

## GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSOCIATE MENTORING PROGRAM

The *new* Graduate Research Associate Mentoring Program (GRAM) is designed to provide research-active faculty with the opportunity to mentor talented graduate students through collaborative work on the faculty members' research projects. Awards will be considered internal grants with the faculty member as PI.

### General information

- We anticipate awarding 20 Graduate Research Associates (GRA) in the first year (2009-10), with 10 two-year awards and 10 one-year awards. 10 two-year awards will be made each year in subsequent years.
- Students will be paid \$9,000 per academic year for a commitment of 20 hours per week, with an additional \$1,000 available for the student's research and professional development expenses.
- Support guaranteed for four contiguous academic-year terms only (excluding summers) as long as the GRA meets continuing eligibility requirements.
- GRAs are not eligible for graduate assistantships. They are eligible for all fellowships and scholarships.

### Faculty Eligibility

- Faculty mentors must be tenured/tenure track OR multi-year full-time research, clinical or professional faculty.
- Faculty mentors must have a documented track record of mentoring student research successfully (experience with undergraduate researchers is acceptable).

### Application Process

- The application must be submitted by the faculty mentor.
- The application must have the support of both the department chairperson and the graduate program director. If the mentor's department does not have a graduate program, the application must also be supported by the department chairperson and graduate program director of the GRA's department (if known at the time of application).
- The application must:
  - Describe how the GRA will be recruited and selected;
  - Describe the research project and outline the duties and expectations for the GRA;
  - Include a plan for mentoring the GRA in the research process in the discipline and in RCR (responsible conduct of research).
- The application must specify how the experience will give the Research Associate opportunities for one or more of the following:
  - Work that will enhance a master's thesis / capstone / product of learning;
  - Conference presentation;
  - Publication as co-author;
  - Leadership experiences.
- **The application must conform to the attached template, and may not exceed 1 additional attached page for the research abstract.**

## **Student Eligibility**

- Initial eligibility (new students):
  - Regular (unconditional) admission to a graduate degree program at Appalachian;
  - Full-time enrollment (no exceptions);
  - Preference should be given for admission credentials with a minimum of 3.5 UGPA and 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized test score.
- Continuing eligibility (or initial eligibility for continuing students):
  - Full-time enrollment (no exceptions);
  - Minimum semester AND cumulative GGPA of 3.3;
  - Mandatory attendance at monthly pro- seminar sponsored by the Graduate School;
  - Positive evaluations from faculty research mentor.

## **Program Restrictions**

- Students:
  - Total stipend and research funding must be awarded to only one student in any given year, with preference given to two-year awards;
  - Maximum length of appointment is two years; no renewals after the second year will be granted;
  - Funding is available for one degree only;
  - GRAs are not eligible for any other graduate assistantships.
- Faculty:
  - Faculty members are limited to one GRA every three years.

## **Evaluation**

- Short-term requirements:
  - One-page midterm progress report each semester;
  - One-to-two-page end of term report each semester.
- Long-term indicators of success:
  - Conference presentations and publications;
  - Proposal(s) submitted for external funding with support for GRAs;
  - GRAs admitted to doctoral program;
  - GRAs employed in professional careers directly related to graduate degree and research experience.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR: April 15**

**Submit Applications to:**

*GRAM Program, Attn: Susan Triplett*

*Cratis D. Williams Graduate School, 232 JET Bldg, Campus*

*FOR 2009-10: In the first year, we will award 10 one-year and 10 two-year GRAs; please indicate on the submission which is being requested. In subsequent years, the GRA awards will all be for two years.*

## GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSOCIATE MENTORING (GRAM) PROGRAM APPLICATION

Name of Faculty Member \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ ASU Email \_\_\_\_\_ @appstate.edu

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Title of Faculty Member's Research Project (attach a one-page abstract to this application)

The project is \_\_\_\_\_ continuing \_\_\_\_\_ new

The project is \_\_\_\_\_ externally funded \_\_\_\_\_ internally funded \_\_\_\_\_ not yet funded

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Describe the criteria for recruitment/selection of the GRA.

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Describe how the work of the GRA will:

1) Enable the faculty member to make significant progress on the research.

2) Enhance the GRA's academic training and subsequent career.

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Describe the research duties of the GRA, and explain how the research experience will provide the GRA with opportunities for professional development.

Describe how training in research methods and RCR (responsible conduct of research) will be embedded in the research experience.

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Describe how the GRA's performance will be evaluated and how the evaluation will be used to improve the experience in subsequent semester.

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Name and Banner ID of student (if already identified) \_\_\_\_\_

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Faculty Mentor:

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Print name	Signature	Date
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Department Chairperson (of Faculty Mentor):

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Print name	Signature	Date
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Graduate Program Director (if applicable):

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Print name	Signature	Date
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Department Chairperson: *(if GRA is already identified and is from a different department)*

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Print name	Signature	Date
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