REPORT TO THE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS

RECRUITMENT OF SUPERIOR GRADUATE STUDENTS COMPONENT
OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND
FY 2011-12 COMPETITION FOR AWARDS TO BEGIN IN FY 2013-14

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INTRODUCTION

The panel urges applicants to read the summary critiques, included in this report, relating to each submitted proposal. Most summaries offer specific suggestions to help applicants design proposals for future competitions of the Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students Program.

The review panel for the Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students Program met in Baton Rouge on February 25 and 26, 2012 to discuss and make funding recommendations relative to proposals submitted in the FY 2011-12 competition for awards to begin in FY 2013-14. Members of the panel were Dr. John Mayfield (Chair), Iowa State University; Dr. Roger Chalkley, Vanderbilt University Medical School; Dr. Charles Ambler, University of Texas at El Paso; and Dr. Suzanne Ortega, University of North Carolina.

Nine (9) institutions submitted a total of thirty (30) proposals within the disciplines eligible for this year's competition in the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program. One (1) university submitted a total of one (1) proposal in the Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program. In some cases two or more departments within an academic unit submitted a single proposal.

Prior to arriving in Baton Rouge, consultants individually read and evaluated each proposal according to the guidelines provided by the Louisiana Board of Regents in the FY 2011-12 Graduate Fellows Request for Proposals. Each consultant assigned a preliminary rating to each proposal before the February meeting. Preliminary composite scores were then computed and facilitated discussions at the panel meeting.

After thorough discussion of the merits of each proposal, the consultants established a rank order for all of the proposals and recommended monetary levels for awards according to established criteria. Recommendations were made consistent with the limits of available funding as determined by the Board of Regents. Final composite scores assigned to the proposals ranged from 68 to 88 out of a maximum of 100. The panel did not recommend funding for those proposals receiving scores of less than 75. A total of $832,500 in first-year monies was recommended for expenditure.

The total amount of first-year funds requested in the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program was $2,563,000. The Graduate Fellowships for Teachers proposal requested first-year funds of $126,000. Consultants were advised that $720,000 was allotted for the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program and $180,000 for the Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program. The panel was also advised that any funds not committed to proposals submitted for the latter program should be recommended for expenditure under the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program, assuming that a sufficient number of meritorious proposals had been submitted in Traditional GF to warrant the transfer.

The panel recommends that twenty (20) of the thirty (30) proposals submitted under the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program be funded in the amounts specified in Appendix A; the single proposal submitted under the Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program is not recommended for funding. Appendix B consists of brief narrative summaries of the panel’s assessment of each proposal and Appendix C contains a listing of all proposals submitted under each program.

The cumulative requests substantially exceed the total amount of funding available. Panel members made every effort to keep recommendations within established funding limitations as well as in accordance with the collective assessment of each proposal's individual merits. Reviewers sought to ascertain the degree to which each award could bring about the successful recruitment of superior graduate students. Such efforts are consistent with the goal of enhancing the overall quality of higher education in and the social, cultural and economic development of Louisiana. Moreover, panel members considered in each case whether the dollar
value of the requested fellowship stipend would ensure each program's competitiveness with comparable institutions and accord with past recruiting efforts.

Once again, the four panel members commend all involved in this ongoing endeavor to elevate the level of graduate study in Louisiana's institutions of higher education. The members of the panel, collectively and individually, also wish to express their appreciation to the staff of the Louisiana Board of Regents for their aid and support in the completion of this task.

Panel Comments, Recommendations and Suggestions:

1. There has been improvement in applicants completing the required tables correctly. There continue, however, to be mistakes, omissions, and misinterpretations of the data requested. Incomplete or error-filled data tables can have serious consequences in panel deliberations. These data are very important to the panel’s understanding of graduate programs’ strengths and challenges. The panel relies heavily on and carefully analyzes the data in the required tables. If data suggest problems with recruitment, retention, time to degree, minority participation, or other elements of a graduate program, the proposal should specifically address the problem(s) in the narrative and indicate what the program is doing or will do to respond. If data are in conflict, it is almost impossible for the panel to interpret the success of the program or recognize problems/issues.

2. Proposals are enhanced by clear and systematic mentoring plans coupled with meaningful benchmarks and timelines for satisfactory progress. Descriptions of resources available to students who fall behind or fail to meet benchmarks should be included in addition to the statements describing penalties. The panel would like proposals to specify how mentoring procedures put in place for Board of Regents fellowship recipients have impacted the quality of mentoring for all students in the graduate program. The panel notes that the current section on Mentoring and Tracking is not well addressed in most proposals. To help the applicants, the panel recommends to the Board of Regents that the section be divided into two parts: Mentoring (positive measures taken to insure academic and career success) and Tracking (ways a program knows whether a student is making satisfactory progress to degree).

3. Student outcomes following completion of the degree are an extremely important measure of a graduate program’s success, and proposals are significantly enhanced by the inclusion of quantitative data on the placement of program graduates. This data should be summarized systematically rather than presented anecdotally in the proposals. Again to help programs provide essential information, the panel recommends to the Board of Regents that a specific section be required in the proposal narrative entitled “Outcomes.” This section should summarize current placement data for past Board of Regents fellows and all program graduates. The panel suggests that data requested should include a) the total number of program students awarded the intended degree over the past five years; b) the total number no longer working in the discipline; c) the number currently in postdoctoral positions; d) the number currently working in academia (but not employed as post-doctoral fellows); e) the number employed in industry; and f) the number in other discipline-related careers. If programs do not currently collect such information, the panel encourages them to institute mechanisms for acquiring it. This is especially crucial for GFT proposals, all of which should indicate whether the students who received awards continue to teach in Louisiana K-12 classrooms.
4. Economic development is very important to the Board of Regents Support Fund and to the Graduate Fellows panel. Most proposals can be improved by providing specific examples in addition to generalities in their descriptions of economic development success and/or potential.

5. Board of Regents fellowships are intended to enhance the recruitment of talented and diverse graduate students to programs in Louisiana universities and to improve the overall quality of programs. The panel pays close attention to indications of how past Board funding has leveraged institutional funding to build quality in graduate programs and enhance recruiting. Some programs have received BoRSF funding for many years. Proposals should provide evidence of how past fellowships have enhanced program quality and what specific plans are in place to utilize new awards to achieve greater eminence.

6. Though the terms of BoRSF fellowships (two years for academic master’s, three years for professional master’s, and four years for doctoral studies) are insufficient for most students to complete their studies, many proposals do not address the issue of funding for fellowship recipients after Board support concludes. Proposals can be enhanced by including plans or pledges regarding the level and duration of support after conclusion of the BoRSF fellowship.

