



STANFORD UNIVERSITY
VICE PROVOST FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION

DARE DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Diversifying Academia, Recruiting Excellence

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Revised 2/20/08

PROGRAM DETAILS

1. What are the benefits of being a DARE Fellow?

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. DARE Fellows will be part of a supportive community of Fellows that also includes a DARE coordinator, who is a member of the VPGE staff.

2. How much time will DARE participation take away from my dissertation and research?

DARE should not take more than 4 hours per week, and usually will require less time.

3. What are the program activities and when do they take place?

The DARE Doctoral Fellowship Program is an exciting experiment for Stanford, and therefore is still under development. Members of the inaugural cohort will play a crucial role in shaping the program.

Active participation in the community of DARE Fellows will provide support during the often-isolating dissertation stage. Peer support and encouragement will facilitate timely degree completion and promote transitions into the professoriate. For example, there may be monthly dinners for check-in, goal setting, and support. This will allow interaction within and across cohorts.

Several of the key program components and their timing (as currently conceived) are listed in the table below. (Details follow below.) Program elements labeled as “courses” are still being developed and may be credit bearing.

Aut 08	“Navigating the Academic Profession” course (see description below) Identify second faculty mentor Begin to develop project
Win 09	“Faculty Roles and Responsibilities at Diverse Campuses” course Refine and execute project Meet with faculty mentor
Spr 09	“The Academic Job Search” course

	Execute and evaluate project Meet with faculty mentor
Sum 09	Meet with program director, faculty advisor, and faculty mentor to assess student's academic progress
Aut 09	Professional development workshops/modules Students begin job search Meet with faculty mentor
Win 10	Professional development workshops/modules Recruiting visit to a campus Meet with faculty mentor
Spr 10	Professional development workshops/modules Meeting to assess student's development and evaluate program Students graduate
Sum 10	Dissertation completion, if needed

Courses and Workshops

Navigating the Academic Profession (Aut 08)

The history, organization, and governance of American colleges and universities; focus on the roles and responsibilities of the professoriate. Weekly seminar.

Faculty Roles and Responsibilities at Diverse Campuses (Win 09)

Explores the various missions and faculty roles/responsibilities in different sectors of US colleges and universities: community colleges, liberal arts colleges, minority serving institutions, comprehensive state colleges, and research universities. Might include field trips and opportunities to shadow faculty members at a local college. Seminar.

The Academic Job Search (Spr 09)

Prepare for the academic job market in the fall. Topics might include writing a CV and job letter, constructing a teaching portfolio, writing a teaching philosophy and a research plan, interviewing, giving a job talk, and negotiating a job offer. Weekly workshop.

Professional Development Workshops/Modules (09-10)

Year-long set of experiences mixing guest speakers with professional development modules. Topics determined in consultation with participants. Topics might include speaking to different audiences, grant writing, balancing academic life and commitment to a community, conducting the scholarship of teaching and learning, assuming departmental and campus leadership, or lab management. Format to be determined.

4. What are expectations for projects?

At some time during the two-year Fellowship, most likely during the first year, DARE Fellows will develop a small project to enhance the diversity of Stanford's graduate student population, and to enrich the educational experience of the student community. Each DARE Fellow will receive up to \$2,000 in project funding. The project is an opportunity to explore the kinds of participation in campus life that the

Fellow could have as a faculty member, and, to enrich the educational experience of Stanford's graduate student community.

Each project will be individually developed by each Fellow. There are no preset expectations for the duration and scope of each project. For example, Fellows could mentor undergraduates or high school students in their discipline, or help organize an event that brings in faculty who are Stanford alumni and ask them to speak about their academic career trajectories. Another possibility is to contribute to the academic community at one of Stanford's community resource centers (e.g., Asian-American Activities Center, Black Community Service Center, El Centro Chicano, LGBT Community Resource Center, Native American Cultural Center, Student Disability Resource Center, and Women's Community Center). The Centers have some built-in structures for activities, such as mentoring undergraduates who are considering graduate school. Another approach could be to work directly through departmental and disciplinary channels, promoting an activity that shapes the perceptions of prospective graduate students. Fellows may also co-lead a session with a faculty member for graduate students and undergraduate majors in their department on diversity within their field.

5. Who are the second mentors and how often will I interact with my mentor?

To ensure adequate mentoring, each Fellow will identify a tenured faculty member who will serve as a professional mentor, in addition to the dissertation advisor. VPGE staff will help with this matching process. The mentor will be able to provide advice about conducting the job search and having a successful faculty career. Fellows and mentors are expected to meet at least once per quarter to discuss the Fellow's evolving career plans. More interaction is encouraged.

