

FELLOWSHIPS PRELIMINARY QUESTIONNAIRE
for AY 2009-10 Competitions

Dear Prospective Fellowship Applicant:

This Fellowships Preliminary Questionnaire (FPQ) is designed to motivate you to get an early start on your fellowship / scholarship quest; it also serves to help the Director of Fellowships better advise you on appropriate awards to pursue. Moreover, this questionnaire provides information that may help us write a more personalized letter of institutional endorsement when this is required, one that truly reflects your distinguishing characteristics and unique accomplishments. Finally, completing the FPQ will give you a jump-start on your applications for graduate school.

In order to present a competitive application and receive serious consideration for a prestigious national merit-based award (such as Beinecke, Goldwater, Truman, Udall, Carnegie Junior, Jack Kent Cooke, Churchill, Fulbright, Gates Cambridge, Marshall, NSF, Rhodes, Soros) it is critical that you begin the application process well in advance of national deadlines. **Campus deadlines may commence 2-6 months before national application deadlines for fellowships that require university nomination or endorsement in order to apply.** It is necessary that you research carefully the fellowships that interest you, reading *all* the eligibility requirements and selection criteria. You will also need to **engage in honest self-reflection on your goals, values, academic achievements, and extracurricular record in relation to the award in question and what it seeks to promote.** In other words, you have some homework to do *before* you decide whether or not to apply for a particular fellowship.

If you wish to apply in AY 2009-10 for any of the awards listed on pages 3-4, this preliminary questionnaire must be completed and returned to the Fellowships Office in the College Center for Academic Support, Lattimore 312, by **March 30, 2009 for competitions with a fall national deadline or by October 5, 2009 for competitions with a winter/spring national deadline.** *You should also complete this preliminary questionnaire if you would like the Director of Fellowships to assist you with the application process for any nationally competitive award that does not require formal nomination or endorsement by the University.* After submitting the FPQ, call or stop by Academic Support to schedule an appointment with the Director of Fellowships (**Belinda Redden**) to discuss your potential competitiveness for the awards that interest you and your preparation of specific fellowships applications. **Please allow at least two business days between the submission of your FPQ and your appointment so that your questionnaire can be reviewed before the meeting.**

**Please return pp. 2-4 with your typed responses
to the items in each section of the questionnaire.**

Submit your FPQ via e-mail to <fellowships@mail.rochester.edu>

FELLOWSHIPS PRELIMINARY QUESTIONNAIRE
AY 2009-10 Competitions

Name _____ Class Year _____ ID# _____

E-mail _____ Local Phone No. _____

Local Address _____

Major(s) _____ Minor(s) _____

Cumulative GPA _____ Certificate(s) _____

Take Five / KEY Program Area (if applicable) _____

Out-of-term Address
and Phone Number _____

State of Legal Residency _____ Country of Citizenship _____

If you are a permanent resident, are you currently seeking U.S. citizenship? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, when do you expect to receive your U.S. citizenship? _____

Indicate four persons whom you would ask to write letters of recommendation in support of your fellowship application(s):

1) _____ Title or Position _____
Full Name
Dept./Professional Affiliation _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

2) _____ Title or Position _____
Full Name
Dept./Professional Affiliation _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

3) _____ Title or Position _____
Full Name
Dept./Professional Affiliation _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

4) _____ Title or Position _____
Full Name
Dept./Professional Affiliation _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

Place an "X" beside the fellowship(s) you wish to apply for during AY 2009-10. For each award of interest, submit a **brief statement (100-150 words for each award)** indicating *in what ways you exemplify the selection criteria and broad goals of the fellowship program(s)*.

___ **Carnegie Junior Fellows Program**

Field of interest: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Churchill Scholarship**

Preferred Cambridge degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Fulbright Grant** (please indicate: ___ Creative/Performing Arts or ___ Study/Research)

Field: _____ Country: _____ Language: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship**

Country: _____ Language: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Gates Cambridge Scholarship**

Preferred Cambridge degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Marshall Scholarship**

Preferred UK institution: _____ Degree & Field of study: _____

2nd-choice UK institution: _____ Degree & Field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Mitchell Scholarship**

Preferred institution: _____ Degree & Field of study: _____

_____ Career goal: _____

___ **Rhodes Scholarship**

Preferred Oxford degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Saint Andrew's Society Graduate Scholarship**

Preferred institution: _____ Degree & Field of study: _____

_____ Career goal: _____

___ **Soros Fellowship for New Americans**

Intended graduate degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

Place an "X" beside the fellowship(s) you wish to apply for during AY 2009-10. For each award of interest, submit a **brief statement (100-150 words for each award)** indicating *in what ways you exemplify the selection criteria and broad goals of the fellowship program(s)*.

