TIE Environmental Research Fellowship Program, Request for Proposals

About Tufts Institute of the Environment

The Tufts Institute of the Environment (TIE) is an interdisciplinary university-wide institute that collaborates with partners with and external to Tufts University, and initiates and promotes environmental education, research, and outreach toward a sustainable future.

About the Fellowship

The TIE Environmental Research Fellowship aims to:

- Financially support Tufts University graduate students in conducting environmental research;
- Provide greater visibility and recognition for exceptional graduate students and their environmental work;
- Develop cross-university relationships between student, staff, and faculty researchers; and,
- Encourage interdisciplinary collaborations that lead to better solutions to problems.

Benefits of the Fellowship

This is an opportunity for students to conduct primary data collection within the student's interest while gaining mentorship and guidance from faculty and TIE staff to help build research expertise. TIE Fellows join the cohort of more than 100 Tufts students and alumni who have participated in this fellowship since 2002. Additionally retreats, research workshops and presentations are organized by and for the TIE Fellows where they build skills and expand professional networks.

Eligibility for Application

To be eligible for the fellowship program, applicants must be:

- Currently matriculated in a Tufts University graduate school,
- Continuing their studies throughout the upcoming academic year, and
- Committed to implementing the proposed research.

Research Project Criteria

The research proposed must:

- Directly relate to TIE's mission, i.e. it would need to be:
    - Environmental in nature;
    - Interdisciplinary by design; and,
    - Timely and important for the environmental topic chosen;
- Be achievable within the timeline and budget of the proposal;
- Include faculty mentors from at least two different departments, in order to strengthen the interdisciplinary nature of the research project;
- Be independent of a faculty member's current project (i.e. the project should be initiated, conducted, and completed by the applicant); and
- Have all IRB approval and permits (if applicable) in place before the research begins.

Fellowship Completion Requirements

- **Attendance** at six specific events:
    1. The Spring orientation brunch for your cohort;
    2. The Fall retreat for all fellows in your cohort;
    3. A Fall formal recognition dinner for all current fellows, current faculty advisors, and recent alumni;
    4. One or more research workshops organized by and for your cohort;
    5. One or more presentations given by other TIE fellows within your cohort, and;
    6. The Spring orientation brunch for the new cohort of incoming fellows.
- Preliminary results submitted in **poster** format in advance of the Fall formal recognition dinner.
- Final results submitted in **final report** format by the end of the concluding spring semester. A publication, thesis, or dissertation based on the fellowship may be accepted in lieu of the final report.
- **Presentation** of preliminary or final results to the greater Tufts community during the academic year. The TIE Coordinator must be notified at least 2 weeks in advance of the presentation in order to disseminate the presentation details to the other fellows.
- Participation in the ongoing evaluation of the TIE Fellowship program.
- Collaboration with TIE's communications team to develop communication pieces of your research for public view.
- Acknowledgment of TIE's support for research completed during the fellowship. TIE's support must be acknowledged in any form of dissemination, including, but not limited to, publication, poster or oral presentations, and website postings.

Proposal Application Requirements

The Fellowship application form can be found at: environment.tufts.edu/funding/fellowships

Be careful to note all of the appendices required with submission.

Also note that all faculty advisors listed on the application must review both the proposal and budget and sign the completed application form before submission.

Budget: The budget summary must be detailed. It must itemize all expenses for the proposed project, and include all sources of funding. Budgetary stipulations include: (i) Personal summer stipends cannot exceed $1,500 on any proposal; (ii) Realistic budget item estimations must be used. For equipment and travel purchases, a quotation should be solicited. When estimating daily travel costs, numbeo.com and other online estimation services should be used to estimate local, equivalent cost estimates. Please include a detailed description of each budget line item within the notes section.

Other Notes:

- Applicants are selected by an interdisciplinary selection committee comprised of Tufts faculty.
- TIE reserves the right to adjust the requested budgets of successful applicants when offering Fellowship awards.
- Upon acceptance of the TIE Fellowship funds awarded, the recipient agrees to fulfill the objectives of the proposed project.
- For a review of other past TIE Fellows please visit: environment.tufts.edu/funding/fellowships/cohorts

Deadline for Application

The deadline for both Master and PhD application is noon on **Thursday, February 15, 2018.**

Applications can be sent electronically to jill.parlee@tufts.edu or mailed to "Tufts Institute of the Environment, Miller Hall, 210 Packard Avenue, Medford, MA 02155."

Emailed messages should include "TIE Fellowship Application: [name]" as the subject line and should include a compiled, single PDF file attachment, labeled "*LastName*_Fellowship2018-2019_Proposal".

Questions

Questions can be addressed to Jill Parlee, Assistant Director of Programs, Tufts Institute of the Environment. Email: jill.parlee@tufts.edu . Phone: +1.617.627.3645