, academic performance, evidence of timely progress toward degree completion (approved POSC on file, pass on preliminary oral examination [doctoral students only], etc.), likely impact of the proposed travel, etc.

Most total awards are expected to be $1,000 ($500 from the Graduate College + $500 from matching funds) per student or less. However, requests for total awards of up to $2,000 will be considered, though requests for total awards exceeding $1,000 should include justifications that are especially compelling.

A standard request form will be available from the Graduate College by April 1, 2017. Funding decisions will be made as complete requests are received by the Graduate College. The trial period may end before June 30, 2018, if Graduate College funds are depleted sooner than anticipated. Therefore, we recommend applications be submitted as soon as a student is ready to commit to a qualifying activity for which the associated travel will be complete by June 30, 2018.