

# **Institute of Gerontology (IOG)**

## **Pre-doctoral Training Program Application 2017-2018**

Application deadline: Monday, May 15, 2017

The IOG Pre-doctoral Training Program is open to a limited number of graduate students at Wayne State University, post master's degree or equivalent, who are committed to excellence in research and a career focused on aging.

### **Benefits**

The Training Program provides a significant number of benefits, responsibilities and opportunities in an interdisciplinary research environment. Its apprentice-model focuses on essential experiences in research, education, and community outreach related to aging and age-related research. The Training Program also provides students with structured professional development opportunities. Trainees are cultivated as junior colleagues and work closely with faculty research mentors in shared scholarly pursuits.

The specific benefits for trainees include:

- An award of \$1,500 per semester (students are permitted to have other sources of funding, unless prohibited by WSU)
- Up to \$550 to participate/present their research at the Annual Gerontological Society of America (GSA) conference
- Eligible to apply for \$300 in Fall and Winter semesters to participate in a relevant scientific conference where the student is the first and presenting author (see Supplemental Trainee Travel Award criteria)
- Advanced training and preparation for a research career, including:
  - Focus on research publications and national presentations
  - Opportunity to interact with nationally known experts
  - Broad-based professional development

### **Trainee Responsibilities and Expectations**

- Education
  - Maintain solid academic progress in home department/school
- Research
  - Be engaged actively in relevant research
  - Publish one peer-reviewed publication per year
  - Attend IOG Research Colloquia (usually two per month)
  - Present at the annual IOG/MPSI *Lifespan Alliance* Research Day
  - Make one scientific presentation nationally per year

- Professional Development
  - Attend the IOG-MPSI Professional Development series presentations
  - Participate actively in the IOG Graduate Student Organization (GSO)
  - Participate in IOG governance as a representative to monthly faculty meetings (this responsibility alternates among GSO members)
  - Participate in hosting scientific visitors to IOG
- Community Engagement & Outreach
  - Assist in at least two IOG community education/ outreach events each year
  - Make at least one community presentation at IOG programs

## **Application Procedure**

The criteria for admission are:

- Completed master's degree or equivalent before Aug 2016 (preferred)
- Strong academic record
- Research experience and productivity
- Confirmed commitment to aging research and support of faculty mentor
- Sound scientific writing skills

### **Deadline for Applications is May 15, 2017.**

Email a completed application to the Pre-Doctoral Training Director (Gail Jensen Summers, Ph.D. at [gail.jensen@wayne.edu](mailto:gail.jensen@wayne.edu)) by **May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017** for evaluation by IOG's Graduate Research Training Committee. Trainees are enrolled in August 2017 for one 12-month period.

Application packages should be submitted as a single PDF file with a cover letter. A letter of support from the applicant's mentor may be submitted separately. An application package must include all the following:

- *Curriculum Vita* (max 10 pages)
- Academic transcript (from Wayne State Univ only; an unofficial copy is acceptable)
- One-page personal statement of aging-related career goals and multidisciplinary research interests
- Letter of support/recommendation from proposed faculty mentor
- One sample of scientific writing (e.g., a class paper or first-author published work)
- Cover letter should include reasons for wanting to participate in this training program, and how it would advance the applicant's aging-related research career. If applicant has previously participated in IOG events it is helpful to mention that too (e.g., IOG Research Colloquium series, IOG/MPSI Professional Development series, IOG/MPSI *Lifespan Alliance* Annual Research Day, other IOG activities)

Contact the Director of the IOG's Pre-doctoral Training Program (Gail Jensen Summers, Ph.D.) for more information. Phone: 313-664-2622 or Email: [gail.jensen@wayne.edu](mailto:gail.jensen@wayne.edu)