CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICOLOGY FELLOWSHIPS 2013-2014

Contingent upon available funding, the Interdisciplinary Environmental Toxicology Program plans to make Graduate Research Assistantship appointments for the 2013-2014 academic year. Successful candidates will have the special designation of Environmental Toxicology Scholar. Faculty, please bring this notice to the attention of students who are potential applicants for these awards.

The applications will be due by Friday, April 26th, 2013 and decisions will be made shortly thereafter. Preference will be given to applicants whose career and research interests involve health related aspects of environmental toxicology. Each application must include all items listed under number three below. Incomplete application packages cannot be considered. Please read the directions carefully.

1. Applications must be complete, and be received at the Department of Comparative Biosciences, 2001 S. Lincoln Avenue, Urbana, IL 61802 by 5:00 pm on Friday, April 26th, 2013 (mail/email application packets to Synthia Lane, sjlane@illinois.edu).

2. Applications must be accompanied by a letter from a UIUC faculty member who is presently a member, or has requested membership in the Interdisciplinary Environmental Toxicology Program. This letter should state that the faculty member sponsors the applicant for admission to the program, and permits the applicant to perform the proposed research under their direction. Should any program faculty member sponsor more than one applicant, the sponsor must rank applicants.

3. Each application must include all of the following:
   a) University transcripts, which include courses and grades for the last four years of study (note: a list of courses and grades cannot be substituted for actual transcripts).

   b) A list of proposed courses to be taken during the next three years. This list must include Toxicology and Systems Toxicology and at least one additional course from the attached list of toxicology core courses. In addition, Toxicology Scholars are required to register for the Toxicology Seminar (held Fridays at noon) every semester during the award period.

   c) A career goal statement that clearly identifies the linkage to environmental toxicology. Limit this to no more than 1/2 page, single-spaced typed.

   d) A research plan that clearly identifies the linkage to environmental toxicology. Limit this to no more than three single-spaced typed pages. The research plan must include the following three sections: (1) the rationale for the research; (2) the hypothesis to be tested; and (3) a summary of the methods to be used. The students proposed research advisor must sign off on the research proposal as evidence that he or she has read and approves of the proposal.

   e) Three letters of recommendation including one from the prospective research advisor. Each letter should comment on the student’s intellectual ability, capacity for original thought, aptitude for research, dependability and integrity. Research advisors are asked to NOT use standard evaluation forms employed for application to the Graduate College. (Note: if the faculty member writes letters for more than one student, he/she must rank the students.)

   f) A completed Toxicology Scholars Application Form (attached).
Applicants will be judged on several points:

1) Strength of scholastic record

2) Career goal statement and its linkage to environmental toxicology

3) Research plan and its linkage to environmental toxicology

4) Three reference letters

5) Proposed coursework, its compliance to the program core courses, and its relevance to environmental toxicology.

A review committee of faculty from the Interdisciplinary Environmental Toxicology Program will screen the applications. Faculty who are sponsors of applicants will not serve on the committee. Appointments will begin August 16, 2013. The awards will consist of stipends ranging from 25% to 50% time for 11 months (academic year and two summer months) and will be paid at the current NIH amount. These stipends are not subject to individual departmental or college guidelines; and they do not contain obligations for accrued vacation and sick leave compensation. Where higher rates and vacation/sick leave obligations are in force, departmental arrangements to cover such obligations will have to be made in advance of the award initiation. A maximum three year funding commitment is implied at 1/2 time for the first year and 1/4 time for the following two years. Faculty are expected to make up the balance of the funding in years two and three from their own research efforts as a show of genuine participation in the program. The program is intended to serve as a recruitment mechanism to bring students into environmental toxicology and to stimulate faculty research in environmental toxicology.

Admission to graduate study in the Interdisciplinary Toxicology Program implies certain curricular obligations. These include Basic Toxicology, Systems Toxicology, regular participation in the Interdisciplinary Environmental Toxicology Seminar, and one toxicologically related course, that has been approved by the Steering Committee. Program review will be conducted annually by the Steering Committee.

Applications should be mailed to:
Synthia Lane, Program Coordinator
Department of Comparative Biosciences, College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2001 S. Lincoln Ave.
Urbana, IL 61802
sjlane@illinois.edu
217-244-6006

Interdisciplinary Environmental Toxicology Program 2013-2014

Page 2
APPLICATION FOR TOXICOLOGY SCHOLARS FELLOWSHIP
Interdisciplinary Environmental Toxicology Program
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

1. Complete Legal Name:

2. University Identification Number (UIN):

3. For which academic year are you applying?

4. Campus Address:

5. Telephone Numbers:
   - Land line:
   - Office/work number:
   - Cell phone:

6. What degree are you seeking? MS PhD.

7. Department in which you will receive your degree:

8. Your advisor/faculty mentor:

9. List Scholarships, Prizes, Honors or other recognition (attach resume if necessary)

10. List the names, titles, institutions, and addresses of two persons who will submit letters of reference in your behalf (not including your faculty sponsor).

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