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UCLA Graduate Division
University of California, Los Angeles
Dear Graduate Student,

For the past 50 years or more, American universities have enjoyed an international reputation for excellence in graduate education. This success may have led to some complacency and the assumption that our practices and styles of doctoral education are optimal and require little or no revision. During the past decade, however, the graduate education community has begun to express concern about a number of important issues in doctoral education. These include: lengthening time to degree, attrition rates, the narrowness of curricula, a failure to accommodate training to the career options available to graduates, the level and type of financial support provided, and other issues. One reflection of these concerns is a 1990 report by the Association of Graduate Schools (AGS) entitled Institutional Policies to Improve Doctoral Education. This report contained a number of specific recommendations and was motivated, in part, by the projection of a significant shortage of Ph.D.s, particularly in science and engineering.

A few years after the AGS report, a variety of new reports began to appear suggesting that there was overproduction of Ph.D.s in many disciplines. These reports attracted significant attention by the media, which often provided illustrative stories of physicists driving taxi cabs and philosophers flipping hamburgers. General questions regarding optimal Ph.D. production in varying disciplines, and the extent to which job market conditions should be a major factor in enrollment planning, have not yet been fully addressed or resolved.

Perhaps the only consensus emerging from the ensuing debate is that most projections regarding the academic job market over the past 30+ years have not proven accurate, that the available data on doctoral placement is inadequate, and that academic institutions should develop more systematic procedures for tracking the employment aspirations and outcomes of their doctoral degree recipients.

In 1994, the UCLA Graduate Division began efforts to establish a comprehensive database on the initial employment status of all our doctoral recipients (i.e., one year after degree completion). This issue of the Graduate Quarterly is a preliminary effort to begin informing current graduate students about the employment experiences and options of their colleagues who have recently completed their degree. I am pleased to note that UCLA doctoral alumni seem to be doing very well in terms of placement in both academic and non-academic employment sectors. It is also clear from the available data that there is an expanding nonacademic job market which is attracting an increasing number of students in a variety of disciplines. Indeed, many of our doctoral recipients are actively pursuing rather than simply “settling” for positions in a variety of non-academic settings—not just in the traditional areas of government and industry, but across a broad range of appealing and rewarding careers.

I welcome any suggestions from students as to how our placement data could be further analyzed and distributed in ways that would be informative and helpful.

Sincerely,

Claudia Mitchell-Kernan
Vice Chancellor Graduate Studies
Dean, Graduate Division

quote for thought

“Surely it is a part of academic duty—maybe even the central part—to prepare students realistically for productive and rewarding lives. If we cannot do that realistically for our own doctoral students, we have failed a basic obligation. Yet the scientific community and the universities have both refused to face up to this problem. Full and honest disclosure of the employment prospects in the field, as best they can be known, surely is one important institutional responsibility. In addition, departments should be required to tell their incoming graduate students several important facts about the history of their training programs before the students make their decisions. The first critical item of information is the percentage of students entering the program during the past decade who have earned their degrees. The second is an accounting of the average time taken to obtain the degree. Finally, the department should report, for each member of some substantial cohort of doctoral degree recipients, his or her employment history.”

Placement Data Show UCLA Doctorates Highly Employable

Ninety-eight percent obtain employment or go on to postdoctoral fellowships

The issues surrounding doctoral employment have been discussed in graduate schools since the boom of the 1960’s waned. Are we producing employable doctorates? Will that employment be appropriate for people who have earned doctorates or are they taking lower level positions? Should universities continue to produce as many doctorates as they have in the past? Is the training given to doctoral recipients appropriate for the types of employment they will find?

Many national studies have been done on these issues and reports have been issued. Bowen and Sosa (1989)1, using available data predicted that employment in the arts and sciences would boom as then current faculty aged and retired. The Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (1995)2 issued a report that critiqued doctoral programs for being too narrow and not preparing researchers for the needs of the 21st century.

Much of this research has not been able to tap into databases showing where doctoral students actually are employed and at what level. While the National Research Council collects expected employment data on the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), there is some concern that the timing of this data collection is inopportune. Many doctoral recipients do not know at the time they file their dissertations exactly what employment they will secure, which is when the SED is collected. In addition, the nature of this survey does not allow for extensive collection of data on placement as these questions are just one subset of the entire survey.

The UCLA Graduate Division recognized this lack of information on doctoral placement and initiated a placement survey beginning with the degree class of Winter 1994. Data are collected from the degree recipients’ departments in the year following the award of the degrees, which allows time for the former students to have begun their professional employment. The data reported here include degree recipients from Winter 1994 through Spring 1998. In that time period UCLA awarded 2,811 doctoral degrees. Placement data have been collected for 2,494 (89%) of those doctoral recipients.

Survey results showed that UCLA doctoral recipients are employed (76%) or are going on to postdoctoral fellowships (22%) after their degrees are completed. Of those going into employment, as differentiated from postdoctoral fellows, more than 50% are going into higher education institutions while another 32% are in non-academic settings. Looking at the list of employers and higher education institutions, UCLA doctorates are being sought by appropriate employers. (See sidebar lists on pages 4, 6, 7, and 8.)

The first question asked of doctoral recipients is if they are employed. For this group, only 1.4% of the total doctoral recipients were reported as unemployed, while 76% were employed and 22% were in postdoctoral positions, and the remaining 1% were continuing in school for an additional degree (typically, these are PhD/MD students who are completing their MD degrees).

The breakdown between employment and postdoctoral status is related to field of study. Over 90% of the doctoral recipients in the humanities, social sciences, and all of the professional schools except nursing, public health, and theater, film and TV were reported as employed while more than 50% of those in the health sciences academic programs, life sciences (which includes psychology), and physical sciences were going into postdoctoral or trainee positions.

UCLA doctorates go into postdoctoral

continued on page 4
More than 50% of those from humanities; life sciences; social sciences; the schools of the arts and architecture, engineering, management, public policy and social research, and theater; film and TV had obtained tenure track positions. A large proportion of those from the school of education and information studies (26%) and the leadership cohort EdD program (88%) were going into administration. More than 30% of those from the academic health science programs and the schools of public policy and social research and public health were going into non-faculty research positions.

It is one thing to know where doctoral recipients find employment immediately after their degrees are awarded, it is another to learn whether their doctoral training is relevant to those positions. The Doctoral Exit Survey asked doctoral recipients whether the postdoctoral position is related to their doctoral training, and 84% of the respondents said that it was. The survey also asked if the postdoctoral employment is a potential career position or if it is temporary. If we exclude those who are going on to postdoctoral fellowships, which we know is temporary, 73% of them indicated that the position had career potential.

Discussions of doctoral placement are always with the caveat that changes in the general economy or demographics will have unforeseen impacts. At this point in time the United States economy is booming and we are expecting large increases in the college-age population in the near future. All of these external environmental factors will affect the employment and employability of doctoral recipients. It is the responsibility of those who manage graduate education to be aware of changes in the environment and to work to prepare doctoral recipients to find fulfilling and appropriate employment in the future.

References


— written by Ellen Benkin, PhD Information Services Coordinator
Turning PhDs Into Professional Employment

Erika Carlson and Patrick Lowrance are following the traditional career path for PhDs in physics, hoping to turn postdoctoral positions into long-term research and teaching professions. Their colleague in physics, Anthony Gopal is already starting his career as a full-time technical sales representative and applications engineer while he finishes his dissertation. Their stories provide an interesting cross-section of the experiences graduate students have as they try to turn PhDs into paying jobs.

With a postdoctoral fellowship already in hand, Patrick knows his long-term goal a tenure-track position in astrophysics at a research university is probably a few years away. “There’s stiff competition for the best jobs,” he says. “It will take a lot of luck and persistence, as well as contacts.” Patrick already knows something about contacts: A former graduate student at UCLA introduced him to an employer who happened to be looking for a postdoc in Patrick’s dissertation field.

Erica has applied for about 45 positions in postdoctoral research. “My faculty advisor helped tremendously,” she says, discussing where to apply, who to ask for letters of recommendation, and how to draft a research proposal emphasizing “that the work is important to the larger physics community.” Besides a few offers, Erica also has some formal rejection letters from official job searches. “Those are hanging outside my office door, upside down for dramatic effect.”

Anthony was the principal user of some test equipment his adviser had bought from Paar Physica, a maker of rheometers and viscometers. “The device had problems, and I did some troubleshooting with the technical people at the company,” Anthony says. “Throughout the process, we worked well as a team. This, in large part, led to my being considered when a position opened up.”

