

**University of Washington  
School of Medicine**

**Bud Tribble and Susan Barnes  
Graduate Discovery Fellowships**

**Request for Applications**

Providing funded opportunities for individual Ph.D. students to explore *diverse* and *career-enhancing* opportunities independent of their Ph.D. mentor and program

RFA Release Date	December 7, 2016
Application Due Date	June 1, 2017 12:00 PM
Estimated Review Date	Week of June 26, 2017
Earliest Award Date	September 15, 2017

**USE APPLICATION FORM FOUND AT <http://www.uwmedicine.org/education/phd-program>**

## Graduate Discovery Fellowships

### The Opportunity

Funding for the **Graduate Discovery Fellowships** was generously provided by a special gift to the UW School of Medicine by Dr. Bud Tribble and Susan Barnes.

### Purpose

Graduate Discovery Fellowships will support **creative, external learning experiences** for graduate students who wish to explore **fundamentally new avenues of inquiry**— independent of their UW mentor and program— with **the goal of broadening the student's career opportunities and vision of science**. No restrictions are placed on the type of experience chosen— with interdisciplinary applications being welcome. This will allow applicants to propose a wide range of opportunities and experiences to expand their knowledge and experiences beyond their base discipline. This competitive program will allow recipients to pursue

- **independent research ideas** to accelerate their pursuit of an independent career
- **hitherto unexplored career-directed professional passions**
- **entirely new scientific experiences that synergize with their graduate research and foster creative approaches to important areas of research, service, or business**

### Structure of the Graduate Discovery Fellowships

Each Graduate Discovery Fellowship will support a 3-9 month period of activity, with a commensurate budget developed by the applicant. Longer durations are acceptable (even encouraged, if justified). Graduate Discovery fellowships can be undertaken at **any location in the world** where appropriate arrangements have been made, following University of Washington policies, and where student safety is acceptable to the Office of Global Affairs. Students will retain UW student status while participating in the Graduate Discovery Fellowship experience. Each application must contain a justification for the location chosen and a statement of why a particular location is necessary. In some cases this will be obvious as the experience may be located only in a specific geographical site, and this can be simply stated; for others, particularly for experiences in scientific laboratories, a very clear justification will be necessary. Students are responsible for identifying an activity and making arrangements for this activity with the prospective host laboratory, institution, company, agency, *etc.* prior to submission of the application.

### Eligibility and Participation Requirements:

- Eligible students will be those enrolled in University of Washington School of Medicine graduate programs, including the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) and life sciences interdisciplinary programs administratively housed within the Graduate School.
- Applicants must be in good academic standing with their graduate programs.
- Applicants must have achieved Ph.D. candidacy status.
- Ph.D. students must complete the Fellowship prior to awarding of the Ph.D. degree.
- MSTP students may apply and must complete the Fellowship before awarding of the M.D. degree. It is preferable that the fellowship be completed during Ph.D. training.
- The student's academic program must approve the participation of the student in the fellowship program and agree to provide oversight of the student during the fellowship.

There is no expectation that the programs will undertake a formal review process of applications before submission.

- If the proposed experience is outside the United States, the Office of Global Affairs must be involved prior to the decision to award the Fellowship

### **Application for the Graduate Discovery Fellowships**

Applicants for the Graduate Discovery Fellowships will submit a brief proposal that includes the following specific components. The application must be written in Arial 11 font, be single spaced with  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch margins, and be compliant with the page limitations for each respective component below.

