

## **Announcing the 2009 SBS Graduate Student Summer Survey Research Awards to support students' survey research scholarship**

The Graduate Student Summer Survey Research Awards are jointly sponsored annually by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research so that graduate students can conduct their own original scholarship related to survey research. This is an opportunity to develop an additional research area, other than your dissertation research. Students will receive a \$4,050 stipend for the summer while they conduct their research. Students will be appointed as student associates and are not expected to take classes. If students need to take classes, the student's department will be expected to contribute the cost of tuition and benefits that are due on the appointment.

Awards are made on a competitive basis. Projects that have been funded in the past have involved original statistical analysis of survey data (using data from such sources as the ICPSR archives, Roper Center, OSU data including the NLS-Y, or from other archives that the student would need to access at her/his own expense). Recent winning proposals involved substantive topics in political science, communication, sociology, public health, nutrition, statistics and related disciplines using survey research data, or topics related to survey methodology, and/or applying advanced statistical techniques to survey data. Winning substantive proposals typically involve a significant issue in survey methods or analysis such as correctly incorporating sample-based weights in analysis, advanced ways of handling missing data, etc.

Note that this award cannot be used for data collection, not for research design, and not for the completion of a thesis or dissertation. The goal of the program is to encourage the production of high-quality publishable work in the peer-reviewed scientific literature. Numerous papers from past years have been presented at professional conferences, with many winning awards for the best student papers at those conferences. If the final product is a collaborative venture with an OSU faculty member and/or another graduate student, it is required that the summer graduate student research fellow be the lead author on the research.

Each student who is granted a research award will be supervised by their project adviser and the GIS faculty coordinator during summer quarter, with regular contact between the student and faculty to review the student's progress on the summer research project. Additionally, students will participate in two sessions during the summer in which students present their research to faculty and the other awardees, with discussion of each other's research. The students will also be expected to seek advice from and keep in contact with their adviser or faculty in their own disciplines about their progress.

Graduate student applications should be emailed to Prof. Gerald Kosicki at [kosicki.1@osu.edu](mailto:kosicki.1@osu.edu). The proposals can be a maximum of four single-spaced pages (no smaller than 11-point font) in which they:

- Describe the importance of the proposed research
- Link it to the existing scholarly literature
- Explain how the proposed new work would advance the research area
- Describe the data that will be analyzed
- Present a plan for data analysis
- Describe the form (outlet) in which the student expects to disseminate the research
- Provide a 10-week timetable for the work

In addition to the student's written proposal, the application also will need a brief written endorsement from the student's faculty adviser that s/he supports the students' proposed research. In addition, the student must provide a copy of her/his vita. These additional materials should be e-mailed to [kosicki.1@osu.edu](mailto:kosicki.1@osu.edu), or put in Prof. Kosicki's mailbox in the School of Communication, 3016 Derby Hall. E-mailed applications are strongly preferred. Emailed submissions should reference "2009 Summer Survey Fellowship" on the subject line.

The applications are due by 5 p.m., Monday, April 20, 2009 and will be reviewed by a group of faculty overseeing the SBS-Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research. Awards will be announced in early May. The first full meeting of awardees will be in early June with the final presentation of results in late August.

**Survey Education at Ohio State University:** The Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research is a 23-credit hour program available to any student enrolled in a graduate degree program. It consists of two required courses -- Questionnaire Construction, and Survey Practicum. Both of these required courses will be taught in SP 2009 as Political Science 702 and Communication 789 respectively. Three electives are chosen from lists of courses in survey method and survey applications. For details, see our web site at <http://sbs.osu.edu/sbs/gissr.php>.

For additional questions, please contact:

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