Although he came to UCLA intending to seek a faculty position, he learned a lot about the job market through Career Center counseling. “I am more enthusiastic about industry than academia, insofar as the daily job tasks go,” he says. There are some lessons to be drawn from these histories:

- Always do good work. You never know who may be watching.
- Next to what you know, whom you know may be the most important factor in finding a job.
- Plenty of assistance is available at UCLA from departmental faculty and staff and the Career Center.

Job hunting is an emotionally and physically trying business. Being confident, flexible, and patient helps.

Doing good work not only leads to the PhD itself, it also has an impact on job hunting. Research that makes significant contributions to a field of study is an asset for job candidates. So are a history of winning grants and fellowships and a record of scholarly productivity and efficiency.

Academic departments hiring assistant professors welcome evidence that a candidate can manage time well and write fluently. Such evidence might include moving quickly through graduate school, producing a dissertation in the year usually allotted, and having a list of papers and presentations. All of these tell the hiring academic department that this candidate has the personal skills to do well in a job that makes many conflicting demands and requires frequent publication.

Graduate school offers professional opportunities that can give students a head start toward acquiring this kind of CV, opportunities to apply for fellowships and grants, to make presentations, and to publish scholarly articles, either alone or in a faculty-led group. Joining professional organizations and attending their conferences is another job-hunting strategy. First, some academic institutions hold screening interviews at national conferences students can present themselves to several potential employers in the space of a couple of days.

And conferences are not just places to present papers and listen to others. Perhaps, their best feature is the opportunity to network “to exchange ideas and business cards with others, to make your place in a scholarly community,” says Nadia Caidi of Information Studies. Networking can lead to jobs. People who know about a job opening may be found in the least likely places—in a cafeteria or coffee house, in church, at the beach or the gym. “Be visible,” says one job-hunting graduate student, “and don’t be shy about what you do in your research. You’d be surprised at the people who know you might be seeking a position.”

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Tips for Job Seekers

Here are some job-hunting tips from UCLA’s Career Center:

- Become familiar with the resources offered by your department and the Career Center.
- Initiate a self-assessment process that identifies your most important values, goals, interests, and skills as a potential employee.
- Develop professional opportunities during graduate school: apply for fellowships and grants, make presentations, and publish, publish, publish.
- Learn how to present yourself in the best light, both on paper and in person.
- This means getting feedback and proofreading help on CVs and finding make-believe interviewers to help you practice.
- Start as soon as possible so the stress of job-hunting isn’t added to the stress of dissertation writing.
who might know someone you should talk to.”

Nowadays, a lot of networking takes place online. Most professional organizations have websites that include a job-listing component, and UCLA Professor Philip Agre has put together a Networking on the Net web page that one student calls “a gold mine of resources for PhD students.” It’s available at http://dis.gseis.ucla.edu/people/pagre/network.html.

But the first and maybe the most fruitful place to network is right on campus among the faculty at UCLA. Professors who are graduates of schools where you want to apply may be able to provide useful “insider” information as well as reference letters that come from someone the recipient knows. Faculty in your own specialty area can provide a lot of help in your job hunt. Theresa Delgado called on faculty for advice and feedback on her job-hunting materials and strategies, as well as much-needed encouragement. Her advisors “were absolutely the most excellent mentors during the entire job process,” she says.

Although departments may not have formal job hunting services for graduate students, they provide opportunities that are useful in the search. Like several other departments, Comparative Literature has offered a seminar on preparing for the job market. Chair Emily Apter “covered all the necessary documents that constitute the dossier every job candidate is supposed to have ready,” says graduate student Vivian Nun Halloran. “It was incredibly helpful to hear comments from someone who looks through several of these dossiers every year.”

Vivian “sought and received good advice and encouragement from almost all of my professors,” but she acknowledges “that I had to take the initiative in asking people how to get started on this process.” Some faculty may be less helpful in job hunts that don’t involve prestigious research universities. However, the Career Center can fill that gap with an expanded array of help for graduate students. Recently moved to 501 Westwood Plaza, the center offers an Academic Job Search seminar series that helps students develop CVs and interview skills and an Expanded Options series that includes testing to help students identify skills that might be marketed in an alternative setting.

Even with all this support, it’s hard to overestimate the difficulty of finding a good first position. “Conducting a job search while writing a dissertation is a huge endeavor,” says Nadia Caidi, “and there’s plenty of emotional stress that goes with it. There are moments of extreme joy and ego-boosting when a good university calls and wants to fly you in for an interview. There are also those depressing times when nothing seems to work out and you begin to doubt your own worth.”

Caught at one of those low moments, one graduate student responded to an inquiry about job hunting with the briefest note: “To be honest, I don’t think I’m the best person to ask. The job market is so crappy that I’m at the point where I’m just trying to get my dissertation done so that I can get my job at the Gap and start paying off my massive student loans one $25 payment at a time.”

There are three remedies for this malaise: confidence, flexibility, and perseverance.

Sheila Patel, graduate advisor in the History Department, points out the
INSTITUTIONS Where UCLA Doctorates Were Appointed POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS, 1994-1996

- American Museum of Natural History
- Barrow Neurological Institute
- Battle Pacific NW Labs
- Beckman Institute at CalTech
- Berkeley Div. of Water Resources
- Boise State Univ
- Bristol Myers Squibb
- Brookhaven National Lab
- Brotman Memorial Hospital
- Brown Univ
- Burnham Institute
- Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Caltech
- College of New Jersey
- College of New Rochelle
- College of Physicians of Philadelphia
- College of Physicians of the City of New York
- College of St. Martin's
- College of William and Mary
- Columbia Univ
- Columbia Univ/NYSP
- Cornell Medical School
- Cornell Univ
- Carnegie Mellon Univ
- Dept of Biostatics, UCLA School of Public Health
- Drew Medical Center
- Duke Univ
- Ens Lyon, UMPA, France
- Fordham Univ
- Fraascati (Italian Research Institute)
- Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
- Fermilab
- Fox Chase Cancer Center
- Genentech
- Georgia Tech
- Harvard Medical School
- Harvard Univ
- Haskins Laboratories
- Health Technology Associates Inc
- Hipas Observeratory
- Howard Hughes Medical Institute
- Harborview and Children's Hospital
- IBM Almaden Labs
- Illinois Natural History Survey
- Indiana Institute for Plasma Research
- Indiana Univ
- Institute of Allergy and Immunology
- Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
- Johns Hopkins Univ
- King/Drew Medical Center
- LA Child Guidance Clinic
- Library of Congress
- Mellon Research Foundation
- Livermore National Laboratory
- Lockheed Martin WDL
- Los Alamos National Laboratory
- Los Angeles Psychiatric Institute
- Loyola Law School
- Max Planck Institute
- McGill Univ
- Medical College of Virginia
- Medical College of Wisconsin
- Menlo Park Las Lomitas School District
- Michigan State Univ
- MIT
- General Hospital Research Institute
- Mt. Sinai Medical Center
- National Center for Atmospheric Research
- National Institute of Standards & Technology
- National Tsing Hua Univ
- NATO/NSF Fellowship to Cambridge University, UK
- Naval Research Laboratory
- New York Univ, NYIH
- Northern Arizona Univ
- Northwestern Univ
- National Tsing Hua Univ
- National Zoo/Smithsonian
- North Carolina State Univ
- Office of Naval Research
- Ohio State Univ
- Oregon Health Sciences Univ
- Pennsylvania State Univ
- Princeton Univ
- Purdue Univ
- Pepperdine Univ
- Phillips Multimedia Center
- RW Johnson Pharmaceutical Research Inst
- RAND
- Rice Univ
- RISC-Linz, Austria
- Rockefeller Univ
- Rush Presbyterian Medical Center
- Rutgers Univ
- Salk Institute
- San Francisco State Univ
- Sandia Labs
- Scripps Institute
- Scuola Normale Superiore
- Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
- Southwestern Medical School
- Stanford Univ
- Stanford Univ School of Medicine
- Sugan, Inc
- SUNY Stony Brook
- Technische Universitat
- Trinity College
- Tularik, Inc
- UC Berkeley
- UC Davis
- UC Irvine
- UC Los Angeles
- UC San Diego
- UC San Francisco
- UC Santa Barbara
- UCLA Medical School
- Univ of Medicine & Dentistry, NJ
- Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences
- Univ of Hawaii
- Univ of Illinois
- Univ of Iowa
- Univ of Kentucky
- Univ of Kentucky, Medical School
- Univ of Kentucky, Paris
- Univ of Maryland
- Univ of Michigan
- Univ of Milano
- Univ of Minnesota
- Univ of Missouri
- Univ of North Carolina
- Chapel Hill
- Univ of Ohio
- Univ of Oregon
- Univ of Paris
- Univ of Pennsylvania
- Univ of Pittsburgh
- Univ of Rochester
- Univ of South Florida
- Univ of Southern California
- School of Medicine
- Univ of Texas
- Univ of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center
- Univ of Toronto
- Univ of Utah
- Univ of Verona
- Univ of Virginia
- Univ of Washington
- Univ of Waterloo
- Univ of Wisconsin
- Univ of Washington, School of Medicine
- Univ of Karlsruhe
- Veterans Administration
- Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- Washington Univ
- Yale Univ
- Yale Univ School of Medicine

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

- Applied to 27 music history teaching jobs.
- Hoping that his dissertation will interest the University of Western Ontario, which is starting a new program in Popular Music Studies. But he has alternatives in mind, if that doesn’t work.

