



STANFORD UNIVERSITY
VICE PROVOST FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION

DARE DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

DIVERSIFYING ACADEMIA, RECRUITING EXCELLENCE

2008 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The DARE Doctoral Fellowship Program awards two-year fellowships to Stanford doctoral students in the final two years of their doctoral program who want to investigate and prepare for academic careers and whose presence will help diversify the professoriate. The program expands the academic “pipeline” in two ways. It better prepares the capacity of Stanford Ph.D. students from diverse backgrounds to have successful faculty careers, and, at the same time, it enriches the education of other students.

Stanford’s commitment to diversity is broadly conceived to include, but is not limited to: underrepresented racial and ethnic minorities; first-generation college students; women in fields such as natural science and engineering; gay, lesbian and transgendered students; disabled students; as well as others whose backgrounds and experiences would diversify the professoriate in their academic fields. Applicants from all backgrounds are welcome.

DARE Fellowships provide an annual stipend of \$31,200 (\$7,800 per quarter) and TGR tuition for two 4-quarter academic years beginning Autumn 2008. The DARE Program also provides an integrated set of activities in which all DARE Fellows participate. The activities (several of which are described below) are designed to prepare them for future academic careers and enhance the educational experience of Fellows’ Stanford classmates. Continuation in the DARE program is contingent on satisfactory academic progress and satisfactory participation.

Structured seminars. Seminars and professional development modules during the academic year designed to prepare students for the full range of faculty responsibilities and to enable them to take on academic leadership roles.

Mentorship with a tenured Stanford faculty member in addition to the dissertation advisor.

Project to enhance the diversity of Stanford’s graduate student population and to enrich the educational experience of the student community.

Recruiting trip. Fellows are funded to make a recruiting trip to talk about their research and encourage promising undergraduates to apply to graduate school.

Acting Assistant Professor appointments. Fellows will be eligible to compete for four one-year acting assistant professor appointments in a relevant Stanford department.

This is the inaugural year for DARE. DARE is a four-year pilot program (2008 – 2012) for three cohorts of students. Twelve new Fellows will be selected each year; in all, 36 students will be DARE Fellows. The Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Education (VPGE) administers and evaluates the program.

ELIGIBILITY

Applications are sought from Stanford doctoral students from all fields and programs who are considering careers as college or university faculty members. Through their research accomplishments, teaching skills, and commitments to university and community service, candidates must have demonstrated potential to become academic leaders.

Applicants **must** meet all of the following criteria by the start of the Fellowship, Autumn 2008:

- Currently enrolled Stanford doctoral student (PhD, DMA, JSD) from any department making satisfactory academic progress
- Advanced to candidacy
- Approved dissertation proposal
- Anticipated Ph.D. degree conferral in two years (by the end of summer quarter 2010)
- Committed to participating in all components of the DARE Program during the six academic-year quarters of the DARE Program (autumn quarter 2008 through spring quarter 2010, excluding summers).

The following will be considered positive factors in selecting Fellows:

- Plans for a career as a faculty member in a US college or university.
- Background or experiences that would diversify the professoriate in their academic field, such as (but not limited to) ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.
- Engagement with one or more communities that are underrepresented in the academy, and a demonstrated commitment to use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of others.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Four one-hour-long information sessions will be held to answer questions about the DARE Program. Applicants are encouraged to attend one of these sessions to learn about the program in detail, as well as the application process and selection criteria. Students interested in applying for DARE Fellowships in 2009 or 2010 are also encouraged to attend.

Date	Time	Room	Building
Wednesday, March 12	4 pm	Hartley Conference Center	Mitchell Earth Sciences Bldg
Monday, March 17	1 pm	S362	Clark Center
Tuesday, March 25	12 pm	Garden Terrace Room (Room 426, top floor)	English Dept, Bldg 460
Thursday, April 3	7 pm	Nairobi Room	GCC

TO APPLY

If you have any questions, contact Chris Golde at
vpge@stanford.edu

Please submit the following application materials in one package (except advisor letter) by **Wednesday, April 23, 2008** to:

Office of the VPGE
450 Serra Mall
Building 310, First Floor
Stanford, CA 94305-2102

Mail code: 2102

It is **your** responsibility to ensure that your packet is complete. Incomplete packets will not be read.