7. Recruitment plans that have been in place for many years and are not yielding results should be reevaluated. This panel sometimes sees the same proposals putting forth the same plans with the same results year after year and wonders why plans do not evolve or change, particularly when performance is stagnant or in decline. Convincing proposals will include an evaluation of what has worked, what has not and what concrete changes are proposed to address deficiencies.

8. The panel notes that a few proposals still provide names and personal information for students in and graduates of programs seeking funding. This practice is inappropriate and does not strengthen the proposal in any way. Applicants are urged to maintain the anonymity of students.

9. Though ETS guidelines clearly state that use of composite GRE scores is a misuse of test results and the panel has urged applicants to provide only the scores most relevant to the graduate program for which funding is sought, a handful of proposals continue to provide composite scores. ETS’s most recent comments on use of scores may be found at http://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_guide.pdf. As in several recent competitions, this year the use of combined scores resulted in substantially reduced scoring by the reviewers.

10. There has been great improvement in proper use of the term “under-represented minority”. The panel still reminds applicants that Asian Americans and non-citizens who do not have permanent resident status are not to be categorized as under-represented in this competition. The panel continues to note a surprising number of Pacific Islanders and Native Alaskans cited as enrolled in Louisiana graduate programs and urges applicants to make certain that these students are appropriately listed as members of these ethnic categories.

11. Applicants are discouraged from including appendices, which are rarely used by the review panel because they are generally over-filled and difficult to navigate. Material should be provided in appendices only when it specifically illustrates or documents points made in the proposal narrative.
APPENDIX A

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING
## TABLE I
PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>PROPOSAL NO.</th>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
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<th>LENGTH/TYPE OF PROGRAM</th>
<th>NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS RECOMMENDED</th>
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**TABLE II**
PROPOSALS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING

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COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS SUBMITTED UNDER THE BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND PROGRAMS FOR TRADITIONAL GRADUATE FELLOWS AND GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS FOR TEACHERS

001GF-13 LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE
“Board of Regents Fellowships in the Arts”
Requested: 5 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $16,000/annum for 4 years
2 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $16,000/annum for 3 years
1 Master’s-Level Fellowship at $16,000/annum for 2 years

Recommended: 2 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $16,000/annum for 3 years
1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at $16,000/annum for 4 years
TOTAL: $160,000

The Department of Theatre and the School of Music at LSU have well established and highly respected undergraduate and graduate programs, including the MFA in theater, a doctorate in music and Ph.D. degrees in music and theater. With more than 250 graduate students and a strong faculty, these programs have achieved regional and national reputations through musical and stage performances in Baton Rouge and elsewhere, but most notably through the Swine Palace repertory theater. These programs have a good record of graduating previous Board of Regents fellows. The programs are highly competitive and attract quality applicants. Graduation rates in the doctoral programs give the panel some concern, as do the low stipend levels offered to students and the very small numbers of minorities in the various degree programs. Plans for recruitment seem dated, although there is some evidence of efforts to attract minority students and audiences through distinctive programming. Faculty publication records seem low for Ph.D.-granting departments. A more effective argument could be made for the contributions of these programs to economic development and for the impact that BoRSF fellows would have on the entire program. Overall, the cases for supporting the Master of Fine Arts and Doctor of Music degrees are much stronger. The panel recommends funding for one four-year Doctor of Music fellowship at $16,000 per year and two three-year MFA fellowships at $16,000 each per year.

002GF-13 LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE
“Graduate Fellows in Physics and Astronomy”
Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at $28,000/annum for 4 years = $112,000 TOTAL

The Physics Department is one of the largest and strongest at LSU, with good external grant support and a long and successful history of graduate student training. The ratio of research assistants to teaching assistants is healthy, indicative of adequate grant funding to support the graduate program. The application shows signs that it has not been carefully updated. Some examples are: combined GRE scores are referenced, even though it is very unlikely that the department uses them; the text asks for three fellowships though the budget requests four; paragraphs are included justifying the medical physics program even though no funds are requested for it; and previous reviewer comments are not addressed. The impact of the department on the Louisiana economy is poorly articulated and the minority recruitment achievements are unimpressive. Overall this is a solid program that benefits the State, but the case for the fellowships could be more strongly articulated. The doctoral program would be strengthened by more careful attention to the mentoring of students, and the proposal would be much improved by inclusion of a thoughtful mentoring plan. Funding is recommended for one four-year doctoral fellowship at $28,000 per year.
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE

“Improving the Economic Resiliency of Rural and Coastal Communities Under Natural Disaster and Environmental Risk”

Requested: 6 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $26,500/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 0

Twenty-one faculty members with research expenditures totaling $925,982 support and mentor 20 doctoral students in LSU’s Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness program. The primary weakness of this proposal is the very small domestic applicant pool from which the program draws and the virtually nonexistent pool of U.S. underrepresented minority applicants. Clearly this is a longstanding problem that requires a bold and innovative new recruitment strategy. The recruitment plan, however, does not include anything beyond a repetition of traditional strategies that have not borne fruit. The program has done an excellent job in developing a tracking system to monitor student success that should help keep students on track to timely degree completion. The proposal notes that a tuition waiver will be provided for the student that requires a fifth year to complete (as apparently most students do), but is silent on the matter of what additional stipend support will be provided during a possible fifth year. The proposal would be strengthened by discussion of the explicit and specific connections that are in place or will be established in the near future to link faculty and student interests to economic development, including any ongoing collaborations with industry, non-profit organizations, and regional development boards. No funding is recommended.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE

“Graduate Fellowships in Biological Sciences at Louisiana State University”

Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at $30,000/annum for 4 years = $120,000 TOTAL

This is a reasonable program in the Biological Sciences Department at LSU. Recruiting activities and success rates are acceptable, though not remarkable. After a period of some success in enrolling under-represented minority students, this aspect of recruitment seems to be in decline. The academic program is good, with adequate oversight in the first couple of years, though no creative mentoring or tracking plans are provided. The time to degree is average for this field, and attrition is somewhat high, though not excessive. Career options available to students after graduation seem appropriate, with many graduates working in science, and this was viewed as a positive feature of the proposal. Department members continue to be well funded, which speaks to the excellence of the faculty. The panel recommends funding for one four-year doctoral-level fellowship at $30,000 per year.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE

“Board of Regents Fellowships in Engineering 2013-2018”

Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years = $360,000 TOTAL

The LSU College of Engineering has a strong and research-active faculty, with per capita funding that appears to have slipped somewhat from preceding years. Nevertheless, the College continues to expand ties to industry, more than doubling industry grants over the last several years. These collaborations directly link the research and talents of LSU faculty and doctoral students to the economic development needs of the State. Attrition rates among doctoral students seem relatively high but the system for tracking student progress and the establishment of benchmarks for satisfactory progress that encourage students not only to complete the degree but to be well prepared and highly competitive for academic or industry positions are promising developments. The decrease in under-represented
minority applicants and enrollees is very disappointing and the program does not yet seem to have been successful in increasing its overall pool of domestic applicants. A careful analysis of which recruiting strategies are actually working and of the factors that contribute to a relatively low yield rate could help to fine-tune a new, more aggressive and innovative recruitment strategy. Full funding for three four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $30,000 each per year is recommended.