Durrell Bowman

Musicology

Y ears ago, when he was “floundering in dissertation land” at the University of Toronto, Durrell Bowman recalls commiserating with a friend. “She thought I was joking when I said I was going to do a dissertation on Rush,” the Canadian progressive hard rock band, he says, but that’s exactly what Durrell is nearly finished doing. Not without a few twists and turns in the road, however.

When that conversation took place, Durrell says, the usual route to a PhD in musicology was “picking an obscure Renaissance composer and doing a life and works.” Durrell, on the other hand, was proposing a dissertation at the University of Toronto about the music in film adaptations of Shakespearean plays. His adviser was congenial, but his specialty was North Indian music.

Durrell lingered in Toronto for a couple of years as a research assistant for an anthropologist at Trinity College, helping him set up a computerized database using his old recordings of mortuary ceremonies among Australian aborigines. Durrell “invented a notation system for the music so the melodic contours could be analyzed and compared.” Although the project gave him useful computer skills, it was some distance from current music in film adaptations of Shakespearean plays.

Soon, Durrell began looking for a place to study musicology that might be more receptive to his interests. At UCLA, Susan McClary, then chair of the Department of Musicology, was well known for her studies of gender and music. Although she teaches graduate seminars in areas such as early Baroque music and 19th-century romanticism, she also teaches on 20th-century music and writes on contemporary artists, including Madonna and Prince. Moreover, Durrell had admired a book, Running With the Devil: Power, Gender, and Madness in Heavy Metal Music which brought the perspectives of musicology to popular music. McClary told Durrell that its author, Robert Walser (her husband), was also a new faculty member at UCLA. Walser is now department chair and Durrell’s adviser.

Durrell’s dissertation will interest the University of Western Ontario, which is starting a new program in Popular Music Studies. But he has alternatives in mind, if that doesn’t work.
It might seem that UCLA, with its renowned Film School, would be a great place for a fellow who wants to study music in Shakespearean films, and indeed, Durrell wrote two related papers during his first year, one on Mendelssohn’s music for A Midsummer Night’s Dream and the other on an adaptation of that music for a 1935 film. But at the same time, he was thinking about that old idea his friend had taken for a joke.

Like many of his friends, Durrell had been a Rush fan during high school, but he’d lost interest in the mid-1980s, about the time the band reached its peak of popularity. Even though the band has been very popular in the United States (selling about 30 million albums from 1974 to the present), the band’s three members have remained Canadian citizens, and they’re almost never mentioned in mainstream rock journalism or on VH1, Durrell says. “It seems wrong that they don’t come up more often, even in histories of rock,” he says. “It’s too easy to leave Canada out.”

And so Durrell launched his study of the band, which consists of drummer Neil Peart, bassist/vocalist Geddy Lee, and guitarist Alex Lifeson. Peart, who is also the group’s lyricist, often works the theme of individualism. One piece was based on the philosophy of Ayn Rand, and another, called “The Trees,” involved two groups of trees bickering about equal rights. “My own work focuses on doing pretty detailed readings of how the music connects to the larger meanings,” Durrell explains. “I talk about how the music contributes to Peart’s statements, how it amplifies what’s in the lyrics, or in some case, deflects what’s in the lyrics.”

An article based on chapter four of Durrell’s dissertation is appearing in a book later this year, and he has presented several conference papers based on his work. Durrell is also hoping that his dissertation will interest the University of Western Ontario, which is starting a new program in Popular Music Studies. But he has alternatives in mind, if that doesn’t work. For one thing, he applied to 27 music history teaching jobs. And for another, he’s continued to explore the interface between computers and musicology.

As a graduate technology consultant for the humanities computing facility (and later), Durrell helped professors build web components for their courses. In some cases, these merge existing course reader material with audio clips in a web format. Durrell also used the web for his own courses—a general survey of film music and a look at music in film noir and Hitchcock, adding a homework component. For example, he provided a descriptive list of themes and asked his students to identify them in a series of video clips. The film noir and Hitchcock seminar was part of this year’s Collegium of University Teaching Fellows, and Durrell also received one of this year’s Dissertation Year Fellowships.

As Durrell looks to his future, he sees that these skills might be used “as a consultant to help put together web-based courses for professors in existing institutions” or as an entrepreneur creating his own “music history web place.” Should he go in the first direction, he’s already got a web site: www.music-page.com; but he’s also got a web site for the second direction: www.music-page.com/ mha. The demonstration selections reflect Durrell’s range of interests and his activities as a singer: a chanson by Renaissance composer Janequin, works by Baroque composers Monteverdi and Bach, a weird choral adaptation of Mel Torme’s “The Christmas Song,” and a cover version of a rock song.

Theresa Delgadillo
English

Theresa Delgadillo always loved to read and write, she says, but “I didn’t know much about the life and work of a university professor until I returned to college, after several years in the working world.” Then a turning point came during a summer research program for undergraduates at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Working with a professor of history to develop research about African American historic sites in Milwaukee, Theresa was “surprised at how much I took to it,” she says. “I really enjoyed digging into County Historical Society archives, reading books, visiting locations and writing up what I found.”

At the suggestion of a professor, Theresa had applied to the summer program, designed to encourage underrepresented students to pursue graduate study, even though she had not previously considered graduate school. In fact, she had left college once: “At the time, I was pursuing, I thought, a very ‘practical’ course of study, yet I felt increasingly unconnected from it.” When she returned to school several years later, the opportunity to study literature motivated her. But she understood that as a personal goal, not a career direction.

During the summer research program, she learned first-hand “what a life in academia would be like,” she says. Graduate studies, it turned out, were “not only possible but ideal” for her.

After earning a Master of Fine Arts at Arizona State University, Theresa arrived at UCLA in 1995, attracted by the opportunity to work with its outstanding faculty in American literature, especially multiethnic American literature. She brought with her an interest in Chicano/a...
Theresa discovered her dissertation topic during her first quarter, in a seminar with Sonia Saldívar-Hull, now co-chair of her dissertation research. With support from Saldívar-Hull and Valerie Smith, also a co-chair of her dissertation work, she developed a project on representations of Chicano/a spirituality in contemporary literature. Rafael Pérez-Torres and Eric Avila, who also supervise her dissertation, provided valuable feedback along the way. At the heart of her dissertation is how Chicana writers “re-vision the place of religion and spirituality.” These writers examine “women’s particular relationship to religion, providing a nuanced critique of it and an appreciation of it as an avenue traditionally open to women for all kinds of expression: political, cultural, emotional.”

“Like many Chicano/a writers in the 1970s and 1980s, women writers were questioning the value of religion, but they were coming up with different answers,” Theresa says. “Rather than dismiss religion,” she finds, “Chicana writers engage it, emphasizing both negotiation and female characters who are active in shaping their faith.”

Theresa’s dissertation topic was well-suited to the needs of the University of Arizona, where she will take up a tenure track position in Women’s Studies and continue her research and teaching in literary and cultural studies, ethnic studies, religious studies, and women’s studies.

