

# **Dean's Summer Research Thesis Grant**

## **Summer 2008 Application**

### **The Carl and Winifred Lee Honors College**

#### **Program Objectives**

The Dean's Summer Research Grant was created to provide a degree of financial assistance to students who will conduct research on a thesis project in the summer between their junior and senior year. The student will be expected to work closely with his or her mentor and do research or other pertinent work that will lead to a completed thesis in the senior year. While it is expected that this work typically will occur on campus, other options are possible. This money can be used for research abroad—as long as the conditions of research and faculty contact can still be maintained. Up to ten grants may be awarded by the Dean. The stipend is \$2,500. Additional monies, up to \$500, will be allotted to students and mentors upon request, and with an enclosed budget. This money may be used for equipment, necessary supplies or resources, and travel.

#### **Qualifications and Conditions of the Grant**

All second-semester Lee Honors College juniors in good standing may apply. Such students must have at least a 3.35 GPA, have completed all honors requirements through the junior level, and have completed at least 85 hours of credit by the time of the proposed research. Additionally, a first semester senior may be considered if he or she has a 3.35 GPA, completed all honors course work, and will have the thesis completed in December of the year it is awarded.

Each applicant will submit a two-page description of the proposed thesis project, which will be signed by the applicant and mentor. This should include an explanation of the plan to complete the proposed work in the course of the summer of the grant proposal time. While it is possible to take courses which are directly relevant to the thesis research work, the student will be expected to commit approximately 30 hours a week to the thesis project.

The faculty mentor must write a letter of support in which he or she agrees to supervise the work during the summer period—be it in a series of meetings or contacts, and further agrees to supervise the thesis project to its completion.

All materials are to be addressed to Dr. Keith M. Hearit.

## **Application Instructions**

The *complete* application for an award *must* include:

1. The attached form (Application Form and Thesis Information), completed by the student and signed by the student and faculty mentor;
2. a copy of the student's transcript;
3. a clear description of the proposed research;
4. a letter of support from the mentor (no awards will be made without this letter of support);
5. a copy of the WMU Human Subjects Institutional Review Board decision (if required); this decision can be forwarded, if necessary.\*
6. a copy of the WMU Animal Care Committee decision (if required); this decision can be forwarded, if necessary; and,
7. a copy of the Lee Honors College Thesis Declaration Form.

*\* Any research proposal that involves people such as interviewing, questionnaires, observations, and experiments must have the approval of the Human Subjects Institutional Review Board. Consideration by this board usually takes four to six weeks. The Dean will not approve projects that have not been approved by this board.*

Return the completed forms and accompanying material to:

Dr. Keith M. Hearit, Associate Dean  
The Carl and Winifred Lee Honors College  
Western Michigan University  
1903 W. Michigan Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5244

### **Deadline**

March 12, 2008

Awards will be announced April 11, 2008

# Application Form

## Student Information:

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ WIN # \_\_\_\_\_
2. Local Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Local Telephone \_\_\_\_\_
4. Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Major(s) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Minor(s) \_\_\_\_\_
7. Current Accumulated Credit Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Current GPA \_\_\_\_\_ (Be sure to attach a copy of your transcript)
8. Will you receive academic credit for the project in addition to the stipend?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, give the number of credit hours, course name and number (i.e. BIOS 4990), and whether these hours will count toward your major or minor requirements.  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Will you be receiving any financial aid support for your work on the project from other sources? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, explain in the space below.

## Thesis Information

1. Title of thesis project: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Proposal Essay: After consultation with your faculty mentor, write a two page proposal in which you: a) explain the proposed thesis project; b) describe how you will be involved in the work during the summer; and, c) indicate how the research experience will contribute to your undergraduate education.
3. Will the project require the approval of the WMU Human Subjects Institutional Review Board? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, make appropriate arrangements for a hearing and include a copy of the Board's decision. Board approval must be received before an award can be given.
4. Will the project require the approval of the WMU Animal Care Committee? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, make appropriate arrangements for a hearing and forward (or include) a copy of the Committee's decision.

**Please read and sign:** If I am granted an award, I agree to work according to the provisions of the Dean's Summer Research Thesis Grant. At the end of the semester, I will submit a 200-300 word abstract describing the thesis research.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Faculty Mentor:

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_
2. Department (or Unit) \_\_\_\_\_ WMU Telephone \_\_\_\_\_
3. I have evaluated this application and approve it as proposed by the student. If this student is granted an award, I agree to serve as his/her mentor and to supervise the work according to the provisions of the Dean's Summer Research Thesis Grant. I have discussed the proposed project with the student, and I believe his/her participation will be an enriching educational experience. He/she should be able to assume greater responsibility for the project as the summer progresses.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_