006GF-13 LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE
“Graduate Fellowships in Chemistry for 2013”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years = $240,000 TOTAL

LSU has a strong Chemistry Department, which is widely respected both within and outside the university. The faculty continue to generate respectable external funding, even in these difficult times. The department has made extraordinary efforts to recruit under-represented minority students, mostly reflected in its African American population (which in itself may need some work, to broaden diversity). However, as was reported in last year’s review, there are real concerns about attrition and retention. It is not sufficient to recruit a large number of minority students if a substantial fraction subsequently leave without the desired degree. Analysis of the tables indicates that this is not a problem only with BoRSF fellows; it is endemic in the doctoral program. The mentoring section of the proposal indicates that this is a concern, which is an important first step, and has outlined some strategies to address the situation. The program directors propose to ensure the students have financial support (a given with BoRSF fellows), integrate students more effectively into departmental culture, and educate the faculty to provide better mentoring, though the proposal recognizes that this latter task is not easy. Leadership is needed here, from the highest levels of the institution and the department. The reduced ranking of this program is an expression of the panel’s concern about these fundamental issues of graduate education. The panel is also troubled by a strategy used in recruiting for these fellowships. The proposal states that BoRSF fellowship candidates are given one month to reply to the offer. This seems to contravene commitments the Graduate School at LSU has likely made to the Council of Graduate Schools that all students are assured of their position until April 15th. The panel understands the need of the department to secure admission of these students, but the approach appears to conflict with other commitments and should likely not be a strategy used by this program. The panel recommends funding for two four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $30,000 each per year.

007GF-13 LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE
“Graduate Studies in Infectious Disease”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $27,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 0

This proposal seeks fellowships to support a new umbrella program in the School of Veterinary Medicine, started in 2011. The faculty appear to be well funded. In particular, the recruitment of under-represented minority students has not been successful. Program attrition is acceptable, time to degree is reasonable, and the overall outcomes for graduates of the program appear positive. The educational program is diverse, involving courses which are fundamental to many areas. The recruitment plans are superficial, the applicant pool appears to be limited, and admissions are not selective, raising questions about the program’s ability to attract superior students. Mentoring seems to involve evaluation profiles designed by a separate entity at LSU, which does not seem likely to be effective or desirable. No funding is recommended.
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE

“Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Earth, Ocean and Environmental Science”

Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,000/annum for 4 years
2 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $26,000/annum for 2 years

Recommended: 0

LSU has emerged as a center for environmental research, particularly related to coastal lands issues. The three departments that have collaborated on this proposal, Oceanography & Coastal Sciences, Geology & Geophysics, and Environmental Sciences, offer two Ph.D. and three master’s programs. The faculty members involved have strong records of publications and have attracted substantial external funding. The individual departments have good records retaining previous BoRSF doctoral-level fellows. There are promising signs that the development of an interdisciplinary undergraduate program may attract more students into the field. Given the obvious importance of these fields, a much more compelling argument should be made for the value of these programs to economic development in Louisiana. Unfortunately, the proposal itself appears both dated at points and incomplete. A two-tiered admissions process may make the pool of applicants for Ph.D. programs seem smaller than it actually is, but the information available suggests a need for a new approach to recruitment, especially for under-represented minority students. Minority enrollment remains very low in the Ph.D. programs. This proposal would be enhanced by a stronger argument for the broad impacts of the BoRSF fellowships. No funding is recommended.

LSU HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER – NEW ORLEANS

“Graduate Training in Integrative Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics”

Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $27,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at $27,000/annum for 4 years = $108,000 TOTAL

This proposal for a small program with a modest research base and a good faculty-to-student ratio ensures doctoral students receive ample attention. While the proposal does not include a formal mentoring plan and in other ways describes a very traditional program for student support and intervention, the current approach clearly works. Students are graduating and alumni seem to be doing well. The hiring of two new faculty members should help enlarge the program’s research portfolio and expand opportunities for students. It is commendable that all faculty with grants provide at least some support for doctoral students. The greatest challenges remain a very small domestic applicant pool and an almost non-existent pool of under-represented minority applicants or matriculants. Departmental leaders and faculty must spend time analyzing the weaknesses of the current recruitment strategy and designing solutions to them. A concrete strategy for strengthening ties to companies and non-profits in the region may well attract more applicants while simultaneously enhancing economic development. The panel recommends funding for one four-year doctoral-level fellowship at $27,000 per year.

LSU HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER – NEW ORLEANS

“Recruitment of Superior Doctoral Students in Public Health Sciences 2013-18”

Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $26,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $26,000/annum for 4 years = $208,000 TOTAL

The Community Health Program at LSUHSC-New Orleans is a very small doctoral program run through a set of departments with a fairly large combined faculty size. In general, faculty members are well funded. The program receives very small numbers of applicants, so selectivity is limited. The educational programs include heavy loads of course work. The program lacks under-represented minority students, though this may be difficult to address in a program so small. Given the extremely limited base of applicants, the length of the section for recruiting was
remarkable. The review panel is cognizant that this in its current form is a new program and that this fellowship should provide needed help and support in building on a good foundation. It is incumbent on the program to develop a larger application pool and to devise mechanisms to support minority recruiting. Funding for two four-year doctoral-level fellowship at $26,000 each per year is recommended.

011GF-13 LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY
“Superior Graduate Fellows Supporting Area of Excellence in the School of Art”
Requested: 5 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $10,000/annum for 3 years

Recommended: 1 Master’s-Level Fellowship at $15,000/annum for 3 years = $45,000 TOTAL

The School of Art at Louisiana Tech offers the Master of Fine Arts degree in three areas: Communication Design, Photography, and Studio (which includes painting, printmaking, drawing, sculpture and ceramics). The faculty and students in the school are an important force in the regional and community arts scene, and recently the school has forged innovative collaborations with the College of Engineering and Science and with the University Enterprise Center. The MFA programs have a good record with previous BoRSF fellowships. Recently, the School of Art has revamped the curriculum to infuse the MFA programs with information technology. It is not clear, however, how instruction has linked with the efforts to promote entrepreneurship and the commercialization of art opportunities. According to the narrative, enrollment has shown a recent sharp increase, although specific information is not given. In general, the data provided are inconsistent. Given the emphasis on information technology in the program, one would expect greater innovation in recruitment efforts. The focus on regional historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) in minority recruitment makes sense, but it is difficult to determine from the information presented how successful that strategy has been. The university commitment of supplementary funds for fellow support is admirable, but the panel continues to question whether $10,000 stipends are sufficient to attract truly outstanding candidates. To increase the competitiveness of the student support, the panel recommends funding for one three-year master’s-level fellowship at $15,000 per year.

