



TO: AGEP FIRST AND SECOND YEAR STUDENTS  
LSAMP SENIORS  
CSTEP SENIORS  
MARC SENIORS  
EOP/AIM SENIORS  
URECA SENIORS

FROM: KATHRYNE PIAZZOLA, SUNY AGEP PROGRAM

DATE: AUGUST 21, 2007

RE: ANNOUNCING THE AGEP WRITING TO WIN WORKSHOP

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I am pleased to inform you of an incredible service provided by the AGEP Program to help you prepare a strong application for the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (or any other fellowship of your choice). If you are planning to attend graduate school or are currently in your first and second year of graduate study, the NSF GRF will provide you with a generous stipend of \$30,000 per year and \$10,500 for tuition and fees and of course, national prestige. We are delighted to announce that to date, we have one winner and two honorable mentions thanks to this activity!

Here are this year's deadlines:

**NSF GRFP**

November 1, 2007 (Thursday): Interdisciplinary Fields of Study  
November 2, 2007 (Friday): Mathematical Sciences; Computer and Information Science and Engineering  
November 6, 2007 (Tuesday): Social Sciences; Geosciences; Psychology  
November 7, 2007 (Wednesday): Life Sciences  
November 8, 2007 (Thursday): Engineering  
November 9, 2007 (Friday): Chemistry; Physics and Astronomy

Additional fellowships you may be interested in (this list is not comprehensive):

**EPA STAR (Science to achieve results)**

Focus: environmentally related research fellowships for graduates and undergraduates  
Due: dates not yet posted, although we expect it to be the end of October

**NASA Harriet Jenkins Fellowship**

Focus: for underrepresented graduate students in science, technology, and education  
Due: dates not yet posted, although we expect it to be early February

**Department of Energy Graduate Research Environmental Fellowship**

Focus: Global change research  
Due: dates not yet posted, although we expect it to be early February

## **Ford Foundation Administered by the National Research Council**

Due: dates not yet posted, although we expect it to be sometime in November

The application process is a demanding one but we are fortunate to have Sue Natali a graduate student from the Ecology and Evolution Department, who has won this fellowship lead efforts to provide one-on-one assistance on the preparation of your application. She and 2-3 other graduate student winners of this fellowship will serve as the instructors. In order to participate, we need you to attend one of the following two introductory workshops:

September 20<sup>th</sup> 10:00-11:30am

September 21<sup>st</sup> 2:00-3:30pm

*\*Held in the AGEP Office, Center for Inclusive Education, Melville Library E-1340, Ext 2-1387\**

### **AND RSVP IS REQUIRED!**

This introductory workshop is intended to guide and motivate you in the preparation and submission of NSF (or other) fellowship applications by covering the following topics:

- Why you should apply for the NSF fellowship: overview of benefits of the fellowship and benefits of the application process.
- Requirements and commitment needed to complete the fellowship application.
- Timeline/checklist of application requirements.
- Overview of NSF application essays and tips for writing a good essay.
- General strategies for preparing and completing the application.
- Finding out about and applying for other fellowships.

You may want to consider purchasing the book *Elements of Style* by Strunk & White which is a great writing handbook that you may find very useful.

Following the introductory session, students who sign-up will be paired with a current NSF fellow to work one-on-one on the application essays and submission process. We will establish an application schedule and communicate via e-mail or personal appointments until your application is submitted. As we only have limited slots, it is important for all participants to recognize the time and effort that will be required of the applicants and the instructors. The information session will be the perfect opportunity to decide whether you want to continue.

Please bring a writing sample to this first session, preferably your personal statement from your graduate school application.

If you have any questions, please contact Sue Natali, the lead facilitator for this workshop, at (natalis@life.bio.sunysb.edu). Please write on the subject line: AGEP Writing to Win.

This is an incredible opportunity and I hope that you will take advantage of this valuable resource!  
Good luck!!!