Request for Applications
2015-2016 E²SHI Fellowship Program

Application Deadline: February 11, 2015

The Johns Hopkins Environment, Energy, Sustainability & Health Institute (E²SHI) invites applications for fellowships of up to $25,000 to support Johns Hopkins University doctoral students pursuing interdisciplinary research in environment, energy, sustainability, or health topics during the 2015-2016 academic year. To apply, students must be nominated by a faculty member on the basis of his/her qualifications and interdisciplinary research achievements. The faculty nominator and the student nominee can be from any JHU school.

E²SHI is an interdisciplinary, university-wide institute of Hopkins that addresses critical issues related to environmental sustainability, including energy challenges and health impacts. E²SHI’s goals are to:

1) Establish Hopkins as a world leader in, and provide a single point of contact for, integrative approaches to global environmental change, sustainability, and their related health challenges.
2) Promote the development of interdisciplinary research collaborations and proposals.
3) Provide support to enhance and coordinate environmental curricula at the undergraduate and graduate levels.
4) Help to translate research into sound policy.
5) Develop collaborative partnerships with the business sector, federal, state, and local agencies, environmental groups, and Baltimore community organizations.

Information about the fellowship program and application requirements is provided below. For more information about E²SHI and/or the fellowship program, contact the E²SHI Program Coordinator at kilima@jhu.edu, or visit our website at http://e2shi.jhu.edu.

Program Objectives

The E²SHI Fellowship Program supports doctoral students to conduct interdisciplinary research concerning the environment, energy supply and use, economic and ecological sustainability, or their relationship to public health. The program aims to support study and research crossing disciplinary boundaries that would otherwise not be funded, and which would lead to doctoral dissertation research and/or research proposals that would be submitted to outside funding agencies.

Fellowships can be used to support student stipend, tuition, and travel costs, but not indirect costs. Fellowships can be used for any of the following purposes:

● Support research proposal development by doctoral students beginning their research.
● Provide an opportunity for doctoral students midway in their research to broaden their perspective, methods, and research problems.
● To recruit and support particularly promising new applicants to Johns Hopkins doctoral programs with interdisciplinary interests.

The award period for the fellowship program is July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

For more information about the fellowship program, visit http://e2shi.jhu.edu/index.php/research_projects/fellows/.
Criteria

Current or prospective Johns Hopkins University doctoral students must be nominated for the fellowship by a faculty member in their graduate program. The nominator can be an advisor or a faculty member who works or will work closely with the student.

Nominees must be enrolled in full-time graduate study in any JHU school working towards a doctoral degree during the fellowship period, be advised by at least two faculty members from different disciplines, and be pursuing research. One advisor should be the student’s official advisor; the second advisor does not need to have an ‘official’ advisor status, but must be substantively involved in advising or directing the student’s research. Applications from students who are advised by faculty in different JHU schools are especially encouraged.

Fellowship applicants are expected to demonstrate excellent academic accomplishments and a strong interest in environment, energy, sustainability and/or health issues. Graduate study, a college major, course work, research or work experience that reflects interdisciplinary focus of the fellowship is also a plus.

Fellowship Obligations

Fellowship recipients will be asked to fulfill several obligations, including:

1) Provide content for the fellows’ profile in E²SHI’s website
2) Prepare two reports, due 6 months and 12 months into the award period, summarizing research progress and accomplishments.
3) Give a presentation about the research findings at an E²SHI co-sponsored event or other approved event.
4) If you plan to submit proposals for external research or fellowship funding, consider submitting the proposal through E²SHI. Guidelines for submitting proposals are available at http://e2shi.jhu.edu/index.php/research_projects/proposals/. E²SHI provides all administrative and budget services needed to submit proposals, and submitting them through E²SHI does not affect any return on research you, your department, or center would normally receive through your school.

Application Procedure

There is no application form, but applicants should follow the instructions as outlined below. Current doctoral students should review instructions in Section A. Prospective JHU doctoral students that plan to matriculate in Fall 2015 should follow instructions in Section B.

Note: All applications for funding should be submitted in 10-12 point font, single-spaced with margins of no less than 0.8 inch. Applications that are incomplete or whose project description exceeds two pages will not be reviewed.