012GF-13 LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY
“Biomedical Engineering Doctoral Graduate Fellows 2013-17”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $25,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at $25,000/annum for 4 years = $100,000 TOTAL

Louisiana Tech’s Biomedical Engineering program has an excellent reputation at the undergraduate level; its reputation at the doctoral level is less clear. The innovative administrative structure of the university means that all graduate programs in the sciences and engineering are interdisciplinary. This is a real advantage. It is odd, then, that the program has only a small number of U.S. applications each year and that nearly all of these applicants are admitted. If the data are misleading (for example, application data are not properly captured), this issue should be addressed in the text. A significant challenge for reviewers is that the data given in Tables 10-GF and 11-GF are inconsistent and unreliable. Since data are very important to the review process, evaluation of the program becomes problematic when reviewers do not trust the data provided. The identified problems include:

- Two proposals – 013GF13 (Engineering) and 012GF13 (Biomedical engineering) – provide mostly the same data in table 10-GF, which goes unexplained in the text. GRE data are the same for all years except 2008-2009; GPA data are the same for all years except 2008-09 and 2010-11.
- The reported average GRE score for 2008-09 is simply incorrect (the average is 630 instead of 711) and the average for 2007-08 is highly unlikely (5x770 + 1x500 = 725 versus 724 reported).
• Under-represented minority student data in table 11-GF are inconsistent: Section B reports 3 students, Section A reports 2; only one new URM student enrolled in the past 6 years (2009-10). One URM student graduated in 2007-08 but the number in the program did not decrease as the result of the graduation.

The fraction of doctoral students supported on research grants is much improved from two years ago, but 46% supported on teaching assistantships is still too high. The panel noted that combined GRE scores are still used in graduate student selection even though ETS strongly discourages this practice as an inappropriate use of scores. In addition, the proposal included the names of several students, along with their GRE and GPA data, which is completely inappropriate. On the positive side, the $5,000 stipend supplement is applauded by the panel and the outlined economic development activities are very impressive. The panel recommends funding for one four-year doctoral-level fellowship at $25,000 per year.

013GF-13  LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY
“Superior Graduate Fellows Supporting Five Centers of Excellence in Engineering 2013-2017”
Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $25,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $25,000/annum for 4 years = $200,000 TOTAL

The connections between Louisiana Tech Engineering faculty and graduate students and regional employers and start-ups give evidence of a strong and growing impact on regional and statewide economic development. Patents and licensing revenue have increased over the past several years and the new integrated STEM Education Research Center should significantly enhance the region’s and State’s scientific and engineering workforce. The programs’ focus on recruiting Louisiana Tech undergraduates, and particularly the concurrent enrollment program, have great promise for significantly increasing the number of domestic students applying to and matriculating at Louisiana Tech. The panel hopes last year’s dip in U.S. applicants is a temporary aberration. Unfortunately, enrollment of under-represented minorities and women remains below national averages and what might be expected based on State demographics. Clearly, recruiting is an area that itself may need substantial re-engineering. Much of the data on GRE scores and grade point averages of applicants and students are the same for this proposal and proposal 012GF-13 (see the comment for this proposal for additional information) – a point which goes unexplained – and in many cases the data elements appear contradictory. It is difficult, therefore, to interpret fully admissions and student success statistics, though it does appear that selectivity for U.S. applicants is quite low. On the other hand, a healthy mix of funding sources is available to support doctoral students, including research and teaching assistantships and previous BoRSF awards. The university and program are to be commended for continuing to provide a $5,000 stipend supplement. Funding is recommended for two four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $25,000 each per year.

014GF-13  McNEESE STATE UNIVERSITY
“MSU’s Grad. Fellow for a M.S. in Environmental & Chemical Sciences”
Requested: 3 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $15,000/annum for 2 years

Recommended: 1 Master’s-Level Fellowship at $15,000/annum for 2 years = $30,000 TOTAL

The interdisciplinary Master’s Degree in Environmental Sciences at McNeese State University is a collaborative effort of the departments of Agriculture, Chemistry and Environmental Sciences. Established in 2002, it is a successful regional master’s program that has graduated 67 students since 2005, initially in the chemistry and environmental sciences concentrations and more recently in agriculture as well. Notwithstanding heavy teaching responsibilities, many of the faculty have active research programs, although none has substantial funding support. Given its geographical location, the program makes an important contribution to the industrial workforce, although the proposal might make a more compelling argument for economic impact and workforce development. The pool
of applicants has increased recently and the program has attracted well-qualified students. The number of under-represented minority students in the program is impressive, although data are inconsistent. The level of attrition is a concern. A clearer case could be made for how the addition of BoRSF fellowships would build the program. Admissions criteria formulas are generally discouraged, in particular when, as in this case, they GRE scores. The panel recommends funding for one two-year master’s-level fellowship at $15,000 per year.

015GF-13 NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY
“Enhancement of Marine and Environmental Biology Student Recruitment through Graduate Study”
Requested: 3 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $15,000/annum for 2 years

Recommended: 1 Master’s-Level Fellowship at $15,000/annum for 2 years = $30,000 TOTAL

The Biological Sciences Department at Nicholls proposes to utilize BoRSF fellowships to promote the development of its master’s program in marine and environmental biology. This program began in 2002, capitalizing on a strategic location adjacent to the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary and supported by a research-active faculty. Members of the department have an impressive record of publication and of securing competitive external funding, including a recent $1 million grant from the Department of Energy. The proposal makes a good case for the economic impact of the program, citing links to area industries, including sugar, petroleum and fisheries, as well as the training of professionals to support these industries and various coastal- and wetlands-related agencies and research facilities. The program provides support to most students, but the data presented suggest a high level of attrition. Combining verbal and quantitative GRE scores to assess applicants has been deemed inappropriate by ETS and is unacceptable. It is unfortunate that the program has been unable to attract under-represented minority applicants, a situation that might be addressed by a more ambitious recruitment plan. Funding is recommended for one two-year master’s-level fellowship at $15,000 per year.

