TIE Graduate Environmental Fellowship

Tufts Institute of the Environment
Informational Session
Friday, December 2, 2011
Agenda

- What is TIE?
- Fellowship objectives
- Eligibility
- Funding & restrictions
- Deadlines
- Questions?
What is TIE?

“TIE is the interdisciplinary, university-wide institute that initiates, facilitates and supports environmental education, research, and outreach toward a sustainable future.”

In addition,

- devoted to advancing knowledge about the many ways human interactions affect the environment
- focuses on environmental research, technology, policy development and education, recognizing the interdependence of human welfare, animal health, and ecological integrity
But *how* do we do all these things?

- Tufts Environmental Literacy Institute (TELI)
- Enjoy partnerships with:
  - Tufts Office of Sustainability
  - Tufts Recycles!
  - Water: Systems, Science, and Society
  - And more!
- Serves as a liaison with the Tufts Environmental Alumni (TEA)
- Co-sponsor a range of events
- Fellowship is our signature program
Objectives of program

- Support graduate students in completing independent, interdisciplinary environmental research projects
- Financial & professional support to graduate students conducting environmental research
- Recognize stellar graduate students and their work in environmental fields
- encourage interdisciplinary, graduate-level environmental research across Tufts University
Fellowship Grant examples

- Linking Watershed Quality with Ecosystem Health Using Educational and Environmental Modeling
- Transmission of Diarrheal Diseases Through the Land Surface: A Comparison of Urban Slums and Rural Villages in Southern India
- Healthy Land, Healthy People: Supporting Native American Reservations in Montana through Sustainable Agriculture
- The EU and Global Climate Leadership
- Toward an Eco-Antiracist Literary Criticism: Environmental Justice, Urban Space, and 20th Century American Literature
Fellowship Stats

- Started in 2003
- 77 fellows and 71 projects funded – there have been team projects in the past
- Average yearly cohort – 8 fellows
- Average award - $4,680
- Fellows have come from almost all of Tufts’ 10 schools
- Expecting 20 – 40 applications this year
Eligibility

- Matriculated grad student at *any* of Tufts graduate or professional schools
- Must be a *continuing* student for 2012 – 2013
- Must be an independent research project
- Must identify a faculty mentor
- Research is part of student’s course of study (i.e. directed study, thesis or dissertation research)
In order to be considered...

- Attendance at 5 in-person meetings
- Electronic submission of a poster describing the project and any available results
- Electronic submission of a final project report and proposed budget
- Presentation to the greater Tufts community during the academic year
- Most fellows present at professional conferences – travel funds are available and preference given to TIE fellows
Tips

TIE (in the past) has had traditional high priority areas:

- Water
- Energy and Climate
- Health and the Environment
- Environmental education

Other considerations...

- Use of research tools, databases, and multimedia encouraged
  - (i.e. TUSK, Spark, VUE, GIS data sources, video blogs)
    - Research should not solely be an exercise in data collection
- Proposals involving more than one student will be considered
- Interdisciplinary nature of work is key
- Strongly recommended to have research complete by the end of Summer ‘12
- Incorporating Tufts undergraduate researchers seen as a plus!
Funding considerations

- Up to $6,000 available per student based on submitted budget proposal
- Not to be used in addition to or replacement of other funds
- Uses:
  - Personal stipends – may not exceed $3,000
  - Payment for research assistants & field assistants
  - Travel to conduct research, not to attend events
  - Supplies for data collection and analysis
Deadlines

- RFP is out late January or early February 2012
- Applications are due mid-March – just before Spring Break
  - Tentatively March 20th 2012
- Recipients are notified by end of April
- Fellowship funds disbursed June 1st 2012
Questions?

Questions are guaranteed in life; Answers aren't.
Upcoming event – Save the Date!

- Grant writing workshop
- Thursday, February 3, 2012
- 8:30am-NOON
- Tufts Institute of the Environment,
  - Miller Hall Conference Room

- Look out for the sign-up sheet coming around!