Theresa received a Project 88 fellowship for study at UCLA, which provided full funding for two years and a guaranteed teaching assistantship for two more. “That made a big difference in my ability to get through the graduate program,” Theresa says. “It also, I have to say, was a real vote of confidence in my chosen area of study.” Over the course of her education, she received several additional awards and is currently completing her year as a Ford Foundation Fellow through the Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship Program for Minorities. “I have been fortunate,” she says. The funding “not only gave me the support and confidence to continue, it also allowed me to pursue research and publication that improved my standing in the job market.” Also of great assistance in the job search was the dedication of English Department faculty in mentoring job candidates through the process—from feedback on job materials to mock interviews to guidance through negotiations.

When Theresa arrived at UCLA, Proposition 209 was being considered, and she remembers meeting many of her fellow students in English and other departments for the first time “by participating in the marches and demonstrations against 209 and, after the measure passed [ending the Project 88 program, among others], creating awareness on campus of the need to recruit and retain minorities in higher education.” She also became involved in the Raza Graduate Student Association, which sponsors programs and provides support for Latino and Latina graduate students, and the Student Association of Graduate Employees.

“I think words and ideas matter—they make a difference in people’s lives,” Theresa says, pointing out that the role of ideas is a characteristic of literature and culture studies that she finds appealing. As she heads to the desert to begin “a life of reading, writing and thinking—always thinking,” she says, “this career really fulfills that side of me.” Although her activism was limited by the combined demands of the dissertation and the job market, she remains confident that her commitment to affirmative action and social justice will not diminish in the future.

Cindy Mediavilla
Information Studies

Cindy Mediavilla was barely into her second quarter as a doctoral student at UCLA when Mary Niles Mack, a professor of Information Studies, invited her in for a talk. Impressed by a brief paper Cindy had done on the history of public librarianship, Mack suggested that her dissertation project might be a biography of Carma Leigh, state librarian from 1951 to 1972.

As it happened, Cindy already knew Leigh, not as a possible subject of doctoral study, but as the unassuming 90-year-old friend of Cindy’s boss, Catherine Lucas, who often brought Leigh along to social events in San Diego, where Cindy had been a library administrator. “Actually, I had sat with Carma at baseball games,” says Cindy. “I was intrigued by this notion that she had been rather hot stuff during her career.”

After a cursory bit of research, Cindy was sold on the project. Leigh was “extremely influential in setting up today’s library services,” she found. In particular, the concept of public library systems, in which jurisdictions collaborate and cooperate to provide materials outside their region, “was her vision,” Cindy says. “That was the main goal in her career. It took her 12 years to do it, but she finally got it in place” in California by the late 1960s. Today, it is the model around the country, as well.

During the oral history interviews that are the heart of Cindy’s dissertation, Leigh told her that her vision was born during her Oklahoma childhood. “She credits her father’s sense of social justice for inspiring her own belief in cooperation and fairness to all,” Cindy says. She also found that Leigh neatly fit a women’s leadership model developed by UCLA professor Lena Astin and colleague Carole Leland. Like
the women educators they described, Leigh was a natural collaborator with a passionate vision and a consistent management style. Former colleagues have told Cindy that Leigh “was brilliant at working with people. They tell me how gracious she was, and warm. Apparently, these were unusual qualities in someone in a position of power during the 1950s and 1960s.”

“Seduced by library history,” Cindy was diverted from her original dissertation plans: to create an instrument for evaluating the effectiveness of homework centers at public libraries. A library administrator for nearly two decades she got her master’s degree in library science at UCLA in 1977, right after completing her bachelor’s degree in English at UC Santa Barbara, Cindy returned to graduate school in 1995. Completing this project was a large part of what persuaded her to abandon a “pretty good career, a pretty lucrative career” to return to school. But if the project would no longer serve as her dissertation, the subject was not forgotten.

Even though she was no longer a working librarian, Cindy the graduate student found herself moonlighting as “a conduit of information for librarians around the country who needed help with homework programs.” In 1998, she decided “someone had to write a book.” With a $10,000 grant from the American Library Association, Cindy visited 25 libraries around the country and looked at their homework centers.

“I was hoping that there would be three or four models,” she says. “Instead, I found that no two programs were exactly alike.” Their uniqueness is appropriate, she says, because “to be effective, public libraries have to reflect the uniqueness of their communities.” Her book on the research will be published by the American Library Association this fall.

By then, Cindy hopes to be launched on a new career. Again, experience has altered her original intentions to be a consultant for homework centers. While she certainly has useful knowledge, she’s found that libraries rarely have the budget to pay consultants. On the other hand, many libraries have become interested in promoting leadership among staff members, a subject Cindy also knows plenty about, thanks to her dissertation research and to her own career experience. She will be president of the California Library Association in the coming year.

“Suddenly, I’m doing leadership workshops all over the place,” she says. Emerging technologies are forcing librarians to rethink their profession. Her seminars are designed to help librarians “start thinking about these issues and to start thinking about themselves as leaders.”

In addition, one of her dissertation committee members, Dr. Virginia Walter, “has been marvelous in opening doors for me” as a consultant, Cindy says. Cindy has had to turn down some projects “or else I would never finish my dissertation. On the one hand, I am desperate to finish my studies so I can get on with my new career; on the other, I’m having to turn down wonderful career opportunities to finish my studies.” This conflict has been one of the most challenging aspects of her student experience, she says. “My biggest fear is that I will not be asked to work on these projects again once I finally get the degree.”

– student profiles written by
Jacqueline Tasch
– photos by Patricia Jordan

http://survey.nagps.org/
National Doctoral Program Survey

The National Association of Graduate-Professional Students is conducting The National Doctoral Program Survey, an assessment of educational and professional development practices in the nation’s doctoral programs. The survey is funded by a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and is supported by a growing list of professional societies.

The survey will compile the experiences of doctoral students, present and within the last five years, on a department-specific basis to assess which programs are doing a great job of educating and preparing PhDs and where improvements may be needed.

Results and ranking will be posted on the Internet in Fall 2000. This is an important opportunity to give feedback to the academic community on ways to improve the education and training of PhDs.

The survey is anonymous, free, and takes just 15 minutes to complete online.

A high response rate is essential, so every current and recent doctoral student should fill it out. Forward this message to all your friends and colleagues. By completing this quick survey, you can stimulate change in graduate education for years to come. The web page for the survey is located at http://survey.nagps.org/.
Chancellor Awards Distinguished Scholars

Recipients of the second annual Chancellor’s Award for Postdoctoral Research recognized for their contributions

The second annual reception and awards ceremony to recognize the significant contribution of UCLA’s nearly 1,000 postdoctoral scholars was held at Tom Bradley International Hall Ballroom on March 2, 2000. Chancellor Albert Carnesale and Vice Chancellor and Dean Claudia Mitchell-Kerman hosted the second annual event, which Mitchell-Kerman called a campuswide expression of appreciation to those responsible for UCLA’s standing as a premier research university.

Five postdoctoral fellows were selected from more than 30 entries to receive the Chancellor’s Award for Postdoctoral Research, an award that is accompanied by a $3,000 cash prize. A selection committee, composed of faculty and academic administrators evaluated such factors as creativity, productivity, and impact on the field of research. Following are this year’s award recipients.

Frederick Allain
Chemistry and Biochemistry

Frederick Allain has accomplished three major collaborative projects since 1997 when he joined the laboratory of Juli Feigon, PhD, department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. As a structural biologist, he seeks to understand the shapes of the molecules of RNA, DNA, and proteins, because “once you understand the structures of these highly complex molecules, you have taken a big step toward understanding their functions,” Dr. Allain explains. He hopes his future work will contribute to understanding the molecular basis of consciousness.

His first project involved the structural determination of the extremely challenging hairpin ribosyme, an RNA enzyme used for gene therapy. The second one involved solving the structure of the yeast protein NHP6A, a protein known to bend DNA severely. In his third and current project, Dr. Allain has solved the structure of the two N-terminal RNA-binding domains of Nucleolin, an abundant Nucleolar protein important in ribosome biogenesis, in its free state and in complex with RNA. All three projects were achieved using NMR multidimensional NMR spectroscopy.

These noteworthy achievements would suggest a young scientist who must have always been very sure of his career direction. Not so, he says. “As a young student, I spent a great deal of time pondering human behavior. I was always a good student, which prepared me for future work in science, but my interest in behavior suggested that I would be more interested in psychology than chemistry, biology, or medicine,” he explains. The curious fact was that even with the intense interest in behavior and motivation, Dr. Allain knew he did not want to be a psychologist.

