WELCOME! 2016-17 brought a number of exciting fellowship success stories, including new NSF GRFPs and RPI's 8th ever student Fulbright award winner, who is featured in this month's Fellow Spotlight. See below for a list of all recent awards.

Beginning this fall, you will receive a monthly fellowship newsletter like this one to connect you with opportunities and resources, alert you to upcoming deadlines, and share insights from RPI's many outstanding graduate fellows. In the meantime, watch for summer workshop announcements (advertised in the Grad Weekly email, Morning Mail, and online), and don't hesitate to be in touch. You can reach me by email, or book an appointment online. Whether you're searching for opportunities or seeking feedback on applications, I look forward to hearing from you!

--Alice Broussard
Graduate Fellowship Advisor

UPCOMING WORKSHOP

Intro to External Graduate Fellowships
Thursday, June 22, 2017 | 4 - 5 pm | Union 3606 (Shelnutt Gallery)
Register

Need external funding? Even if you don't now, you may down the road. Grants and fellowships allow you to set your own research agenda; they also carry prestige...
and help develop your career. In this session we’ll cover the basics, including where to search for funding and what goes into a successful application. Join Alice Broussard, graduate fellowship advisor, to learn about opportunities for full fellowships with stipends, travel grants, opportunities for research abroad, and more. *External funding is not just for US citizens! We’ll discuss options for international students as well.

FIND YOUR FELLOWSHIP

Summer is the perfect time to take a step back, re-center, and think big--What do you want to accomplish in the upcoming year, and the year after that? What resources do you need to get there?

Whether you’re looking for full funding, a research or travel grant, or the opportunity to conduct research abroad, there are fellowships out there that match your interests. The search is often half the battle.

Most fellowship deadlines occur in fall and early winter, so now is the perfect time to plan. Take the time to find the best funding options. Unfortunately, there is no one perfect resource, but listed here are a number of worthwhile places to look.

And don't forget the resources right here on campus. Ask around your department to see what fellowships people have held or applied to in the past. You may find a current fellow who can provide invaluable advice and feedback on your application.

Search the open GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP DATABASES of other institutions:

- University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
- Duke
- Rutgers
- University of Chicago
- Cornell
GrantForward. Graduate students and faculty: use your Rensselaer email address to create a Researcher Profile and get personalized funding recommendations delivered straight to your inbox.

ProFellow is another great resource: set up a free account for access to their database and blog.

Are you a member of the PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION(s) in your discipline? In addition to helping build your network, many offer some form of graduate funding, and most of that is available to international students.

WRITING RESOURCES

Writing in the Sciences. A free, self-paced online course offered by Stanford. The first 3 units are focused on the nuts and bolts of clear, concise writing. I cannot recommend them highly enough.

The Foolproof Research Proposal Template. Developed by Dr. Karen Kelsky, author of The Professor is In.

Planning ahead for NSF? Be sure to read examples of successful essays. Alex Lang's website contains many.

On-Campus essay bank. Email me at brousap@rpi.edu or book online to review successful RPI applications to the NSF GRFP, NDSEG, SMART, Fulbright, AAUW, and more.
FELLOW SPOTLIGHT

Emily Kosmaczewski
Fulbright (Research/Poland)
Physics MS - May 2017
Physics BS - Dec. 2016
Research advisor: Heidi Jo Newberg

Research interests: Astronomy phenomena outside of our galaxy, including the chemistry of dust clouds and the dynamics of other galaxies.

Q: What inspired you to apply for Fulbright?
A: My class dean encouraged me to look at Fulbright and international exchange opportunities. I've always wanted to travel but never had the means or time. And I was unsure about my next step after graduation, so a fellowship abroad seemed perfect. It will give me a chance to travel to places I've always wanted to visit and gain more experience in my field.

Q: Did you apply for other fellowships at the same time?
A: No, but I did apply to graduate schools and jobs. Luckily, I found out I won the Fulbright before I had to make any other commitments.

Q: What did you learn during the application process?
A: With many different kinds of people evaluating my proposal, I needed to communicate my research objectives in a way that non-scientists could understand. I realized very quickly how hard it is to get rid of the highly technical language we become so used to in school. I also learned a few new ways to approach a personal statement that were less linear but overall more interesting. For example, sometimes starting in the middle of a story and expanding outward thematically can be more interesting than just telling your story in chronological order.

Q: What's your #1 tip for future applicants?
A: Start writing early! Research and personal statements may seem daunting, but once you get working drafts they can begin to take shape quickly. You will want many people
to review your statements, including people outside your field, and this can take a lot of time. So, start early!

Q: Which aspect of the Fulbright is most valuable to you?
A: The ability to travel to a new country, experience a new culture, and do research with a completely new and diverse group of people. It’s an amazing opportunity to learn about the world from an entirely different frame of reference.

Q: Anything else you’d like to add?
A: The process for the Fulbright is long; it takes about 6 months to receive your final notification, though that varies by country. Patience is a virtue, but make sure to apply to many other things as well. It’s always good to have a few backup plans in case your top choice doesn’t pan out.

FELLOWS IN THE NEWS

- Anthony D’Amato, NYS Dept of Health Spinal Cord Injury Research Board Predoctoral Fellowship - Biomedical Engineering
- Christopher Johnson, NYS Dept of Health Spinal Cord Injury Research Board Predoctoral Fellowship - Biomedical Engineering
- Emily Kosmaczewski, Fulbright - Physics
- Christopher Sprague, NSF EAPSI - Aeronautical Engineering
- Ezra Teboul, Artist-in-Residence - Arts

MORE RECENT FELLOWSHIP WINNERS

- Elizabeth Capogna, Life Quality Solutions Incubator Fellowship - Biomedical Engineering
- Justin Clough, SMART - Mechanical Engineering
- Kayla Coldsnow, NSF GRFP - Biology
- Denzel Faulkner, GEM Associate Fellow - Biomedical Engineering
- Shelby Hayostek, NSF GRFP - Aeronautical Engineering
- Areej Jahangir, Berkeley-AIPS Urdu Language Program - Science & Technology Studies
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Fellowship/Program</th>
<th>Field</th>
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<tr>
<td>Antwane Mason</td>
<td>GEM Fellow</td>
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<td>Michael McKay</td>
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<td>Alli Morgan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vipula Rawte</td>
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<td>Aaron Rowen</td>
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<td>Dustin Schroeder</td>
<td>Life Quality Solutions Incubator Fellowship</td>
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<td>Sam Walker</td>
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<td>Evan Wilson</td>
<td>IESNYC merit scholarship</td>
<td>Architecture</td>
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If you won an external fellowship this year and are not on this list, please let me know!