Section A: Instructions for CURRENT doctoral students

- A cover page with:

  1) Student (nominee) name, department, division and contact information (telephone and email address).
  2) Faculty Nominator’s name, department, and contact information.
  3) Advisors’ names, department, division and contact information (one of the advisors may be the faculty nominator).
  4) Requested amount for fellowship funding for AY 2015-2016 (up to $25,000 for 1 year) and a budget with breakdown. Line items can include, but are not limited to: stipend, tuition, travel, and equipment. Fellowship funds may be used to pay up to 50% of equipment costing $200 or more having useful lives beyond the 1 year fellowship (e.g. camera or computer).
  5) Description of departmental or other financial support, if any, that would leverage the E²SHI Fellowship in AY 2015-2016.
continued, Section A: Instructions for current doctoral students

- Research project title and description, up to 2 pages (maximum). Please describe the intended or ongoing area of research. Also describe how the research crosses disciplinary boundaries, e.g. which disciplines the research incorporates. If preliminary results or papers are available, these can be appended.

- Appendix A: Student (nominee) vita (CV/resume)

- Appendix B: GRE or other standardized test scores

- Appendix C: Relevant transcripts - Transcripts do not have to be official. Include transcripts from JHU, and if applicable, other graduate programs previously completed.

- Other information relevant to your application – Please keep this information brief.

- Letters of recommendation - Applicants should request letters of recommendations from the faculty nominator and advisor(s) listed in the application. The letters should include the following points and be sent by the recommenders via email directly to the E²SHI Program Coordinator at kilima@jhu.edu by the same deadline as the application (11:59 pm EST on February 11, 2015).
  1. Assess the student’s ability to successfully complete the research project.
  2. Explain the faculty nominator/advisor’s role in the student’s research.
  3. If the faculty’s research is related to the student’s research, describe how he/she will be involved.
  4. Outline how the advising role will be fulfilled throughout the research period (e.g., monthly meetings).

Students (nominees) should submit the completed application materials as a single PDF file to E²SHI Program Coordinator at kilima@jhu.edu by 11:59 pm EST on Wed, February 11, 2015.

Section B: Instructions for PROSPECTIVE doctoral students

- A cover page with:
  1) Nominee name, department, division and contact information (telephone and email address).
  2) Faculty Nominator’s name, department, and contact information.
  3) Advisors’ names, department, division and contact information (one of the advisors may be the faculty nominator). If you need assistance with identifying a second faculty advisor for the fellowship, discuss this with your faculty nominator and/or contact E²SHI’s Program Coordinator at kilima@jhu.edu.
  4) Requested amount for fellowship funding for AY 2015-2016 (up to $25,000 for 1 year) and a budget with breakdown. Line items can include, but are not limited to: stipend, tuition, travel, and equipment. Fellowship funds may be used to pay up to 50% of equipment costing $200 or more having useful lives beyond the 1 year fellowship (e.g. camera or computer).
  5) Description of departmental or other financial support, if any, that would leverage the E²SHI Fellowship in AY 2015-2016.

- Research project title and description, up to 2 pages (maximum).* Please describe the intended area of research you plan to pursue at Johns Hopkins University. Also describe how the research crosses disciplinary boundaries, e.g. which disciplines the research incorporates.

- Appendix A: Nominee vita (CV/resume)

- Appendix B: GRE or other standardized test scores*

- Appendix C: Relevant transcripts* - Transcripts do not have to be official. If applicable, other graduate programs previously completed.

- Other information relevant to your application – Please keep this information brief.
• Letters of recommendation* - One letter of recommendation should come from the faculty nominator listed in the application. A maximum of three letters of recommendation will be accepted. The letters should include the following points and be included with the application packet submitted by the faculty nominator.
  1. Assess the student’s ability to successfully complete an interdisciplinary research project.
  2. Explain the faculty nominator/advisor’s role in the student’s research.
  3. If the faculty’s research is related to the student’s research, describe how he/she will be involved.
  4. Outline how the advising role will be fulfilled throughout the research period (e.g., monthly meetings).

The faculty nominator should submit the completed application materials as a single PDF file to E²SHI Program Coordinator at kilima@jhu.edu by 11:59 pm EST on Wed, February 11, 2015.

* These may be reproduced from materials in student's graduate school application, if appropriate.

Review Process

Applications will be judged in terms of:

● The creativity, potential and importance of the proposed research area.
● Evidence of student’s commitment to interdisciplinary research.
● Quality of the student's preparation and experience, as judged by transcripts, resume, and letters of recommendation.
● Evidence of support from the nominating department including any supplementary financial support.
● Strategies for communicating research findings to the public.

Applications will be judged by an interdisciplinary review committee. As such, fellowship applications should be able to communicate research objectives, design and outcomes to people outside of your discipline.

Timeline

November 18, 2014: RFA released for Fellowship applications
February 11, 2015: Fellowship application deadline
April 2015: Fellowship awards announced
July 1, 2015: Start date for funded fellowships
June 30, 2016: End date for fellowship period

Submit application materials as a single PDF file to E²SHI Program Coordinator at kilima@jhu.edu by 11:59 pm EST on February 11, 2015.