

MEMORANDUM

TO: UTM Chairs & Directors

FROM: Ajay Rao, Vice-Dean Graduate Studies & Postdoctoral Affairs

RE: UTM International Ph.D. Scholarship Program

Dear Chairs and Directors,

I am writing with details and a call for department funding contributions for the **UTM International Ph.D. Scholarship** program.

AWARD OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

We plan to provide full funding for a cohort of 30 international Ph.D. students over the next three years. These international Ph.D. students will be admitted to FAS graduate programs but will be engaged in on-campus research activities at UTM. Increasing graduate activity on campus will positively impact the research environment at UTM and improve the undergraduate student experience, as undergraduates interact with graduate students and participate in research. International applicants supervised by faculty at any of the three campuses (UTM, St. George, or UTSC) are eligible for the award, though the expectation is that students engaged in UTM research activities will normally be supervised by UTM faculty members.

The scholarship will cover the standard funding package established by the graduate program plus a \$5000 annual top-up. In graduate programs where standard funding packages exceed \$40,000 annually, the UTM International Ph.D. Scholarship will only cover the costs of faculty research contributions (up to a maximum of \$27,000 annually). The \$5000 top-up funding is renewable on an annual basis in accordance with the graduate program's normal period of funding (e.g. for a total of 4-5 years) provided the student meets the conditions of the award. Supervisors will be required to submit an annual one-page summary of UTM research activities for students to receive the \$5000.

DEPARTMENT FUNDING COMMITMENT

The scholarship program will be funded through a combination of decanal and department GEF carry forward funds. Chairs will be notified of their department's funding eligibility and will be asked to submit an expression of interest. The expression of interest, due **December 14, 2022**, will indicate the department funding commitment over the three-year period and a short (one-paragraph) description of the research activities on the UTM campus for each graduate unit associated with the department.

All TA appointments for these international Ph.D. students will be at participating UTM undergraduate departments.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Graduate programs will be given an annual allotment for nominations based on the funding commitments of associated UTM budgetary units. The nomination process will be similar to the process for the Connaught International Ph.D. Scholarship with the same deadline for nominations (for 2023, February 3). Nominations submitted by graduate programs will be adjudicated by a UTM committee. The UTM committee for 2023 includes the following members:

Ruba Kana'an, Department of Visual Studies
Joshua Milstein, Department of Chemical and Physical Sciences
Andrea Olive, Department of Political Science and Department of Geography
Ajay Rao, Department of Historical Studies (Committee Chair)
Sara da Silva, Office of the Vice Principal Academic and Dean

A graduate program whose nominee is selected by the UTM committee will receive an additional international Ph.D. student in addition to its international quota. As with the Connaught International Scholarship, applicants may also become eligible for the UTM International Ph.D. Scholarship through a reversion list.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this scholarship program or would like more information.

Thank you,

Ajay Rao
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