6. What are the recruiting trips?

At some time during the two-year Fellowship, most likely the second year, each Fellow is funded to make a recruiting trip to an undergraduate institution in order to encourage promising undergraduates to apply to graduate school, including Stanford. The campus visits may also provide Fellows with an opportunity to give talks about their research and scholarship. In this way, Fellows could return to their undergraduate institution or visit a campus where they are interested in obtaining a position as a postdoctoral scholar or faculty member.

7. Describe the acting assistant professor positions.

The first two cohorts of DARE Fellows will be eligible to compete for a small number of mentored acting assistant professor positions. This is an opportunity to assume responsibility for developing and delivering courses, better positioning Fellows' to hit the ground running once in a tenure-line position. Affiliated with a Stanford academic department, those selected will be able to devote time to teaching, writing and research.

Details about the positions and the selection process for them will be developed during the 2008-09 academic year.

ELIGIBILITY

8. What if I am not sure if I want to be a professor?

The DARE program is open to students who are considering becoming faculty members. We recognize that many people are unsure whether this is the right path. The DARE program is designed to help

students learn about the many roles faculty members play in the many kinds of institutions in which they work. The hope is that most DARE graduates will become professors, but it is not required.

9. What if I am not TGR?

DARE Fellowships provide TGR tuition. VPGE will work with Fellows who have not reached TGR tuition status and their departments to determine whether and how to fund the gap between regular tuition and TGR tuition.

10. What if I plan to graduate earlier than Spring 2010?

The DARE program is for students who will be enrolled for the next two academic years and will be able to participate fully in the program.

11. What if I have another source of funding? What if that source of funding is more than the DARE stipend?

DARE Fellowship funding is intended to replace other sources of internal funding, thereby freeing up funding for other students. Taking DARE funding does not excuse a student from research obligations. The implications of taking DARE funding for a student's research obligations must be worked out directly between the student and faculty member. Funding from external sources will be addressed on a case by case basis.

If a research assistantship, for example, would provide a student with a salary greater than the DARE stipend, VPGE will work with the student's department to determine whether and how to accommodate the student.

12. What if I need to be away from Stanford for a significant period of time to during the academic year?

VPGE will work with each student to address whether and how to accommodate such obligations, recognizing the Fellows are expected to fully participate in the program. DARE Fellows are free to travel away from campus during the summers.

13. Are there quotas by school or discipline?

No. Doctoral students from all of Stanford's schools and departments are eligible.

14. Is DARE open to international students?

Yes.

15. What if I have not yet advanced to candidacy?

DARE Fellows must be advanced to candidacy by the start of autumn quarter 2008. Applicants who have not yet advanced to candidacy should present a credible plan for doing so. Be sure that your advisor endorses your plan in his/her letter.

16. What if I don't have an approved dissertation proposal?

DARE Fellows must have a dissertation proposal approved by their dissertation reading committee by the start of autumn quarter 2008. Applicants who have not yet had their dissertation proposal approved should present a credible plan for doing so. If it is not customary to have a dissertation proposal formally

approved in your department/program, indicate this on the application form and be sure that your advisor mentions this in her/his letter.

17. May I defer a Fellowship for a year?

No. We do not accept deferrals for DARE Fellowships. Should you be unable to accept a DARE Fellowship, the award will be offered to an alternate.

18. If I am not awarded a DARE Fellowship may I apply again?

Yes. But remember that DARE Fellows are expected to be in the last two years of their doctoral program.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

19. What is the application procedure?

Details about the applications and the application form can be found at vpge.stanford.edu/dare. Complete applications are due to the VPGE office by April 23, 2008.

20. What is the selection process?

Complete applications from eligible students will be read by members of the selection committee. The selection committee includes faculty members and senior university administrators. Applications will be read by at least two committee members from **outside** the applicant's field. The committee will recommend a group of Fellows to the Vice Provost for Graduate Education. She will make the final selection of the inaugural cohort of 12 students.

21. How many applicants do you expect?

We expect the program to be highly competitive. Because this is the first year, we do not know how many applications we will receive.

22. What if my personal statement exceeds the 1750 word limit?

Any application that significantly exceeds the specified word count will be at a disadvantage. Overly long applications may go unread.

23. What if my advisor does not submit a letter of endorsement?

It is your responsibility to ensure that a letter of endorsement is received by the deadline. If your primary dissertation advisor is not available to write a letter, you may substitute a letter from another member of the dissertation reading committee. Please make note of this substitution on your application.

24. When and how will applicants be notified?

All applicants will be notified regarding competition results via e-mail in May. Please notify VPGE if your e-mail address changes.