Born and raised in Paris, France — the fourth child of a Vietnamese mother and French father — he was not tempted to pursue medicine, even though his father is an academic MD now conducting hematology research at Cambridge University in England. “Even at an early age, I wanted to understand what created the difference between good and bad human relationships, what actions might be racially motivated, what behavior is learned, and what can be answered in chemical or physical terms.”

His disparate interests began to make sense late in high school when Dr. Allain’s interest in biology and chemistry began to suggest connections that could satisfy his curiosity. A little later, as an undergraduate college student in chemistry, he knew he wanted to begin fill in the gap between what was known in chemistry and what was understood in biology, and believed that research in structural biology was the way to achieve that.

His passion for structural biology resulted in earning his PhD at the University of Cambridge, England at the same laboratory where in 1962 American geneticist James Watson and English physicist Francis Crick earned a joint Nobel Prize for Medicine for their discoveries of the molecular structure of nuclear acids and its significance for information transfer of living material. “This discovery of the double helix structure was the birth of structural biology,” he explains.

He now wants to contribute to the molecular basis of consciousness, to understand psychology at the molecular level, “to bridge the gap between biology and psychology, to demonstrate that there may be human behaviors and processes we can understand by physical measurement. In order to learn whether faith and memory are chemically-regulated processes, I must first demonstrate what we can understand by unlocking the secrets within molecules we’ve not yet defined.”

Dr. Allain will soon launch his career as a professor in academic research and is in the process of interviewing for such a position. “I want my own lab. I see myself much as an artist who expresses creatively through my work in the lab. The controlled nature of peer-reviewed creativity appeals to me very much,” he says. He characterizes his move to Los Angeles as “an enormous lifestyle change. Everybody drives everywhere in this part of the country!” Dr. Allain had never owned a car before moving to Los Angeles in 1997. For all the years he lived in Paris, he walked or took the metro. During his graduate school days at Cambridge in England, he rode a bicycle. “It has been a big adjustment to learn to drive everywhere.” But, not all of his LA adjustments have been difficult. “I love the climate! I swim five times a week all year in the outdoor pool in the men’s gym. Nowhere else could I swim year round outside,” he says. “I will really miss that when I leave.”

Michael Bartberger
Chemistry and Biochemistry

Michael Bartberger has been a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Professor Kendall N. Houk in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry since 1998. His discoveries as a computational chemist have had an important impact in one of the fastest moving fields of science, the role of nitric oxide (NO) and related oxides of nitrogen in biology.

NO has been discovered to be a product of enzyme synthesis and is a chemical messenger in the human body, with physiological functions ranging from a regulation of blood flow to neurotransmission and mediation of inflammation and host defense. “Nitric oxide is a very important biological species,” Dr. Bartberger explains. “However, it is also very reactive and typically does not exist by itself in appreciable amounts as free NO in cells. Rather, it forms derivatives by reaction with other molecules present in biological systems, or is transported, and eventually re-
leased, by existing physiological species, such as the amino acids that make up the proteins in our bodies. These mechanisms of NO uptake, transport and release are extremely complex and under active debate. A number of mechanistic proposals have been offered in the literature, many of them contradictory. It is here that modern theory can be used to provide additional mechanistic evidence, suggesting new reaction pathways, and testing or ruling out the potential pathways proposed by experimentalists.

Simply put, he uses theoretical computational chemistry methods to predict chemistry that is often difficult or impossible to observe or measure by experiment. "One can know the structure, the energy, and therefore the reactivity of atoms and molecules by solving with powerful computers the complex equations that govern them."

"Molecular structure and energetics follow the laws of quantum mechanics. Through the application of computational methods, we can model these types of reactions, often to within experimental accuracy," Dr. Bartberger says. The Houk lab does this work in close collaboration with a number of medical, physiological, and experimental organic groups at UCLA and elsewhere.

"I was what you might call a science geek as a kid," Dr. Bartberger says, but he was not sure what area of science he wanted to pursue. "When I was a sophomore in college, while studying organic chemistry, the field really grabbed me. Partly thanks to enthusiasm of the instructor, and partly because organic chemistry is quite beautiful, I really 'fell for' the discipline and wanted to make a career of it."

Ironically, this undergraduate instructor's doctoral advisor ended up being Dr. Bartberger's PhD mentor as well, once he moved on to the University of Florida (UF) for graduate school. His PhD was in organic chemistry, producing a dissertation on kinetic and theoretical studies of free radical reactions.

While he was no stranger to bench chemistry during those days, he eventually picked up a knack for doing computational and theoretical work and decided he wanted to do a pure theoretical postdoc. He knew of Dr. Houk's group's leading-edge research in theoretical chemical literature and through previous collaboration with his UF lab. Dr. Bartberger submitted a fellowship proposal to the National Institutes of Health, obtained postdoctoral funding, and joined Professor Houk's group.

"My work has really taken off since I've been a postdoc with this group," he says. "Professor Houk has a particular ability to home in on the very important problems and hot topics in chemistry and chemical biology, and to provide an environment for significant research in these timely areas. Ken's [Professor Houk's] strength lies in the application of theoretical methods to problems at the cutting edge of science."

He admits that the work as a postdoc is very rigorous and disciplined. But he takes delight in knowing that the results contribute to the greater understanding of NO, which ultimately will aid in the design of better NO therapeutics. "I believe in keeping the end game in mind. To perform the calculations and crunch numbers is great fun, but it is necessary to keep in mind the ultimate goal of these projects," Dr. Bartberger says.

He wants to continue his work in academia, to teach and do research in his own lab. "The academic environment allows for a high level of intellectual and creative freedom, so that is definitely the direction I want to take."

Anthony Heaney
Endocrinology

Anthony P. Heaney is an Endocrinology Research Fellow at UCLA-affiliated Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. He completed his undergraduate and medical education in Belfast, Northern Ireland before training as an endocrinologist in the UK. His interest in pituitary tumors took him first to the renowned Manchester Endocrine Sciences Group under the direction of Professor Julian R. E. Davies in England.

Then, in 1997 as a Fulbright scholar he came to the United States to Cedars to work with Shlomo Melmed, MD, a world leader in pituitary research. Dr. Melmed's laboratory had just discovered a novel transforming gene, Pituitary Tumor Transforming Gene (PTTG), which causes tumors in animal models, regulates factors which promote tumor blood vessel supply and growth, and stabilizes chromosones during cell division. "PTTG may play an important role in cancer, as normal healthy tissue expresses little or no PTTG," Dr. Heaney says. "But it is highly expressed in human cancers, and may be involved in the early events that transform a normal cell into a cancer cell."

In a paper published in the British medical journal Lancet, he described that PTTG is abundantly expressed in pre-cancerous colorectal polyps, and in invasive colorectal cancer and may prove to be a powerful tool for identifying the colon polyps most at risk for becoming malignant, and for distinguishing aggressive colorectal cancer. In further studies, published in the journal Nature Medicine, he observed that PTTG is regulated by the powerful female hormone estrogen, and his team is now further exploring the role of sex steroids in PTTG-driven transformation in cancers, which show a striking female preponderance.

"PTTG's early role in cellular transformation, makes it an attractive novel target for preventing these early cancer-causing events. Our long-term objective is to develop specific subcellular therapies to disrupt PTTG-mediated cancer causation for application in humans," Dr. Heaney adds.

He has just been proposed as a UCLA faculty member and is currently developing a treatment unit at Cedars, specializing in neuroendocrine cancers. "My long-term goal," he says, is to "make a difference" in cancer therapeutics and to translate some of these basic science observations into new treatments aimed at the eradication of cancer in humans.

William Moore
Earth and Space Sciences

William Moore is a geophysicist who is most interested in the connection between the evolution of planets and the evolution of life. He has been a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Earth and Space Sciences and the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics since 1997. Sponsored by Professor Gerald Schubert, he has conducted research on the thermal and mechanical processes that control the interiors and shape the surfaces of the Earth and other planets—a field referred to as geodynamics. His second research area is planetary dynamics, specifically the orbits of Jupiter's moons. Together with colleagues at JPL and UCLA, Dr. Moore has used the measurements of these moons' gravity fields reported by the Galileo spacecraft to infer their internal structures.

"Even as a young kid, I loved science, and I was particularly interested in rocks," he explained. "My family regularly took six-hour driving trips from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh to see my grandparents. The road-cuts through mountains that I saw on those driving trips were just fascinating to me because I loved to see the layering, color, odd changes and I wondered how and why these strata were formed."

