

January 28, 2019

Chancellors and Deans,

As part of an ongoing strategic partnership with PNNL, the WSU Office of Research and the WSU Graduate School are pleased to announce the call for applications for the third cohort of the Distinguished Graduate Research Program (DGRP). The DGRP is intended to increase the quality and quantity of STEM PhD. students across the WSU system, while providing an enhanced research experience by aligning WSU faculty, students, and PNNL researchers with the unique capabilities and research programs at the National Laboratory. We anticipate selecting ten to fifteen students each year for the program.

We are announcing today the call for applications to the second DGRP student cohort. These students will be drawn from **new applicants admitted to a STEM PhD program at any of the WSU campuses**, effective fall semester 2019. We are particularly interested in attracting outstanding students into the STEM fields that represent the existing and emerging areas of collaboration with PNNL – nuclear science and engineering; electric power grid; bioproducts; catalysis; environmental, water and soil science and engineering; and other emerging areas of collaboration (e.g. computational, materials, medical/biological sciences, psychology).

Since our various PhD programs have a variety of recruiting and admission timelines, the program will employ a rolling admission process with a priority deadline for applications of March 6, 2019. After this time, applications will be evaluated until the program is filled. Interested faculty should identify a potential student applicant, PNNL collaborator, and complete the application. The program guidelines and application form are available on the Graduate School web site at <https://gradschool.wsu.edu/pnnl/>.

The DGRP targets a four-year graduate study in which the early stage is funded by a WSU college, department, faculty, or grant. Subsequent to completing coursework and preliminary exam (milestone known as ABD – All But Dissertation), the student support will be provided by a contract from PNNL for the stipend and benefits and a full, academic year tuition waiver provided by the WSU Graduate School. WSU and PNNL joint appointments may apply as either the WSU faculty, PNNL researcher, or both.

An essential requirement of the program is that the co-advisors from the two institutions must be willing to support the student in the proposed research topic. After selecting the students for this program, the PNNL and WSU points of contact will confirm the availability of research funding from the individual co-advisors before WSU sends formal letters of award to the selected students.

For the third cohort of DGRP students, the following timeline pertains:

Priority application: March 6, 2019

Award notification: beginning April 2, 2019 and later depending on application

If you have any questions, please contact Michael Wolcott (WSU) or email [DGRP@wsu.edu](mailto:DGRP@wsu.edu)