___ **Beinecke Scholarship**

Intended graduate degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Scholarship**

Intended graduate degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Goldwater Scholarship**

Primary research interest: _____

Intended graduate degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Institute for International Public Policy Fellowship**

Language(s) & Geographic area(s) of interest: _____

Intended graduate degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Truman Scholarship**

Primary public-service focus: _____

Intended graduate degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Udall Scholarship**

(please indicate: ___ Environmental ___ Native American/Tribal Policy)

Intended graduate degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **UNCF-Merck Undergraduate Research Scholarship**

Primary research interest: _____

Intended graduate degree & field of study: _____

Career goal: _____

___ **Other awards: indicate award, intended graduate degree (e.g., M.A., M.P.P., J.D., M.D., Ph.D., etc.), field of study, career goal (e.g., university teaching, research scientist, museum curator, etc.)**

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

1. Briefly explain why / how you chose your major(s) and minor(s)?
2. What are your principal academic / intellectual interests beyond your concentration(s)? In what way(s) do you pursue these interests?
3. What languages other than English do you know? How did you acquire this knowledge and how do you maintain your proficiency?
4. List merit-based awards, honors, and special recognitions received while in college or for college. *Freshmen may include high-school honors*. Please do not abbreviate. Indicate **a)** award selection criteria or purpose; **b)** sponsor of award or honor; **c)** date received and/or duration (e.g., Spring 2007, 2005-09).
5. Describe any independent study, research, internships, teaching assistantships, workshop leadership, etc., in which you have participated. Indicate **a)** when and where the activity was carried out; **b)** duration of your participation; **c)** basis of selection / how you obtained the position; **d)** who supervised you; **e)** your role or duties; **f)** significance of experience in your academic and personal development / what you gained; **g)** presentation or publication of work.
6. What has been your most meaningful intellectual / creative accomplishment in college thus far and why? If you have not yet had such an experience, what do you hope to accomplish beyond excellent grades in coursework?
7. If you have studied or traveled abroad, when and where did you go and why did you choose that destination? How long were you abroad? Discuss the impact of the international experience on your studies, personal growth, world outlook, post-graduate plans, and career goals. If you will study abroad in the future, indicate when, where, and why.
8. Please explain if there has been any semester in which your academic performance did not reflect your ability.
9. Please explain if there has been any interruption in your education. When and how long were you away; what did you do during this time?
10. What are your post-baccalaureate plans? For example, if you plan to go to graduate school, indicate what you plan to study and what degree you will seek; also indicate where you'd most like to study, if you know this now. What profession/career do you aspire to and what do you wish to accomplish in this realm; *what difference do you want to make?* If you plan to seek employment rather than pursue graduate education, what kind of work do you hope to do and why is this important to you?

EXTRACURRICULAR & SERVICE ACTIVITIES

For all activities below, list in reverse chronological order with dates and frequency of participation. Also indicate **a)** any leadership roles; **b)** the importance of each activity to your personal and intellectual development; **c)** your most significant accomplishment(s) or contribution(s) for each endeavor; indicate how you demonstrated initiative or creativity.

1. Campus activities—e.g., student government, residential life, social/cultural clubs and associations, committees, political and advocacy organizations, undergraduate councils, athletics, creative/performing arts.
2. Off-campus activities—e.g., community/volunteer work (specify whether or not work associated with a University group or office), leadership training, civic engagement, etc. In addition to the information requested above, indicate the full name and nature of the group or activity, how you became involved, and your supervisor.
3. Describe a recent, particularly meaningful thing you have done on a voluntary basis for the benefit of another person or group, outside of family and friends.
4. Describe any special talents you have that are not mentioned elsewhere.
5. What are your hobbies or special interests? How long have you been engaged in these pursuits and how often do you engage in them now?

SUMMER PLANS

If not indicated elsewhere, please describe your plans for this summer (2009), or next (2010) summer if you are completing this questionnaire in the fall.

EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES

Some fellowships take financial need into consideration; therefore, please indicate how your education is being financed. Indicate merit awards as well as need-based financial aid; specify source and duration of funding. Please also note if the necessity of working to help pay your educational expenses has influenced your choice of jobs and/or your level of participation in other activities.

FAMILY

Briefly tell us about your family background. Where did you grow up? Is there an unusual family circumstance that you would like to mention? What is the educational level of your parents and what are their occupations or professions? Are you a first-generation American or first-generation college student? Did your *parents* immigrate to the U.S.? If so, when and from what country(ies) did they come to the U.S.? How do you maintain a relationship with your/your parents' country of origin?

RÉSUMÉ

Please attach a current résumé. Your résumé should include separate sections for Education, Honors/Awards, Research/Independent Study, Teaching, Internships, Campus Activities, Community Engagement. Be sure to **include dates** and locations when appropriate.

PERSONAL ESSAY

In two single-spaced pages or less, please reflect on all of the following topics:

- a) how you define your most notable character traits; what has influenced them, e.g., ideas, beliefs, experiences
- b) how you believe others define your personality and character
- c) an experience of failure and how you handled it/what you learned from it
- d) an experience that has taken you outside of your comfort zone and how that experience has affected your worldview
- e) a particular personal obstacle or challenge that you have overcome, or are currently facing – what, when, how
- f) the motivation and purpose behind your post-baccalaureate educational plans and career aspirations – what compels you to pursue these goals and what *difference* do you wish to make in the world through your chosen path
- g) an individual who has been especially inspirational to you in the development of your academic and/or career goals
- h) your other plans for pursuing your goals if you are not awarded a fellowship