Somewhere around his senior year in college while working for his bachelor's degree in astronomy and astrophysics, he realized that he "wanted to work on something more concrete, something I could see and hold onto like the rocks those in those wonderful road-cuts I'd seen so often as a child. I decided upon graduate school at UCLA in the Earth and Space Sciences Department and eventually got
Postdoctoral Scholars, Continued

to work with Professor Gerald Schubert, which has been just a great experience. Not only did professor Schubert "write the book" on geodynamics but he has taught me about science as a profession, as well," explains Dr. Moore.

His dissertation in geophysics titled, "Lithospheric Thinning by Mantle Plumes: Observational Constraints and Numerical Models," fell more into the subject area that he now considers his second research interest. "I've always liked the big questions related to astronomy and the origin of the earth, but ultimately, once again, I am much more interested in working on something I can look at, touch or take a picture of," he says. "I'm just not content working with the theoretical aspects of science. I want to apply physics to real things, which is why geodynamics has been so rewarding for me."

In future work, Dr. Moore will look into what predictions he can make about how planets enable and sustain life. Since we are not yet able to go and visit most of the planets to take direct measurements, the information he will use to make these predictions will be obtained indirectly. "I hope my contribution to the new field of astrobiology will be to determine whether life is even possible on another planet based on such information as how big a planet is, how dense it is, and if liquid water and/or volcanic activity is present. From that I can help justify whether it is useful to send a space mission out for a closer look."

Zoltan Nusser
Neurology

Zoltan Nusser has been a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Istvan Mody in the Department of Neurology since 1998. Dr. Nusser's research has pioneered a novel approach, the quantitative electron microscopic immunogold localization of neurotransmitter receptors in the brain. His studies, including combined electrophysiological and anatomical approaches, have critically advanced our understanding of the functioning of central synapses. His future research will significantly contribute to an understanding of the structure and function of synapses in health and disease and the way in which information is processed in the brain.

At UCLA, he applied cellular electrophysiology to study how chemical synapses work in the central nervous system in health and disease. "To some extent, I've also contributed to some basic research on epilepsy here at UCLA. We've just begun to understand the altered functioning of synapses in epileptic hippocampus," Dr. Nusser says.

Later this spring he will return to his native country to begin his recently acquired faculty appointment at the Institute of Experimental Medicine, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary. But, his path to this plum appointment as a neurobiologist has not been a direct one. In 1992 he graduated first in his class from the University of Budapest Veterinary School. "I quickly learned that working as a veterinarian involved a far more subjective style of reasoning than I was comfortable with," he explains. "Basic science, on the other hand, is guided by much more objective rules."

His pursuit of basic science took him to Oxford University's Hertford College where he earned a PhD in Physiological Sciences in 1995. Dr. Nusser's doctoral dissertation involved localization of amino acid neurotransmitter receptors in the hippocampus and cerebellum, which is the foundation of his present work. Since earning his PhD in 1995, he has completed three postdoctoral fellowships: the first in Oxford, England at the MRC Anatomical Neuropharmacology Unit, the second in the Department of Pharmacology at University College London; and his present fellowship in Dr. Mody's lab, to which he brought $136 thousand in funding as a Wellcome Prize Traveling Research Award.

Dr. Nusser's true interest is to understand how the world around us is coded and represented in the brain. He will use experimental neurobiological approaches on small laboratory animals to pursue his scientific questions, in particular, he tries to understand olfactory information processing in rats and mice. These animals provide an excellent model to study how odors are coded by neuronal networks as “most of their sensory input comes through their sense of smell. Rats and mice have a very undeveloped visual, unlike us. They mainly rely on their well-developed sense of smell to survive in their environment," he explains.

As a child and during his early teen years, Dr. Nusser said his passions were competitive swimming and soccer, not science or math. "Then around age 15, I became very interested in studying science and to feel serious about college and a career. I loved math, physics, and biology."

His wife and two young children have enjoyed the easy access to nature that Los Angeles has offered. During his two years here, he and his family have enjoyed national parks and hikes on local trails. Once back in Hungary, he looks forward to the proximity to nature in Hungary and in the neighboring countries (e.g. Switzerland and Austria) and says he is committed to taking regular family vacations, no matter what career demands he encounters.

$\text{postdoctoral award profiles written by Patricia Jordan}$

To find information on the many opportunities for foreign research, visit the Special Fellowships office (1252 Murphy Hall) and the Expo Center (109 Kerckhoff Hall).

Multi-Discipline and Non Country-Specific Fellowships

Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Research Abroad Program (DOE): Doctoral dissertation research support for up to twelve months. Open to proposals in the social sciences, arts and humanities. Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, planning a teaching career at a U.S. college, advanced to doctoral candidacy at time of tenure, and have language skills necessary to carry out language research.

Contact: Sally Evans, Special Fellowships, 1252 Murphy Hall, 310-825-3953

Fulbright Graduate Study Abroad (IEE): Study or research in any field. Tuition, round-trip transportation, and living expenses for a one academic year study in country and university of applicant's choice. Must be U.S. citizens, hold a bachelor's degree, or the creative/performing arts, 4 years of professional study and/or experience.

Contact: Telisa D. Boston, Special Fellowships, 1252 Murphy Hall, 310-206-8743

Fulbright Scholars Program (United States Information Agency): Monthly stipends between $1,700-$3,500, maintenance allowance, and travel expenses for research or lecturing abroad. Must be U.S. citizens, hold a PhD or equivalent professional/terminal degree at time of application, and have proficiency in language of host country.

Contact: Ann Kerr, ISOP, 10270 Bunche Hall, 310-825-2009

Henry Luce Scholars Program: Provides professional apprenticeships to the Far East under the guidance of leading Asians. It is experiential rather than academic in nature. Students in all fields except Asian affairs are eligible, must be U.S. citizens, hold more than 29 years of age at time of tenure.

Contact: Sally Evans, Special Fellowships, 1252 Murphy Hall, 310-825-3953

National Science Foundation (NSF) Grants for Improving Doctoral Dissertation Research: Provides up to 24 months of support for dissertation field research in any country. Open to proposals in the behavioral sciences, social sciences, and selected areas in the biological sciences. No citizenship requirements.

Contact: Telisa D. Boston, Special Fellowships, 1252 Murphy Hall, 310-206-8743

$\text{Funding Your}$

$\text{Postdoctoral awardees}$
Graduate Quarterly, Spring 2000

Research Abroad

Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships: Provides nine months of funding for study abroad in countries where Rotary Clubs exist. Open to all fields of study. Foreign nationals can apply through Rotary Clubs in their home countries. Must be over 18 and know the language of the host country.

Contact: Dario Bravo, the Expo Center, 109 Kerckhoff hall, 310-825-0831

Social Science Research Council (SSRC) International Dissertation Field Research Fellowships: For doctoral dissertation research in the social sciences and humanities and are tenable in all areas of the world. Must be advanced to doctoral candidacy at time of tenure. No citizenship restrictions.

Contact: Telisa D. Boston, Special Fellowships, 1252 Murphy Hall, 310-206-8743

Social Science Research Council (SSRC) International Predissertation Fellowships: 12 months of funding for language study or preliminary research for PhD students in the social sciences. Preference is given to students in economics, political science, psychology, and sociology. No citizenship restrictions.

Contact: Telisa D. Boston, Special Fellowships, 1252 Murphy Hall, 310-206-8743

UCLA International Studies & Overseas Program (ISOP)

ISOP Fieldwork Fellowships: Long-term (6-12 months) and short-term (up to 3 months) awards of up to $10,000 are available for PhD students who have completed all graduate coursework and who are researching topics related to one or more areas of ISOP focus: Africa, Latin America, the Near East, Europe and Russia, Asia and the Pacific Rim, and International Relations students in the social sciences, humanities, and professional schools.

Contact: German Esperza, 11222 Bunche Hall, 310-825-9399

Interdisciplinary Program for Students of Developing Areas Small Grants: Small grants available for language training, travel to area studies conferences, and travel for the purpose of exploratory fieldwork.

