AADS 2014-2015 Graduate Student Professional Development Funds Application

Department Mission

AADS is committed to interdisciplinary scholarship and creative production that explores questions of social justice for Black people around the globe. Our scholarship, cultural creativity, and pedagogical practices reflect our investment in comparative/relational and transnational approaches, intersectional analyses, and critical theoretical frameworks. They also reflect our collective commitment as scholars, artists, teachers, and students to bridging the perceived gap between scholarly and artistic work, and political engagement.

We promote the activist academic careers of our faculty members, we coordinate with Black staff on University issues of relevance to our communities, and we collaborate with local, national, and international organizations in the investigation and enhancement of the lives of Black people.

Professional Development Funds

The AADS department makes professional development funds available to graduate students who are working towards an MA or PhD in African and African Diaspora Studies at UT-Austin. These funds provide support for students pursuing professional development opportunities, including attending professional meetings to present their research or participating in other ventures including travel, training, equipment, etc.

In selecting recipients, AADS will give priority to

- AADS students who are actively involved in pursuing funding
- AADS students who have not received funding from other sources, including the department
- AADS students who have been actively involved in AADS department professional development activities and opportunities
- AADS doctoral first year students and, resources permitting, AADS doctoral students who are in candidacy and who can use attendance at meetings to explore career opportunities
**Application**

**In order to apply for these funds, students should provide:**

1. A total amount requested and line item budget for how funds will be used
2. A one paragraph abstract of a paper to be presented OR a one-page description of research project to be supported by the funds OR a one-page description of how experience will be helpful to their professional development
3. Dates of travel, including information about any conferences or research archives
4. A letter of support from student’s faculty advisor
5. Evidence that student is applying for funds elsewhere

**Application Due Dates**

Applications should be submitted no later than two weeks before dates of travel, within the applicable time frame based on semester of trip:

Travel in the Fall 2014 semester (8/27 – 1/19): due by December 5th

Travel in the Spring 2015 semester (1/20 – 5/31): due by May 4th

Travel in the Summer 2015 semester (6/1 – 8/25) due by July 31st

Please submit your application to the Graduate Coordinator (Nia Crosley: BEL 242DA or ncrosley@austin.utexas.edu) no later than two weeks before dates of travel