1. Application Cover Sheet (Provide 4 copies)

Download this MS Word form from vpge.stanford.edu/dare.

2. Personal Statement (Provide 4 copies)

The personal statement is your opportunity to introduce yourself to the selection committee and to explain why you should be selected as a DARE Fellow. An engaging, well-written personal statement is important. Applicants are encouraged to provide specific examples of their accomplishments.

Your personal statement must address the five topics described in sections a-e. Please use subheadings to identify them. For each topic, we have provided questions to spark your thinking. After considering them, formulate a clear statement in your own voice.

Personal statements **must not exceed 1750 words**. Personal statements should be single spaced, use conventional margins, and be in a readable font size. Statements may be printed on both sides of the page.

a. Why I would be an outstanding DARE Fellow

DARE is a program intended to positively influence the career trajectories of its participants, and, at the same time, contribute to the richness of the educational environment at Stanford. Through their research accomplishments, teaching skills, and commitments to university and community service, candidates must have demonstrated potential to become academic leaders.

Here are some questions to consider as you formulate your statement.

- What difference will DARE make to you and your career plans?
- What do you want to learn and gain from your participation in DARE?

- As a DARE Fellow, what do you hope to contribute to the education of your fellow students?
- What makes you an outstanding candidate for a DARE Fellowship?
- What do your accomplishments so far demonstrate about your academic leadership skills and potential?
- As you imagine your career, what kind of academic leader do you want to be, and how does this fit with the goals of DARE?

b. Ability to diversify academia

Among the central objectives of the DARE Program are to better prepare students from diverse backgrounds for academic careers and, at the same time, to enrich the education of other students. Given these objectives, why should you be selected as a DARE Fellow?

Here are some questions to consider as you formulate your statement.

- Why are you particularly able to help diversify the professoriate of US colleges and universities?
- How do you characterize your commitment to diversifying US colleges and universities, here at Stanford and looking forward? How have you already demonstrated your commitment?
- As you look ahead to your career, what are your goals and plans for diversifying academia generally, and your field specifically?

c. Career plans

We will consider the DARE Program a success if its graduates have successful careers as faculty members, and if DARE graduates enhance the diversity of the US professoriate. We realize that many doctoral students are committed to an academic career and many others are questioning whether a faculty career suits them. We recognize that DARE Fellows will have varying degrees of certainty and commitment to this career path. Likewise, DARE Fellows will explore faculty positions at a wide variety of US colleges and universities – two-year colleges, comprehensive teaching colleges, liberal arts colleges, special mission institutions, and research universities.

Here are some questions to consider as you formulate your statement.

- Which career paths are you considering?
- At what kind of college would you like to work?
- Which aspects of faculty life most engage you?
- What questions do you have about whether a faculty career suits you?
- What are your teaching interests and accomplishments?
- Upon your retirement, what accomplishments would make you proud?

d. Research and scholarship

Provide a brief summary of your current and future research and scholarship, written in a manner clear to non-specialists. The selection committee is composed of a range of scholars and those reading your file will probably not be familiar with your field. Please avoid the use of jargon (specific terminology that is well understood in your field but is not clear to others).

Here are some questions to consider as you formulate your statement.

- What is a succinct synopsis of your dissertation project and problem?
- What is the significance of your work?
- What is your broader scholarly and research agenda?
- As you look ahead to your career, what kinds of contributions do you anticipate making?

e. Plans for degree completion

Describe your timeline and plan for completing your dissertation and degree. Explain how you plan to meet other obligations – for research, teaching, coursework or writing – while fulfilling the responsibilities of participating in the DARE Fellowship Program.

3. Curriculum Vitae (Provide 1 copy)

4. Unofficial Stanford transcript from AXESS (Provide 1 copy)

5. Letter from primary dissertation advisor (submitted separately)

Every application must be accompanied by a letter of support from the primary academic advisor. The faculty letter should be sent directly to VPGE: vpge@stanford.edu. Letters should be limited to two single-spaced pages. Please give the letter of instruction (next page) to the faculty member writing your letter of support.