Contact: German Esperza, 11222 Bunche Hall: 310-825-9399

Sources

For more information on these and other fellowships (including those restricted to women and minority applicants), please see the following sources (all available at 1252 Murphy Hall):

- Graduate and Postdoctoral Extramural Support (GRAPES): www.gdnet.ucla.edu/grpinst.htm
- Community of Science (CO S), Sponsored Programs Information Network (SPIN), and Illinois Researcher Information (IRIS): www.research.ucla.edu/sr2/fundopp.htm

Fellowships Restricted by Country or Discipline

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<th>Fields of Study</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Fellowship</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Tuition, stipend, &amp; travel expenses</td>
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<td>All fields</td>
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<td>Lady Davis Fellowship</td>
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<tr>
<td>All fields</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Monbusho Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asian Studies: Humanities and Social Sciences</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>National Program for Advanced Study &amp; Research in China</td>
<td>Tuition, stipend, travel, maintenance, &amp; health insurance</td>
<td>2-12 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Astronomy</td>
<td>Applicant’s Choice</td>
<td>American Astronomical Society Travel Grants</td>
<td>Round trip, tourist-class airfare</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological, Physical, Veterinary, &amp; Agricultural sciences</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>International Center of Insect Physiology and Ecology Research Associateships</td>
<td>$10,330 Kenyan shillings per month</td>
<td>Up to 4 months/ year; up to 4 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Arctic Regions</td>
<td>Jennifer Robinson Memorial Scholarship</td>
<td>$5,000 stipend</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byzantine Studies (history, literature, arts, languages)</td>
<td>Applicant’s Choice</td>
<td>Bliss Prize Fellowship in Byzantine Studies Programs</td>
<td>$33,000/year + $5,000 travel expenses</td>
<td>2 years study in US; summer abroad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development Activities Among the Poor</td>
<td>Latin America &amp; the Caribbean</td>
<td>Inter-American Foundation Fellowship Programs</td>
<td>Stipend, travel expenses, health insurance, &amp; direct research expenses</td>
<td>Up to 18 months</td>
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<td>Egyptian Studies</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>American Research in Egypt Fellowships</td>
<td>$1,150-3,325/month; round-trip air travel</td>
<td>3-12 months</td>
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<td>Family Planning</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>New Zealand Family Planning Association Alice Bush Scholarship</td>
<td>$NZ5,000/year</td>
<td>Up to 3 years</td>
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<td>Mexico Related Studies</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>UC Mexus</td>
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<td>Modern Germany &amp; European Studies</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Berlin Program for Advanced German &amp; European Studies</td>
<td>$20,000/year</td>
<td>9-24 months</td>
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<td>Research on Pakistan (Social Sciences and Humanities)</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>American Institute of Pakistan Studies Fellowship</td>
<td>Round-trip air travel, maintenance, research materials, &amp; dependents</td>
<td>2-9 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tropical Rainforest Research</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Biological Dynamics of Forest Fragment Project Research Grant</td>
<td>Variable; average in 1995: $12,000 stipend</td>
<td>Variable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual Art, Music, Creative Writing</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>American Center in Paris Residencies</td>
<td>1,430 Francs/month</td>
<td>3-12 months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graduate Student Accomplishments 1999-2000

AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES


ANDERSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS


Matthew Kagan: (Note: This student is a candidate in the MD/MDA program, class of 2001.) [1] Received a $15,000 Anderson Business School fellowship for 1999-2000. [2] Awarded UCLA Affiliates Scholarship for 1997-98. [3] Elected to the Board of Trustees of the American Medical Association to represent the 40,000 medical student members.

Jennifer A. Kunz: (Note: Student is an MBA candidate, class of 2001, and an MPH candidate, class of 2001.) Received an Ernst & Young e-Health Fellowship, March 2000.

Alek Ostrowski: Received the Anderson School Fellowship for the 1999-2000 academic year.


ANTHROPOLOGY


Mark (Mattheis) Moritz: Awarded the ISOP Fieldwork Fellowship for dissertation research in Cameroon, Africa.


APPLIED LINGUISTICS


Comparative Literature

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE

ASIAN LINGUISTICS AND CULTURES


ECONOMICS

AWARDS


ENGLISH
Hovig Tchalian: Received the Armenian Professional Society Scholarship for the 1999-2000 academic year.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

EPIDEMIOLOGY


Lisa V. Smith: Awarded the University of California, Office of the President Post-Doctoral Fellowship.


ETHNO MUSICOLOGY


FRENCH


FOLKLORE AND MYTHOLOGY


Victoria Simmons: Awarded a Dissertation Year Fellowship, Winter, Spring, Fall, 2000.

GERMAN LANGUAGES


G. S. WOODSON-BOULTON: “The Art of Compromise. The Tate Gallery, 1890-1897.” Presentation at Economic and

Jennifer Ridgley: Awarded a scholarship to the Women in Health Administration of Southern California for the year 2000.

HISTORY


Jason P. Coy: Awarded the UCLA Center for European and Russian Studies Summer Research Grant, Sum-mer 2000 for a research trip to the municipal archives in Ulm, Germany.

Mary Dillard: Received a postdoctoral fellowship from the Columbia University Society of Fellows in the Hu-manities, New York City. Will teach two African history courses and conduct research using the Teachers’ College archives.


Amy Woodson-Boulton: “The Art of Compromise. The Tate Gallery, 1890-1897.” Presentation at Economic and

**INDO-EUROPEAN STUDIES**


**INFORMATION STUDIES**


**ISLAMIC STUDIES**


**LINGUISTICS**


**MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY**

Luisa Cheng: Received the 2000-2001 Warsaw Award for excellence in the study of microbiology, for $15,000.

Vincent Lee: Received the 1999-2000 Warsaw Award for excellence in the study of microbiology, for $15,000.

Michelle Studley: Received the 2000-2001 Warsaw Award for excellence in the study of microbiology, for $15,000.

**MUSIC**


**MUSICOLOGY**


**MOL ECULAR BIOLOGY**


**MOL ECULAR AND MEDICAL PHARMAC OLOGY**


**MUSICOLOGY**


**NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**


**NURSING**

Christine Brand: Invited to join membership of the Golden Key National Honor Society. The induction cer- emony was April 11, 2000 in the Tom Bradley Interna- tional Hall Ballroom.


Stacy L. Serber: Received the Sigma Theta Tau (Gamma Tau Chapter) Research Award for the Academic Year 2000-2001, to be presented May 6, 2000. Sigma Theta Tau is an international nursing honor society.


**ORGANISM BIOLOGY, ECOL OGY, AND EVOLUTION**


**PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY**


POLITICAL SCIENCE


Poco Smith: (First author) “Peer Education: Does focusing on Male Responsibility Change Sexual Attitudes?” Published in the journal Violence against Women, in press.

SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE
Maria Jose Zubieta: Awarded the 1999-2000 UCLA Dissertation Year Fellowship.

THEATER


Thierry Ngoufan Happi: “Uniting the African Family: Closing the Gap from Africa to America.” Paper presented at the Defense Logistics Contractors Base in Carson, Ca., on Feb. 28, 2000, as part of the celebration of this year’s Black History Month.


WORLD ARTS AND CULTURES
Laura L. Kinsey
1971-1999

The History Department sustained a great loss with the death of Laura Kinsey on December 22, 1999. Her death “cut short the career of an historian of exceptional promise,” said Professor Stephen Aron. Since joining the graduate program in History at UCLA in 1994, Laura had shown herself to be a sterling scholar and brilliant instructor. She spent a year in Austria researching her dissertation on the politics of Catholic piety among the Austrian ruling house during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. When she died she was nearing completion of this study and preparing for several interviews at the American Historical Association. Although she died before filing her dissertation, the History Department provided a doctoral hood with which she was buried.

Laura’s dissertation committee chair Professor David Sabean and History Professor Geoffrey Symcox worked with a group of Laura’s friends and fellow graduate students to put the final touches on her nearly completed dissertation. “All we had to do was check some footnotes and proofread the text,” said Sabean. “We got the dissertation in and approved on time, and she will be awarded a posthumous PhD at the hooding ceremony on June 16.”

Sabean said, “I don’t think there is anything quite so gratifying for a teacher than to see someone develop with such strong qualities as a teacher. I was looking forward to her success on the job market in January and never felt so sure about recommending anyone. Her qualities came through so well on her applications for jobs that I have received letters of condolence from history departments that were eager to interview her.”