**Please use the application form found at <http://www.uwmedicine.org/education/phd-program> .**

1. *Application form Cover page*
2. *Narrative, up to three pages total, to include the following:*
  - Applicant's current dissertation research. Please describe your current research area.
  - Proposed activity. Please describe your proposed activities and the goals for these activities. Justify the duration and site of the proposed activity.
  - How the proposed activity differs from your ongoing work. Describe how these new activities differ from your ongoing research and explain how attainment of these goals is anticipated to enhance your career or career planning.
  - A statement regarding the timing of the Fellowship in relationship to your research training and academic progress.
3. *One page:*
  - A budget (with a brief justification) commensurate with the activity. The recommended budget amount is \$15,000-\$25,000 per 3-month period, depending upon the specific nature and location of the proposed activity. This amount is flexible and the amount requested should be justified. The budget should include current stipend, benefits, and fulltime tuition (10 credits during academic year, 2 credits in summer), travel costs, and living costs in the host location. For international fellowship experiences, budgets should include the cost of UW Student Abroad Insurance and itemized costs of visas, immunizations, banking fees, and any other specific requirements for travel and short-term residency. No equipment purchases are permitted.
4. *One to three pages, as needed:*
  - Current *curriculum vitae*
5. *Pages as needed:*
  - UW graduate transcript (unofficial copy is acceptable)
6. *Separate submissions:*
  - A letter of support from the applicant's current Dissertation Committee Chair indicating his or her support for the proposed Graduate Discovery Fellowship project, including the duration and timing of the project, and describing the relevant qualities of the applicant. This letter also should indicate the estimated time-to-degree for the applicant.
  - A letter of concurrence from the proposed host, on institutional letterhead. A brief description of the proposed activities should be included in this letter.
  - A letter of support from the graduate program director or department chair indicating his or her support for the Graduate Discovery Fellowship activity, including the duration and timing of the activity, and describing the relevant qualities and academic eligibility of the applicant.
  - If the applicant is currently supported by a training grant, a letter of concurrence from the training grant director.

The application form, including budget, CV, and transcript should be submitted as a **single PDF file** to Tess Linger at [tesska@uw.edu](mailto:tesska@uw.edu). The letters should be sent directly by the letter-writers to Tess at the email address above. **All materials must be received by 12:00 PM (noon) PST on Thursday, June 1, 2017.**

Applicants do not need departmental, school, or Office of Sponsored Programs signatures; no eGC-1 is required.

### **Award Requirements**

Human Subjects, Animal Care, and EH&S Approvals: Prior to funding, all applicable Institutional Biohazard, IACUC, and IRB approvals from the host institution must be in place. The Office of Research and Graduate Education will work with successful applicants to determine whether IACUC, Human Subjects, and EH&S approvals must also be obtained from UW. Copies of all necessary approvals must be forwarded to the Award Coordinator, Tess Linger, at [tesska@uw.edu](mailto:tesska@uw.edu) before funds can be released.

### Reporting and Presentation Requirements:

- Each fellow will be asked to provide a brief written summary of the experience when the Fellowship is completed, at graduation, and two and four years after graduation.
- Recipients will participate in a celebratory event such as a seminar or a dinner that includes a presentation of their experience and accomplishments.
- The UW Ph.D. mentor and the host mentor will be asked to provide individual letters describing their perceptions of the benefit of the experience for the trainee and for the host institutions.
- The Graduate Discovery Fellowship Program must be acknowledged in all publications and presentations derived from this experience, citing the University of Washington School of Medicine Bud Tribble and Susan Barnes Graduate Discovery Fellowship as the source of support.

Post-Award Requirements: After the project is completed, awardees must agree to provide contact information and respond to annual queries about publications, collaborations, and future activities related to the Graduate Discovery Fellowship experience.

### **Selection Criteria and Review Process**

The **ideal applicant** for the Graduate Discovery Fellowships will:

- demonstrate ***creativity and imagination*** in the selection and development of the proposed activity;
- convey a ***passion for scientific inquiry and interdisciplinary exploration***;
- articulate a clear vision for the contribution of the activity to ***career enrichment and enhancement***.

A committee including alumni, faculty, department chairs, graduate program directors, and the Office of Research & Graduate Education will make the final selections, based upon the submitted proposals, letters and, for finalists, interviews.

### **Questions?**

Contact Dr. Sheila Lukehart, Associate Dean for Research & Graduate Education, at [lukehart@uw.edu](mailto:lukehart@uw.edu) or 206 897-5362.