February 10, 2008

Dear colleagues,

Thank you in advance for writing a letter of endorsement and assessment for this applicant for a DARE Doctoral Fellowship. To provide some context for your letter, we would like to explain the goals for the program and expectations for DARE Fellows.

The DARE Doctoral Fellowship Program is a new initiative reflecting Stanford's commitment to diversify the professoriate in the United States. **DARE is a program intended to better prepare Stanford Ph.D. students from diverse backgrounds to have successful faculty careers, and, at the same time, contribute to the richness of the educational environment at Stanford.** The program expands the academic "pipeline" in two ways. It positively influences the career trajectories of its participants while it enriches the education of other Stanford students.

This is the inaugural year for DARE. DARE is a four-year pilot program (2008 – 2012) for three cohorts of students. Twelve new Fellows will be selected each year; in all, 36 students will be DARE Fellows. The Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Education (VPGE) administers and evaluates the program.

DARE Fellows are students who see diversity as a resource for enriching the education of others. This means that we seek candidates who are committed to actively diversifying academia throughout their careers and whose background or experiences would diversify the professoriate in their own academic fields. Stanford's commitment to diversity includes, but is not limited to, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, and disability. Applicants from all backgrounds are welcome.

Diversifying the next generation of faculty members requires preparing students to be successful in the many roles and responsibilities expected by contemporary colleges and universities. Therefore we seek applicants who are already planning an academic career, and for whom this program will provide a jumpstart. At the same time, we recognize that some students are questioning whether a faculty career suits them. Increasing the pool of diverse faculty members requires helping students "on the fence" to better understand the opportunities and challenges of academic life. Therefore we recognize that DARE Fellows will have varying degrees of certainty and commitment to this career path. Moreover, we recognize that Stanford graduate students become successful contributing faculty members at a wide variety of US colleges and universities – research universities, teaching-focused comprehensive universities, liberal arts colleges, special mission institutions, and two-year colleges.

DARE Fellowships provide a generous annual stipend (\$7,800 per quarter) and TGR tuition for two academic years, ideally the last two years of their Ph.D. careers. However, DARE Fellowships are much more than a funding source. The DARE Program also provides an integrated set of activities in which all DARE Fellows participate. The structured experiences – including seminars on academic leadership, skill-development modules, opportunities to meet and shadow faculty, conducting a small project to enrich the educational experience of the student community – are built on successful models of preparing future faculty at other

universities and are also designed to enhance the educational experience of Fellows' Stanford classmates. Contrary to concerns, participation has not extended time to degree for most students.

Ensuring that DARE Fellows complete their degrees within the two-year timeframe requires a three-way partnership. VPGE will be vigilant to ensure that participation in this program does not place demands on Fellows' time such that it would distract from their dissertation research and writing. Fellows must work hard and use their time effectively. The encouragement of the Fellow's dissertation advisor is crucial to achieving this goal.

More information about DARE can be found at <vpge.stanford.edu/dare>.

Advisor's Letter of Assessment and Endorsement

Please provide your candid assessment of this student's qualifications for this program.

Four positive factors are:

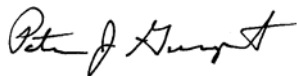
- Potential for a successful career as a faculty member in a US college or university.
- Ability to diversify the professoriate within the student's primary academic field. Diversity is broadly conceived to include (but not limited to) ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, disability, as well as other backgrounds that would add diversity.
- Engagement with one or more communities that are underrepresented in the academy, and a demonstrated commitment to use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of others.
- Likelihood of completing Ph.D. in spring or summer 2010.

Please indicate your support for this student's participation in the DARE program.

Letters should be sent directly to VPGE (vpge@stanford.edu) by **April 23, 2008**. To help the committee, we request that letters be **limited to two single spaced pages**.

Please let us know if you have questions or concerns. Thank you again for your help.

Sincerely,



Patricia J. Gumport
Vice Provost for Graduate Education