Dear Graduate Advisors,

Please help us spread the word about this prestigious award and notify any students that you feel will benefit from this opportunity.

The California Pre-Doctoral scholarship program is designed to increase diversity within the pool of university faculty by supporting the doctoral aspirations of students in the CSU who have experienced economic and educational disadvantages.

In 2018-2019, the California Pre-Doctoral Program will award funds to approximately 73 juniors, seniors and master’s students in the CSU. These funds are designed to enable current students to explore and prepare for doctoral programs in their chosen field of study. Awards are based on competitive review of student applications and given to current upper division undergraduates, and master’s students. Applicants must demonstrate academic excellence despite economic or educational disadvantage, and be committed to a career in research and teaching at the university level. The program places a special emphasis on increasing the number of CSU students who enter doctoral programs at one of the University of California (UC) institutions.

Students who are chosen for this prestigious award are designated Sally Casanova Scholars as a tribute to Dr. Sally Casanova, for whom the Pre-Doctoral scholarship is named. As a Sally Casanova Scholar, students will have unique opportunities to explore and prepare to succeed in doctoral programs. Students will have the benefit of direct one-on-one guidance afforded from faculty members from within the CSU, and the opportunity to work with faculty from doctoral-granting institutions. In addition, the program provides:

1. **Travel Funds** for the student to visit U.S. doctoral-granting institutions and/or to attend professional meetings appropriate to the student’s development.

2. **Development Funds** for other related activities, such as student membership in professional organizations, subscriptions to academic journals, graduate school applications and test fees, GRE preparation, and the cost of minor research materials, for example.

3. **A Summer Research Experience.** Following award of the scholarship, recipients are given a research opportunity at a University of California campus or other U.S. major research university. This is fully funded by the Pre-Doctoral Program, so that the scholar can participate in doctoral-level research prior to enrolling in a Ph.D. program.

**Participant Eligibility**

Applicants to the California Pre-Doctoral Program must be upper-division (junior or senior undergrads) or master’s degree students who are enrolled at a CSU institution as of Spring 2018, and who will also be enrolled at a CSU campus for at least one semester of the academic year 2018-2019.

All applicants must be either U.S. citizens, permanent residents, AB 540 or undocumented students at the time of application. Current or previously awarded Pre-Doctoral Scholars are not eligible to re-apply. Each applicant must have a faculty sponsor from the student’s home campus who will be available for the duration of the plan specified in the application. The program is designed for students interested in obtaining research doctorates. Students interested in obtaining professional masters or doctoral degrees (law, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, or an MBA degree, for example) are not eligible.

**The application deadline to the campus coordinator is February 19, 2018.**

We have created **two** workshops that will provide information on the scholarship, requirements, application process, and deadlines.

**SDSU Workshop dates:**

December 20, 2017 at 10:00AM. Location: Enrollment Services Conference Room (SSW – 1560)

and

January 19, 2018 at 10:30AM. Location: Enrollment Services Conference Room (SSW – 1560)

**Please access this link to register for the workshop:**

https://goo.gl/forms/3co3QOHXWf9BnyO73

**For more information about the program please access this link:**

http://www.calstate.edu/predoc/

Best regards,
Division of Graduate Affairs