016GF-13 TULANE UNIVERSITY
“Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students for the Tulane University Ph.D. Program in Chemistry”
Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at $30,000/annum for 4 years = $120,000 TOTAL

This is a well-constructed and -written proposal from the Chemistry Department at Tulane. The faculty is fairly small (15) and most are funded (11), though income from external funding has been declining over the last three years. The program itself is traditional in style: fairly heavy on coursework in the first two years and focused on research subsequently. The mentoring and tracking aspects were disappointing as they consisted almost entirely of tracking, which yields limited benefits for the students; very little mentoring, which is important to reduce attrition, was evident. With regard to attrition, there appears to be a curious mix of outcomes. BoRSF fellows have done reasonably well and are graduating successfully in a reasonable timeframe. The overall program, however, seems to show a very long time to degree, along with a disturbing and unacceptable level of student loss (54%). Recently, recruiting of under-represented minority students has lagged and the program’s more successful period now seems to have passed. Clearly the program has had and continues to have a number of successes, but there is room for improvement. The panel was concerned by a comment in the proposal narrative that Board of Regents fellows would provide valuable support to the research programs of new faculty. While this is undoubtedly a benefit of this program, the reviewers are looking for evidence that these new faculty themselves will be offered guidance and instruction in student mentoring, to assure fellowship recipients and faculty of the best possible outcomes from such exposure. Funding is recommended for one four-year doctoral-level fellowship at $30,000 per year.
017GF-13  TULANE UNIVERSITY
“Graduate Fellowships in Support of Biomedical and Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering”
Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $26,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $26,000/annum for 4 years = $208,000 TOTAL

Tulane’s strong Biomedical and Chemical Engineering faculty has set high standards for admission of incoming doctoral students who will join well-funded labs and research teams. Through patents, activities related to the translational aspects of new biomaterials, the IGERT focus on innovation, and the strong workforce development collaboration between Tulane, Xavier, and the community colleges, Tulane’s engineering programs greatly expand the economic development capabilities of the region. Faculty pay close attention to creating an environment that fosters professional development of doctoral students for both academic and industry careers, through opportunities for students to advise undergraduates and participate in the design and creation of devices for the disabled. Student success is fostered by a course roundup process that continuously reviews and fine tunes the curriculum. There are serious problems, however, with the data submitted in Tables 10-GF and 11-GF, which make it difficult to understand clearly the program’s successes and challenges. Nevertheless, it is certain that progress on the recruitment and matriculation of under-represented minority students is very disappointing. No new under-represented minority students have joined the doctoral program for the last four years. While recruiting connections and strategies appear sound, they simply have not worked. It is time to overhaul the recruitment plan, take a candid look at what has not worked, and develop alternative mechanisms for connecting doctoral program faculty with prospective students and their undergraduate mentors, perhaps by cultivating relationships with minority-serving institutions that offer master’s programs only. Funding is recommended for two four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $26,000 each per year.

018GF-13  TULANE UNIVERSITY
“Superior Graduate Fellows in Physics and Engineering Physics”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

The Tulane Physics Department is currently very small, with seven research-active faculty and 19 doctoral students. There are some hopes for growth, but this has not yet occurred. The program is very selective, with 63 applications received and only four admission offers made last year. Troubling, however, is the low acceptance rate from U.S. students offered admission. Over the past four years, 13 offers of admission were made to U.S. students and only two accepted. The program has no under-represented minority students, though one offer was made to a URM candidate in each of the past two years. The high use of students as teaching assistants is also troubling. Even though there seems to be adequate research funding cited on Form 12-GF, 14 of 19 students were supported on teaching assistantships last year. Why this is so cannot be gleaned from the proposal, but may explain why so many U.S. applicants are accepting offers elsewhere. With a strong applicant pool and high standards, the program should have a bright future if the high U.S. student rejection rate and external funding problems can be resolved. The panel notes that the economic impact statement looks principally toward the future, making promises of planned contributions, rather than citing current activities. The proposal was not well prepared and difficult to assess. The number of Ph.D. students is variously described as 19 or 27 and the number of undergraduates as 57 or 124, while the engineering physics degree is either “about to be implemented” or was started in 2006. No funding is recommended.
TULANE UNIVERSITY
“Recruiting Superior Graduate Students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years = $240,000 TOTAL

Tulane’s Ecology and Evolutionary Biology program is well positioned to provide research and training critical to Louisiana’s future economic development. The department is in the midst of a significant rebuilding, with five new faculty (out of eleven total) hired in the last two years. The department seems more dynamic, less oriented to museum work and more to field work and analysis, than just a few years ago, which should be appealing to a larger number of doctoral students. Despite the recent spate of hiring, it remains a very small department with only 20 Ph.D. students. Research funding seems adequate, yet 13 of 20 students are supported by teaching. This high ratio detracts from research productivity. Recruitment of under-represented minority students is disappointing. The economic development argument is indirect, based on the critical importance of the environment to southern Louisiana, but does not show direct linkages to departmental activities. Funding is recommended for two four-year doctoral-level students at $30,000 each per year.

TULANE UNIVERSITY
“Graduate Fellows in Psychology”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $22,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $22,000/annum for 4 years = $176,000 TOTAL

Tulane’s Psychology Department has submitted a nicely written proposal containing a well-conceived strategy for further increasing the strengths of a program that has a coherent, focused, and relatively well-funded research agenda. Particularly noteworthy is the careful alignment of admissions and fellowship requirements with course and other program expectations. The recruitment strategies have proven quite effective, with 25% of applicants currently from under-represented minority groups. Although international students are not eligible for BoRSF fellowships, it is interesting to note that Skype interviews have increased the yield for these applicants. Students appear to be graduating on time. Comprehensive reviews of student progress each semester with respect to teaching excellence, research progress, and course grades should help to keep students on track. The commitment to provide a fifth year of funding if necessary is a positive feature. Twelve-month stipends might make the funding package more competitive and also facilitate more timely degree completion: something the program may wish to consider in future applications. Full funding is recommended for two four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $22,000 each per year.

TULANE UNIVERSITY
“Superior Graduate Students in Neuroscience / 2013-2018”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,500/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,500/annum for 4 years = $228,000 TOTAL

Tulane’s interdisciplinary Neuroscience graduate program has a long history of support from the Board of Regents, with six of 30 students currently supported by BoRSF fellowships. The program has been targeted for growth in the Tulane ten-year plan and eight new faculty members have been hired since Hurricane Katrina. The university provides several teaching assistantships and the 24 faculty bring in a total of $54 million in grant funding. The future looks bright for the program. The number of students on research assistantships has increased significantly from last year and only eleven of 30 are supported on teaching assistantships. The panel encourages the program to consider applying for training grants. Two under-represented minority students out of 30 enrolled seems somewhat low,
especially given the priority Tulane places on this metric. The number of applications is adequate but not overwhelming; particularly low is the number of international applications. Perhaps the program can be better advertised. Overall, the program seems invigorated and should rapidly grow in size and quality. The panel recommends funding for two four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $28,500 each per year.