Laura received her BA degree in history from Stanford University in June 1994 and began graduate school at UCLA in October 1994. She completed her masters degree in June 1996, advanced to candidacy in May 1997, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average throughout. Her area of concentration was Early Modern Europe. During the 1997-98 academic year Laura was awarded a Rotary International Fellowship to conduct archival research in Austria for her dissertation, which was on a remote Austrian pilgrimage church called Marianzell. “Not much had gone on there since the 18th century, so in order to get the historical documents she needed, Laura had to deal with monks at the church who were not accustomed to women. Her unfailing good humor ingratiated her with the monks, resulting in her enjoyable research experience in Austria,” said History Professor Kathryn Norberg. In 1997-98 Laura began writing her dissertation, titled “The Hapsburgs at Marianzell: Sponsored Piety and Baroque Statecraft, 1620-1760.”

Nominations for additional fellowships and awards elicited exceptionally strong statements of support from the faculty familiar with her talent. “I place Ms. Kinsey at the very top of our cohort of graduate students. She writes lucidly and cogently and her doctoral project is extremely original and innovative,” wrote Professor Symcox when proposing her last year for a Fletcher Jones Foundation Fellowship. “I have known Ms. Kinsey in graduate seminars and in individual tutorials and research seminars, and have found her work to be among the very best I have encountered in over thirty years of teaching here, and at Princeton,” wrote Professor Anthony Vidler, Chair, Department of Art History, in a letter of support last year. At her memorial service held last February, he said, “I miss her enormously as an interlocutor and friend.”

Laura was ranked number one in History out of 250 students for the past two years. “To me, the most amazing thing about her was that she never ‘wasted’ any time. She truly was focused and had a very strong sense of what was important in her life—the Church, her family, her friends, and her absolute passion for learning,” said Shela Patel, History Department Graduate Advisor.

Norberg has a theory about why Laura was so focused. “When Laura was about to enter Stanford, she was diagnosed with cancer. I only knew this because she received a special scholarship at Stanford for students with cancer. She never talked to me about this experience. Nothing was further from her nature than complaining or self-pity. I think the illness taught her the value of time. She was utterly focused because I suspect she knew that time was short.”

Professors and graduate students in History have created an endowment in her honor. Anyone interested in donating to the endowment can contact Professor Stephen Aron, vice chairman for development, at the History Department. They hope to award an annual Laura Kinsey prize to the most outstanding history teaching assistant to remember Laura and to encourage something that was very important to her: good teaching.

“Laura was such a good teacher that students would ‘sit in’ on her sections and bring papers to her to read, even though they had other teaching assistants.”

—Kathryn Norberg, History Professor

“She had an impish smile and liked to tease.”

—David Sabean, History Professor, Laura’s Dissertation Chair

—written by Patricia Jordan
Fulbright Travel Grant Workshops Offered in Spring and Summer

Fulbright grants are important sources of funding for foreign research travel. Two Fulbright programs are available to UCLA graduate students—one for all graduate students and graduating college seniors, administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE), and one for doctoral candidates’ dissertation research, administered by the U.S. Department of Education (USEd).

These programs will be described in detail at workshops during spring and summer 2000. If you are interested in applying to either program we strongly encourage you to attend a workshop.

Each workshop will provide information on successful approaches and application procedures:

- UCLA graduate students who are veteran Fulbrighters will give their perspectives on how to develop a winning proposal.
- Faculty members will provide feedback on important factors in assessing applicants.
- Graduate Division staff members will discuss the application process.

**Fulbright Workshop Schedule**

- **Wednesday, May 31, 1:00-2:30 pm**
- **Thursday, June 1, 10:00am-12:00**
- **Thursday, June 22, 10:00-11:30 am**
- **Wednesday, July 12, 2:00-3:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, August 15, 1:30-3:00 pm**

All workshops will be held in 6275 Bunche Hall.

* Covers the USEd dissertation grant only (Fulbright-Hays).

The basic requirements for IIE Fulbright applicants are: be a U.S. citizen, hold a BA degree or equivalent before your award begins, and have proficiency in the language of the host country. Basic requirements for the USEd Fulbright are: be a U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident, be advanced to doctoral candidacy before your award begins, and be proficient in the language(s) necessary to carry out your research. The workshops described earlier will focus on additional criteria used to select recipients.

IIE applications for 2001-2002 are currently available in the Special Fellowships Office, 1252 Murphy Hall. USEd Fulbright applications will be available in late summer. To receive an application, you must be interviewed by office staff.

The deadline for the IIE Fulbright is October 2, 2000 and the deadline for the USEd Fulbright is October 9, 2000. The Fulbright application process is detailed and now is the time to begin working on your materials.

As an example of the preeminence of Fulbright programs, more than 4,000 students apply each year for the IIE program alone to do research or attend universities in 124 countries for an academic year.

For 2001-2002, there will be approximately 950 IIE awards. Final selections are announced by the end of June.

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Plan Ahead for Travel Fellowships in 2001-2002

Don’t miss out on fellowship opportunities by missing important deadlines. Many fellowships for 2001-2002 have fall and winter deadlines. Plan now to apply for study or research abroad. September or October are often too late to begin thinking about applying for funding. Stop by the Special Fellowships Office at 1252 Murphy Hall to get more information on study abroad opportunities.

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Victoria A. Fromkin
Continued from page 24

..tended family. She had presents for their children and was often on hand when they celebrated milestones. Demanding that students stretch themselves to the maximum, Dr. Fromkin was ready with applause to mark their successes, as well as a safety net to help them bounce back from temporary reversals.

A woman who loved teaching, loved doing research, loved everything she did with young people, Dr. Fromkin was first of all a good friend to all who knew her. For them, it is all too hard to imagine that life can go on without Vicki in it.

“When our jobs were, Vicki always said we should regard ourselves primarily as teachers of young people. We should always be asking, how will this improve the learning opportunity for students. She always reminded me to keep my eyes on the ball.”

— Raymund Paredes
Associate Vice Chancellor-Academic Development

“As my teacher, friend, and colleague for almost 30 years, Vicki imbued my life with joy, encouragement, strength, and inspiration. No matter what I’m doing, she’s in my consciousness. I’ll always ask, is this good enough for Vicki.”

— Susie Curtiss
Professor, Linguistics

“Vicki was a powerful advocate for graduate education, both at UCLA and in the national arena, and she broke ground as a woman administrator in the University of California. Her contributions were extraordinary.”

— Claudia Mitchell-Kerman
Vice Chancellor Graduate Studies, Dean, Graduate Division

— written by Jacqueline Tasch

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Victoria A. Fromkin: Author, Scholar, Administrator

Victoria A. Fromkin was a woman of great vitality and enthusiasm: She needed all of that boundless energy to create a legacy to graduate education at UCLA that is as significant as her substantial contributions to linguistics, which have been widely recorded since her death last January at the age of 76.

Dr. Fromkin had a vision of graduate education that simultaneously embraced the individual student and encompassed all the far reaches of a large university system. Never too busy to extend her friendship to another graduate student, at the same time, she had the foresight to create a diversity program that, by the end of her tenure, brought UCLA the largest percentage of graduate students of color in the United States. She was the first woman to serve as a vice chancellor in the University of California, the first to lead the prestigious Association of Graduate Schools in the American Association of Universities.

Not long after Dr. Fromkin began her decade as Dean of the Graduate Division in 1979, she began to look for ways to bring more people of color into graduate study at UCLA. Recognizing the importance of financial support, she conceived of a program that would guarantee four years of support to eligible students. She believed that UCLA must reach out aggressively to welcome minority students to UCLA, and she was happy to do so personally. At gatherings of minority students, Dr. Fromkin often gave passionate talks about her commitment to social justice and to minority participation in the university, and students were invariably moved by what she said.

As Graduate Dean, Dr. Fromkin believed strongly in the benefits of communication, and so she re instituted the Graduate Division’s Annual Report, initiated annual fall meetings with departmental staff, and encouraged her staff to reach out to the academic departments they served. A quarterly graduate publication, The Graduate Quarterly, began during her tenure. She also began work to computerize the Graduate Division’s administrative functions.

Perhaps because she had such a hard time saying good-bye to her own graduate students, she started the doctoral hooding ceremony to mark the occasion with appropriate pomp. Even in the years when she had heavy administrative responsibilities, there was always a line of students outside Dr. Fromkin’s door, happy to wait for a few moments of her attention.

Dr. Fromkin understood that graduate students were different from undergraduates, that they needed to be treated more as equals, to be included in the democratic operations of academic life. As its chair, she created this ambiance in the Linguistics Department.

But perhaps her greatest gifts were in one-on-one conversation with graduate students who sought her counsel. They all became members of Dr. Fromkin’s greatly ex-