

Announcing



The MSU International Predissertation Travel Awards

Deadline: April 24, 2006

MSU announces the first competition for 10 awards of \$5,000 each for foreign travel of MSU Ph.D. candidates in the predissertation stage in the Colleges of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Arts and Letters, Education, and Social Science for travel in 2006.

Purposes: These awards support travel abroad to your intended dissertation research site for a minimum stay of 60 days in order to immerse yourself in the foreign research site; investigate the appropriateness of the research problem and methods; identify university, research institute, or NGO partners with which you will affiliate; identify collaborators or mentors in the country; increase your language proficiency; and obtain letters of affiliation or sponsorship from local institutions. The program seeks to assist MSU graduate students to develop competitive dissertation proposals in national fellowship competitions of the Fulbright, NSF, SSRC, and similar programs.

Who is eligible: Ph.D. candidates in CANR, CAL, ED, and SSC who are planning dissertation research in a foreign country, who have not begun that dissertation research, and who have no other significant support (over \$1,500) for predissertation travel or research.

Awards: Up to \$5,000 for *reimbursing* costs of foreign air and local travel, lodging and meals per diem in the foreign country, and associated costs in the foreign country (duplicating, taxis, affiliation fees, etc. - no equipment).

Requirements:

- Plan a minimum foreign stay of 60 days in the target research country(ies)
- Demonstrate plans to submit proposal(s) to national or international competitions before, during, or after the predissertation experience
- Complete and submit a report on the foreign experience within 30 days of return to MSU
- Have verification of your Ph.D. candidacy by your academic department
- Have a letter of support for the travel by the candidate's academic or research advisor
- Hold a valid passport and have the requisite immunizations and medications for travel

To apply, submit:

- Completed application form (available from Office of Dean of ISP, the area and international centers, or on-line at: <http://africa.msu.edu/awardannouncement.pdf>)
- Write a proposal (limit: four pages, double-spaced, Times Roman 12 pt font, 1" margins) describing:
 - a) the nature, questions, and problems to be researched in the proposed dissertation project,
 - b) a description of research site and/or population and why you selected them,
 - c) what collaboration(s) - short- and long-term - you plan with local scholars or institutions abroad,
 - d) the starting and ending dates of your predissertation and dissertation plans, and
 - e) your plans for submitting proposals for dissertation research funds in national competitions.
- A one- or two-page resume or curriculum vitae of yourself
- An official MSU academic transcript of your graduate education at MSU
- Letter of support from your academic or dissertation research advisor
- (Note: Final approval of the award will require concurrence of your Department Chair and College Dean, but is not required with the application.)

Deadline: Submit all documents to Prof. Jenny Bond, Office of the Dean of International Studies and Programs, 209 International Center **by 5:00 pm on April 24, 2006** for travel in summer or fall 2006. Awards will be announced no later than May 12, 2006.

Questions: Prof. Jenny Bond, Acting Assistant Dean, International Studies and Programs, 355-2350



**Application Form for the Michigan State University
Predissertation Travel Fellowships
for MSU Ph.D. Candidates Planning Dissertation Research Abroad**

Deadline for application for awards in summer or fall 2006 is April 24, 2006.

Who is eligible: Ph.D. candidates in CANR, CAL, ED, and SSC who are planning dissertation research in a foreign country, who have not begun that dissertation research, and who have no other significant support (over \$1,500) for predissertation travel or research.

Please complete this form and return it to the address at the end of the form. Use an additional page if necessary.

Personal Information

1. Name: _____ E-mail: _____

2. Current address: _____

City: _____ State/Country: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

3. Permanent (Home) Address: _____

City: _____ State/Country: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

Country of Citizenship: _____ Country of Current Residence: _____

If non-U.S. citizen, what is your visa status? _____

Graduate Education

4. In what institutions have you been a graduate student or candidate? (See also Question #8 below.)

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Years enrolled</u>	<u>Year Degree Completed</u>
a. _____	_____	_____	_____
b. _____	_____	_____	_____
c. _____	_____	_____	_____

5. Name of academic department in which you now are enrolled: _____

c. Date accepted into the Ph.D. program – Semester/Term: _____ Year: _____

d. Name of academic or research advisor or major professor: _____

6. Progress of Academic Program: When were or will the following academic programs be completed:

a. all graduate course work completed – Semester/Term: _____ Year: _____

b. comprehensive examinations completed – Semester: _____ Year: _____
If not applicable explain: _____

c. dissertation proposal approved – Semester: _____ Year: _____

7. What is your current Grade Point Average for your graduate study completed at MSU? _____

- How many deferred grades (other than 999) do you have in your graduate study at MSU? _____

8. What language(s) will you be using in your research and what is your fluency in each?

9. Please indicate what other fellowship, scholarship, or other awards you have received or have applied for for your *pre-dissertation* research period.

a. _____

b. _____

10. List any fellowships or other awards you have received or applied for to fund your *dissertation fieldwork and write-up* periods.

<u>Source or Agency</u>	<u>Date submitted or plan to submit</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

11. If the space available in this application form is not adequate, please provide any other information you believe is relevant to your candidacy for the fellowship on one separate page.

Please attach a proposal for predissertation travel support that describes the following:

(Do not exceed four pages double-spaced, Times Roman 12 pt font, 1” margins.)

- a) the title and nature of your proposed dissertation project and the questions and problems to be researched,
- b) a description of research site and/or population and why you selected them,
- c) what collaboration(s) - short- and long-term - you plan with local scholars or institutions abroad, and,
- d) your plans for submitting proposals for dissertation research funds in national competitions.

Please submit this form and request that your MSU official transcript and reference letter be sent by April 24 to: Prof. Jenny Bond, International Studies and Programs, 209 International Center.

- Official transcript of your graduate education at MSU
- Letter of support from your academic or research advisor (Reference letters are confidential and will be shared only among the Fellowship Selection Committee, administrators, and the referee.)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Signature of applicant)