022GF-13 TULANE UNIVERSITY
“Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in History”
Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $25,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $25,000/annum for 4 years = $200,000 TOTAL

The Tulane History Department has a well established and respected doctoral program, with particular strengths in Latin American and Atlantic history. A number of members of the faculty have impressive international reputations for their scholarship and all are active researchers. The program is highly selective and all students receive full support, as is customary at private institutions such as Tulane. Students move through a structured program that culminates in the creation of an ambitious portfolio reflecting training in scholarship and pedagogy. The department has contributed successfully to a recent Tulane initiative to recruit under-represented minority students, making effective use of the Board of Regents-funded BoR/SREB fellowships. The program has a very good retention record compared to other humanities programs but, as the proposal notes, some students have been very slow to complete dissertations. It is a concern that not a single minority student has completed a dissertation in the last six years. Given the time to degree for history programs, the panel would also like to see evidence that fellows will find support after the four-year fellowship. The proposal might have been enhanced by greater emphasis on faculty research activities and the relationship of these to the department profile and recruitment of students. The argument that the organization of major historical conferences contributes to economic development is an important one; such events might also represent useful tools for recruitment. The panel recommends funding for two four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $25,000 each per year.

023GF-13 TULANE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
“Predoctoral Training in Biomedical Sciences”
Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,500/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at $28,500/annum for 4 years = $114,000 TOTAL

This proposal requests support for four students across TUHSC’s broad, multidisciplinary umbrella Biomedical Sciences program. The educational program is very traditional and, for this day and age, strongly weighted toward course work. Recruitment activities are showing good results and the number of under-represented minority students seems to be appropriate. The level of attrition overall is reasonable, though previous BoRSF fellows have not done as well. The mentoring section consists largely of performance expectations and tracking, rather than supportive mentoring. Though the strength of the proposal and program is evident, the application was seriously marred by errors in the tables. Some were so obvious that they could be discounted, but it affected the panel’s confidence in other data provided. Table 11-GF suggests that 104 students left the program in 2010, which seems impossible. The tables also indicate that eight U.S. nationals graduated in 2009-10, consisting of nine women and one under-represented minority. Several other clear errors are evident throughout the data reporting. As a consequence, when the tables indicate that there were 20 graduates in 2009 and only six in the next year, one wonders whether this is an aberration or an error. The effort expended on the data reporting appears to be superficial, and the department would be well advised to address this in future applications. Nevertheless, based on the strength of the program and the proposal, the panel recommends funding for one four-year doctoral-level fellowship at $28,500 per year.
This is a well-written proposal in which the applicant reflects on an effective program in which the level of success has historically been high and the degree of attrition small. The proposal strongly states the need for BoRSF fellowships to help maintain increasing tuition and living costs, support students at a competitive level, and “ensure maintenance of a minimum critical mass for further stabilization of this renewed graduate program.” The training program is fairly heavy in coursework, perhaps unavoidably, given the subject area. Between the courses and the research phase, the program appoints an interim advisor who guides in general advising until the student has determined a lab for his/her final research training. The overall recruiting outlook is bleak as the program attracts very few applicants overall and even fewer among under-represented minority populations. Very few minority students enroll in the program, though the program has shown success in bringing minority students who do enroll to completion. A major concern of the panel was faculty funding to support graduate education. Though provided data show six faculty members with significant resources, it appears that none of the funds can support graduate students. This apparent lack of funding for students and the need for BoRSF funds to maintain critical mass in the graduate program diminished panel enthusiasm for the proposal. No funding is recommended.

Computer Science and Computer Engineering programs are combined under the umbrella of UL Lafayette’s Center for Advanced Computer Studies. The combined programs have 15 faculty and 158 graduate students, including 76 Ph.D. students. Enrollment of under-represented minority students in the doctoral programs has declined over the past five years to none for the past two years. This suggests a lack of commitment to this important dimension of graduate student training. The recruitment pool, reflected in the number of applications, remains very small, though it increased slightly last year (to six U.S. applications). Completion rates remain a major concern. The proposal narrative states that the typical time to degree is four years, so with nearly 80 students enrolled in the program one expects about 20 graduates per year; based on the data provided, the annual average is eight. Unexplained is why the program is not shrinking. Proposal data indicate that six students on average leave the program each year without a Ph.D. and eight leave through graduation, for a total of 14, while only six new students are admitted each year. Inconsistencies such as this undermine panel confidence in the data presented. The economic development impact statement suggests significant amounts of activity but provides few details. Mentoring and tracking seem to consist largely of tracking with resulting penalties for failure to pass milestones, rather than including systemic mentoring and teaching of success strategies. Finally, it is not clear to the panel how a small number of BoRSF fellowships will make a measurable difference to this program. No funding is recommended.
This proposal requests five fellowships to support UL Lafayette’s newly created doctoral program in Systems Engineering. While the program does not yet have a track record of applications, admissions, and student success, it would have been extremely useful in judging the relative merits of this request to have had data from other UL Lafayette Engineering graduate programs to put this request in the context of expectations about the likely depth and diversity of the applicant pool. A new program provides an opportunity to create innovative recruitment strategies, curricula aligned with the needs of regional and statewide employers, and mentoring strategies that ensure students will complete their degrees in a timely fashion and will do so prepared to successfully compete for positions across academic and industry sectors. Unfortunately, none of these considerations was included in this proposal, so it was difficult to determine what role the BoRSF fellowships and fellowship recipients might play in advancing the program’s research agenda or the State’s economic development needs. It is extremely important that the program reevaluate its fellowship requirements, particularly the use of combined GRE scores. Use of combined GRE scores in the admissions process disregards ETS guidelines for the valid use of standardized test results. No funding is recommended.

UL Lafayette’s excellent doctoral program in Environmental and Evolutionary Biology contributes to the Louisiana economy and continues to train highly qualified students. Program faculty generate substantial amounts of external funding, although the panel has continuing concerns that too many faculty are unfunded. The current proposal indicates that only 14 of 26 faculty members have external funding, though 21 faculty members mentor graduate students. Close relationships with nearby federal labs are a particular strength of the program and this proposal. The number of applications and admission selectivity seem adequate to support a high-quality program while the number of under-represented minority students in the program is healthy (seven of 33 U.S. students). Student retention is of some concern. The narrative states that the retention rate is 70%, yet proposal data indicate that the ratio of dropouts to Ph.D. degrees granted is about 1:1, suggesting the actual drop rate is higher. Overall, however, this a quality program that deserves support. The panel recommends funding for two four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $28,000 each per year.

