

# Shumaker Fellowship Criteria

Revised on April 28, 2011

## **General Information:**

The Shumaker endowment was established in 2006 with \$1,000,000 donation from Mr. and Mrs. Paul K. Shumaker to enhance bioinformatics research and education for the Computer Science (CS) Department at the University of Missouri-Columbia (UMC). This endowment supports a professorship, two seminars per year, three or more graduate fellowships, and four or more undergraduate scholarships if funds are available.

## **Selection Committee:**

A selection committee is formed by CS faculty who are core faculty of MU Informatics Institute and actively conduct research in the area of bioinformatics and/or medical informatics. If schedule permits, the committee meets four times annually (March & November for graduate admissions and January & August for research honors scholar's applications.)

## **Qualifications:**

The Shumaker graduate fellowship and undergraduate scholarship are open to all MU Informatics Institute and Computer Science students whose major advisors are from Computer Science Department. The requirements are:

### 1. **Graduate Fellowship:**

(12-month term with \$1,300 stipend per month, tuition waiver and graduate insurance)

#### Requirements:

- Pursuing a Ph.D. degree
- GPA 3.5 and higher

#### Application Package:

- Curriculum Vitae
- Representative publications in bioinformatics related areas
- Research statement to discuss the background of the applicant and proposing research areas in bioinformatics. (4-page with 1" margins and 12 point fonts with 1.5 spacing)
- At least two letters of recommendation, one from student's major advisor and another should be from bioinformatics or life science researchers who can evaluate the applicant's credentials and potential to become successful in the area of bioinformatics.

#### Priority:

- Quality of research statement and research goals
- Student's productivity from current/previous positions
- Student from non-bioinformatics faculty to encourage collaborations between CS core and bioinformatics faculty within the department.
- Student will be supported half-time by external grants.

#### Assessment:

- Publications (thesis, reputable conferences and major journals in the field)
- Awards (best project award, thesis award, graduate student, etc.)
- Poster presentations to CSGSA contest, life sciences week, and external conferences.
- Software developed for the research community.

## 2. **Undergraduate Scholarship:**

(12-month term with \$1000 support from the College and \$1000 support by the endowment)

### Requirements:

- Enrolling in the College of Engineering Research Honors Program
- GPA 3.3 and higher

### Application Package:

- Curriculum Vitae
- Research statement to discuss the background of the applicant and proposing research areas in bioinformatics. (2-4 pages with 1" margins and 12 point fonts with 1.5 spacing)
- At least one letter of recommendation from student's major advisor and preferably another one from bioinformatics or life science faculty.

### Priority:

- Quality of research statement and research goals
- Student will be also supported by external grant in addition to the scholarship
- Student who has intension to pursue graduate study in biomedical informatics at MU.

### Assessment:

- Publications (reputable conferences and major journals in biomedical informatics)
- Poster/Oral presentations for MU Undergraduate Research Forum and/or Life Science Week.
- Software developed for the research community

### **Submission Dates:**

Graduate Fellowship: March 15 and November 15 every year.

Undergraduate Scholarship: December 31 and July 31 every year.

Application package should be sent to Dr. Chi-Ren Shyu, 241 Engineering Building West, MU Informatics Institute, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211.

### **Acknowledgment statement:**

All publications or public presentations from the fellowship/scholarship awardees should include the following statement "*This research is (was) supported (in part) by the Paul K. and Diane Shumaker Endowment in Bioinformatics.*"

### **Annual Report Submission:**

The advisors of each awardee should send an annual performance report to Dr. Chi-Ren Shyu no later than two weeks after the fellowship/scholarship is finished. Dr. Shyu will summarize all reports and send an annual report to Mrs. Shumaker through the MU Development Office. The department also plans to conduct post graduate studies to keep track of fellowship/scholarship awardees' career development.