

JCET GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP 2020-21

Call for Proposals

Due Date: 9 PM EDT, April 12, 2020

JCET is seeking proposals from graduate students at UMBC who plan to collaborate with a JCET faculty or fellow research project, or support an existing exemplary student.

<http://jcet.umbc.edu>

UMBC seeks to become the best public research university of our size, and the Joint Center for Earth Systems Technology (JCET) contributes to this vision by engaging faculty and students in research critical for the understanding of the Earth System. To this end, JCET welcomes candidate applications for JCET Graduate Student Fellowships from relevant UMBC departments offering graduate degrees. Up to two fellowships for the 2020/21 Academic Year will be awarded to qualified, full-time, degree-seeking graduate students in an Earth, biological, physical or computer science, mathematics or engineering, to work on a research project with a JCET faculty member at UMBC or NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. The applicant must be enrolled full-time and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. UMBC faculty members may participate when collaborating with a JCET scientist.

The fellowship is valued at a maximum of \$45,000 for one year, which includes: in-state tuition for a maximum of ten (10) credits per semester (all other fees are the responsibility of the student), UMBC health insurance benefits and an annual stipend of \$29,149 (MS Student)/\$31,512 (PhD Candidate). In addition, JCET will fund limited travel to one professional conference pertinent to the student's field of study and cover up to \$2000 for publication fees.

The JCET fellowship applicant must send to the JCET Associate Director for Academics (zhibo.zhang@umbc.edu, Subject Line: JCET FELLOWSHIP):

1. A cover letter by the Department Chair or Graduate Program Director indicating the name of the JCET faculty member who will mentor the student and academic performance of the student (e.g., accumulative GPA, whether the student has passed qualify exam and/or preliminary proposal defense);
2. A recommendation from the JCET faculty member who will be mentoring and/or collaborating with the student; The letter should include a paragraph to explain how the JCET faculty member plans to engage, mentor and support the graduate student (e.g., bi-weekly group meeting, support student at AMS/AGU conference).
3. A recommendation letter from the student's advisor (if not the same as item 2 above).
4. A list of previous JCET fellowship recipient(s) and noteworthy achievements, if the JCET faculty and/or student's advisor have mentored any JCET fellowship recipients in the last 3 years.
5. The student's transcripts (unofficial are fine) and updated CV/Resume;
6. A one-page statement of interest from the student;
7. A research proposal submitted by the student (up to 6 pages including figures, single-spaced, 12-point font) that should typically include:
 - a. Background/introduction
 - b. Objectives
 - c. Data/methodology
 - d. Research activities/plan
 - e. Timeline of the research
 - f. List of references (NOT included in the 6 page limit)

A JCET committee will review and score the proposals, and select the recipient(s) based on academic performance (10%), strength of recommendation letters and personal statement (30%), and intellectual

merit of the research plan (60%). Announcement of the selection(s) will be made in May 2020 and fellowship will start in Fall 2020.

The recipient(s) of the JCET fellowship are expected to

- I. attend the JCET seminar series to update research progress,
- II. submit a final report of research achievements, publications and conference proceedings after the completion of the fellowship and present research achievements at the JCET all-hand meeting,
- III. acknowledge JCET fellowship in all publications supported by the fellowship.

Resources:

UMBC Joint Center for Earth Systems Technology: <http://jcet.umbc.edu>

For a complete list of JCET faculty: <https://jcet.umbc.edu/jcet-faculty/>

JCET Seminar Series: <https://sites.google.com/a/umbc.edu/jcet-gra-seminars>

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center: GSFC Earth Sciences Division:

<http://science.gsfc.nasa.gov/sed/index.cfm?fuseAction=home.main&&navOrgCode=610>