UL Lafayette’s doctoral program in English is long established and has a strong regional and national reputation. It is one of the few programs nationally to offer a creative writing emphasis. Faculty members in the department are active scholars and writers and some Ph.D. graduates have secured academic positions at universities, colleges and schools nationally and in Louisiana. Though it is focused on the creative writing emphasis, the proposal provides
data for the Ph.D. program as a whole, so it is difficult to determine the profile of the relevant students. These data do show that the program continues to attract reasonable numbers of students, including under-represented minority students. Attrition among doctoral students, however, appears quite high. The absence of Form 10-GF makes it impossible to measure selectivity or to gain a sense of the potential pool of applicants for a BoRSF fellowship. Mentoring and tracking plans are perfunctory, as is the strategy for attracting minority applicants. No funding is recommended.

029GF-13 UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS
“Graduate Fellowships for the Doctoral Program in Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of New Orleans”
Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $32,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

This proposal is for support of a very small doctoral program in the College of Engineering at the University of New Orleans. Eight tenured and tenure-track faculty provide mentorship to seven doctoral students. At this point, there is little extramural research funding to support the doctoral program. Data in Forms 10-GF and 11-GF do not match narrative in the text, but it appears that the international focus of the recruitment strategy has generated a viable group of master’s-level students who could provide a pipeline into the doctoral program. However, the U.S. applicant pool, and especially the pool of under-represented minorities, does not benefit from this strategy and it is precisely this group that is eligible for the BoRSF fellowships. If data in the two tables mentioned above reflect application and admissions data for the entire college, future proposals that include the entire College of Engineering at UNO might more accurately and competitively capitalize on the strengths and opportunities for growth than the current proposal, which focuses on a subset of UNO Engineering doctoral programs. The development of an industry advisory board and the attempts to accommodate the schedules of working professionals are good first steps towards understanding and addressing local engineering workforce and economic development needs. The plan to track student success through flow charts, yearly goals and objectives seems particularly promising for a cohort of students that includes those who are pursuing the degree on a part-time basis. It is imperative that the program discontinue use of combined GRE scores for admissions and fellowship decisions. Use of combined GRE scores in the admissions process disregards ETS guidelines for the valid use of standardized test results. No funding is recommended.

030GF-13 UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS
“Doctoral Fellowships in Chemistry at the University of New Orleans”
Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $32,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

This is a proposal from the UNO Chemistry Department for four BoRSF fellowships at $32,000 per year. The department consists of 15 faculty members, of whom eight appear to have external funding. Approximately 60 students graduate with the Ph.D. with an average time to degree of five years. The level of attrition appears to be low. Previous fellows have done quite well. The overall level of under-represented minority student recruitment and success is reasonable, and looks quite good if one calculates the percent based upon students in the program who are U.S. nationals. These U.S. nationals are in fact a minority in themselves as the class appears to be over 50% international in composition. This undoubtedly is a consequence of the fact that the applicant pool is very small. Over half of all U.S. applicants are offered a position in the program, though a smaller fraction actually matriculate at UNO. This is certainly a cause for concern and a major reservation about the program. The proposed plan of study is highly traditional for chemistry departments. In fact the introductory statement to this section reports that the program has “hurdles” for the students to surmount in order to qualify. While this is true of all academic programs,
the idea of referring to requirements as “hurdles” seems harsh, and led the panel to wonder if this kind of aggressive attitude might deter students from joining the department. The proposal’s mentoring section mentions an advisory committee for BoRSF fellows until they get their lab advisors, but the committee meets only once per semester, and mostly to review student tracking information. The department could do more to demonstrate its support to all students under its purview. No funding is recommended.

001GFT-13  LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE
“Improving Classroom Interest in Science and Mathematics by Preparing Highly Qualified Teachers”
Requested: 6 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $21,000/annum for 1 year

