Project Co-Directors

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The Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (AGESW), along with backing from the Gerontological Society of America (GSA), will provide support for a cohort of twelve social work doctoral students who have completed their first year of doctoral studies. The goal of this program is to support dissertation and career development in gerontological social work research and education. Recipients will receive more than ten hours of programming delivered by nationally recognized experts in gerontological social work research and teaching, which is designed to prepare participants for an academic career in gerontological social work. The Program will be delivered at the 2014 Gerontological Society of America (GSA) conference in Washington, DC. Awardees will be selected by the AGESW Pre-Dissertation Advisory Council. Multiple applicants from a given doctoral program may be selected

**Program Outcomes**

Upon completion of participation in the AGESW Gerontological Social Work Pre-Dissertation Initiative, participants will have the skills necessary to:

* Prepare for seeking financial support of their dissertation research in gerontology
* Develop a career plan that demonstrates a combined record of work experience, teaching experience/interests, and research agenda.

**Participant Benefits**

* A $1,500 stipend to attend the pre-conference AGE-SW Pre-Dissertation Initiative Training at the GSA Annual Meeting
* One-year membership to AGESW
* Registration for the GSA Annual Meeting
* One-year membership to GSA
* Ongoing mentoring from a member of AGESW
* Participation in a webinar on a topic to be determined by the cohort. Past topics have included job interview skills and self-care strategies.

**Program Eligibility**

* Applicant must have a Master’s degree in Social Work
* Be enrolled in a social work doctoral program (full or part time) in the United States
* At the time of application, be in the first year of the program if attending full-time or the equivalent of the first year if attending as a part-time student.

**The Application**

* Cover Sheet (see below—please submit typed copy)
* Applicant’s Curriculum Vita
* A two-page single-spaced personal statement indicating:

1) Applicant’s educational journey and post-MSW experience prior to entering the doctoral program

2) Interest in gerontological social work research and education

3) Career goals upon graduation and ways in which this program may be helpful in reaching those goals

* A letter of support from an institutional faculty sponsor indicating 1) the student’s match to the program’s goal of preparing students for academia and 2) the student’s capacity to develop into a competitive applicant for an academic career
* A letter confirming $500 institutional support from program director for attending the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA)

**By May 1, 2014, applications may be submitted as one PDF file via email to Joyce McDaniel at joyce@agesw.org**

**Selection Process**

Applicants will be chosen based on the AGESW Advisory Council criteria:

Personal Statement **[60%]**

Letter of Support **[20%]**

Institutional Support **[20%**]

**Program**

Full-day Pre-Conference Intensive at the 66th Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America to be held in 2014

* + Interdisciplinary Research
  + Quantitative-Qualitative-Mixed Method Research Proposals
  + Writing for publication
  + The role of teaching in your academic career
  + Seeking Funding for Gerontological Dissertations

Daily Eye-Opener Sessions

* + Day 1 Working with mentors
  + Day 2 Building your plan for funding support
  + Day 3 Next Steps

Follow-up Web-based session to be held in Spring 2015

**Questions**

Contact Dr. Carmen Morano at [cmorano@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:cmorano@hunter.cuny.edu)

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

**Contact Information:**

**Name**

**Address**

**Telephone**

**Email**

**Doctoral Program Information:**

**Institution and Program**

**Address**

**Dean/Director (include email address)**

**Doctoral Program Director (include email address)**

**Date of Program Entry**

**Full-time** **Part-time**

**Institutional Support:**

**Faculty Sponsor (Name and Title)**

**Telephone and email Information**