Recommended: - 0 -

The proposal was submitted with the narrative for a project written for another BoRSF program rather than the narrative corresponding to this project, so was not reviewable.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal#/ Discipline</th>
<th>PI Name(s)</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Proposal Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Funds Requested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 001GF-13 ARTS         | Lori Bade        | LSU-Baton Rouge   | Board of Regents Fellowships in the Arts                                       | 4 years/3 years/2 years | Y1: $128,000  
Y2: $128,000  
Y3: $112,000  
Y4: $ 80,000  
Total: $448,000 |
| 002GF-13 PHYS         | Dana Browne      | LSU-Baton Rouge   | Graduate Fellows in Physics and Astronomy                                      | 4 years                | Y1: $112,000  
Y2: $112,000  
Y3: $112,000  
Y4: $112,000  
Total: $448,000 |
| 003GF-13 SOC SCI      | Joshua Detre     | LSU-Baton Rouge   | Improving the Economic Resiliency of Rural and Coastal Communities Under Natural Disaster and Environmental Risk | 4 years                | Y1: $159,000  
Y2: $159,000  
Y3: $159,000  
Y4: $159,000  
Total: $636,000 |
| 004GF-13 BIO          | Michael Hellberg | LSU-Baton Rouge   | Graduate Fellowships in Biological Sciences at Louisiana State University     | 4 years                | Y1: $120,000  
Y2: $120,000  
Y3: $120,000  
Y4: $120,000  
Total: $480,000 |
| 005GF-13 ENG          | Kelly Rusch      | LSU-Baton Rouge   | Board of Regents Fellowships in Engineering 2013-2018                         | 4 years                | Y1: $90,000  
Y2: $90,000  
Y3: $90,000  
Y4: $90,000  
Total: $360,000 |
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<tr>
<th>GF Proposal Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration/Level</th>
<th>Funding Details</th>
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<td>006GF-13 CHEM</td>
<td>George Stanley</td>
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<td>Graduate Fellowships in Chemistry for 2013</td>
<td>4 years 2 PhD @ $30K</td>
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<td>Y4: $60,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>007GF-13 HM</td>
<td>Ronald Thune</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Graduate Studies in Infectious Disease</td>
<td>4 years 2 PhD @ $27K</td>
<td>Y1: $54,000</td>
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<td>Y4: $54,000</td>
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<td>008GF-13 EAR</td>
<td>R. Eugene Turner</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Earth, Ocean and Environmental Science</td>
<td>4 years/2 years 4 PhD @ $28K 2 MS @ $26K</td>
<td>Y1: $164,000</td>
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<td>Y4: $164,000</td>
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<td>009GF-13 BIO</td>
<td>Andrew Catling</td>
<td>LSUHSC-New Orleans</td>
<td>Graduate Training in Integrative Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics</td>
<td>4 years 3 PhD @ $27K</td>
<td>Y1: $81,000</td>
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<td>Total: $324,000</td>
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<td>010GF-13 HM</td>
<td>Donald Mercante</td>
<td>LSUHSC-New Orleans</td>
<td>Recruitment of Superior Doctoral Students in Public Health Sciences 2013-18</td>
<td>4 years 3 PhD @ $26K</td>
<td>Y1: $78,000</td>
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<td>Y4: $78,000</td>
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<td>011GF-13 ARTS</td>
<td>Marie Bukowski</td>
<td>LA Tech University</td>
<td>Superior Graduate Fellows Supporting Area of Excellence in the School of Art</td>
<td>3 years 5 MA @ $10K</td>
<td>Y1: $50,000</td>
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<td>012GF-13 HM</td>
<td>Steven Jones</td>
<td>LA Tech University</td>
<td>Biomedical Engineering Doctoral Graduate Fellows 2013-17</td>
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<td>013GF-13 ENG</td>
<td>James Palmer</td>
<td>LA Tech University</td>
<td>Superior Graduate Fellows Supporting Five Centers of Excellence in Engineering 2013-2017</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>3 PhD @ $25K</td>
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<td>014GF-13 CHEM</td>
<td>Omar Christian</td>
<td>McNeese State University</td>
<td>MSU’s Grad. Fellow for a M.S. in Environmental &amp; Chemical Sciences</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>3 MS @ $15K</td>
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<td>015GF-13 BIO</td>
<td>Aaron Pierce</td>
<td>Nicholls State University</td>
<td>Enhancement of Marine and Environmental Biology Student Recruitment through Graduate Study</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>3 MS @ $15K</td>
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<td>016GF-13 CHEM</td>
<td>James Donahue</td>
<td>Tulane University</td>
<td>Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students for the Tulane University Ph.D. Program in Chemistry</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>3 PhD @ $30K</td>
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<td>017GF-13 ENG</td>
<td>Donald Gaver</td>
<td>Tulane University</td>
<td>Graduate Fellowships in Support of Biomedical and Chemical &amp; Biomolecular Engineering</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<td>Proposal Number</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>Description</td>
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| 018GF-13 PHYS   | Dae Ho Kim            | Tulane University | Superior Graduate Fellows in Physics and Engineering Physics                 | 4 years  | Y1: $56,000  
Y2: $56,000  
Y3: $56,000  
Y4: $56,000  
Total: $224,000 |
| 019GF-13 BIO    | Corinne Richards-Zawacki | Tulane University | Recruiting Superior Graduate Students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology    | 4 years  | Y1: $60,000  
Y2: $60,000  
Y3: $60,000  
Y4: $60,000  
Total: $240,000 |
| 020GF-13 SOC SCI | Janet Ruscher         | Tulane University | Graduate Fellows in Psychology                                               | 4 years  | Y1: $44,000  
Y2: $44,000  
Y3: $44,000  
Y4: $44,000  
Total: $176,000 |
| 021GF-13 HM     | Jeffrey Tasker        | Tulane University | Superior Graduate Students in Neuroscience / 2013-2018                      | 4 years  | Y1: $57,000  
Y2: $57,000  
Y3: $57,000  
Y4: $57,000  
Total: $228,000 |
| 022GF-13 HUM    | Justin Wolfe          | Tulane University | Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in History                         | 4 years  | Y1: $75,000  
Y2: $75,000  
Y3: $75,000  
Y4: $75,000  
Total: $300,000 |
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<th>GF Proposals</th>
<th>FY 2011-12</th>
<th>Page 5 of 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| 023GF-13 BIO            | Robert Garry | TUHSC       | Predoctoral Training in Biomedical Sciences | 4 years | 4 PhD @ $28.5K | Y1: $114,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y2: $114,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y3: $114,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y4: $114,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Total: $456,000 |
| 024GF-13 HM            | Nirbhay Kumar | TUHSC       | Graduate Fellows Program – Tulane University | 4 years | 3 PhD @ $28K  | Y1: $84,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y2: $84,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y3: $84,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y4: $84,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Total: $336,000 |
| 025GF-13 CIS           | Magdy Bayoumi | University of Louisiana at Lafayette | Superior Graduate Students in CS/CE | 4 years | 2 PhD @ $27K  | Y1: $54,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y2: $54,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y3: $54,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y4: $54,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Total: $216,000 |
| 026GF-13 ENG           | Afef Fekih | University of Louisiana at Lafayette | Recruiting Superior PhD Students in Systems Engineering | 4 years | 5 PhD @ $24K  | Y1: $120,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y2: $120,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y3: $120,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y4: $120,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Total: $480,000 |
| 027GF-13 BIO           | Paul Klerks | University of Louisiana at Lafayette | Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Environmental and Evolutionary Biology for 2013 | 4 years | 3 PhD @ $28K  | Y1: $84,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y2: $84,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y3: $84,000  
|                         |             |             |                                           |         |               | Y4: $84,000  
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<th>Fellowship Description</th>
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<th>PhD Tuition</th>
<th>First Year</th>
<th>Second Year</th>
<th>Third Year</th>
<th>Fourth Year</th>
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<td>028GF-13 HUM</td>
<td>Claiborne Rice</td>
<td>University of Louisiana at Lafayette</td>
<td>Regents Fellowships in Creative Writing</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<td>029GF-13 ENG</td>
<td>Malay Ghose Hajra</td>
<td>University of New Orleans</td>
<td>Graduate Fellowships for the Doctoral Program in Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of New Orleans</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<td>030GF-13 CHEM</td>
<td>John Wiley</td>
<td>University of New Orleans</td>
<td>Doctoral Fellowships in Chemistry at the University of New Orleans</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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**TRADITIONAL GRADUATE FELLOWS PROPOSAL SUBMISSION SUMMARY**

**NUMBER SUBMITTED: 30**

- Arts: 2
- Biological Sciences: 6
- Chemistry: 4
- Computer & Information Sciences: 1
- Earth/Environmental Sciences: 1
- Engineering A&B: 5
- Health & Medical Sciences: 5
- Humanities: 2
- Physics/Astronomy: 2
- Social Sciences: 2

**FIRST-YEAR FUNDS REQUESTED: $2,563,000**
**TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED: $10,066,000**
**TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS AVAILABLE: $720,000**
## Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program
**2011-12 Competition**
**Proposals Submitted**

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<tr>
<th>Proposal#/ Discipline</th>
<th>PI Name(s)</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Proposal Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Funds Requested</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>001GFT-12 ED</td>
<td>Byron Launey</td>
<td>LSU-BR</td>
<td>Improving Classroom Interest in Science and Mathematics by Preparing Highly Qualified Teachers</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>$126,000</td>
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<td>6 MS @ $21K</td>
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**Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Proposal Submission Summary**

- **Number Submitted:** 1
- **Total Funds Requested:** $126,000
- **Total First-Year Funds Available:** $180,000