MEMORANDUM

To: Deans and Directors, Department Chairs, Faculty

FROM: Joseph Arvai, Associate Director, Environmental Science and Policy Program
Thomas Dietz, Director, Environmental Science and Policy Program

SUBJECT: ESPP Doctoral Recruiting Fellowships

The Environmental Science and Policy Program (ESPP) annually offers several two-year Doctoral Recruiting Fellowships for students who will matriculate during the Autumn 2009 semester. The goal of these fellowships is to attract the strongest possible cohort of students to pursue doctoral education focused on the environment. Fellowships provide $30,000 per year of support. Students who are selected will complete the ESP Doctoral Specialization (four interdisciplinary environmental courses) in addition to their departmental coursework.

We encourage you to nominate students. If you have any questions about the fellowship, please contact us: Joseph Arvai at arvai@msu.edu or Thomas Dietz at tdietz@msu.edu.

Students MUST be nominated by their intended home department. Departments may submit up to two nominations, although a maximum of one fellowship may be awarded to a given department. Students may not apply directly for these fellowships but must work with their intended home department to apply for an ESPP Doctoral Recruiting Fellowship.

AMOUNT: $30,000 per year, for 2 consecutive years, per award

CO-SUPPORT REQUIREMENT: To make the fellowships as attractive as possible, each home department or program is required to provide two years of funding to match the two years provided by ESPP, allowing the department or program to offer the student a four-year funding package. The funds for these two years of matching support can come from any source as long as it allows commitment to a four-year package of support. Departments and programs that link admissions to Master’s degrees with doctoral admission should include a description of their procedures with the application materials.

ELIGIBILITY: The intent of the fellowships is to recruit new doctoral students to MSU, so only new students (matriculating in Autumn 2009) are eligible. Students must apply to and be accepted by a doctoral program at MSU to be considered for these fellowships. Recipients of these fellowships MUST participate in the ESPP Doctoral Specialization. This includes successfully completing the four required courses outlined as a part of the specialization. Normally these courses are taken within the first two years of a student’s Ph.D. program. International students are eligible for these fellowships.

MSU is an affirmative action, equal-opportunity institution.
APPLICATION: Electronic submission (via e-mail) of the application materials is strongly recommended. Documents should be submitted as a PDF whenever possible. If electronic submission is not possible, one copy of the following information should be forwarded to the address listed below:

- Completed nomination form (attached to this call)
- Letter from intended department or program indicating acceptance into the graduate program and a funding commitment match (this should be from the department chairperson or program director)
- A copy of the student’s MSU application packet. This includes:
  - Copy of the MSU online application form including the statement of purpose
  - Copies of all undergraduate and graduate transcripts
  - GRE scores
  - Letters of recommendation
  - TOEFL scores (international students only)
- Cover letter and essay from student.
  - Student must submit a cover letter (1 page maximum) indicating his/her interest in being considered for an ESPP Recruiting Fellowship.
  - Student must clearly and concisely indicate, in an essay (3 page maximum, double spaced, 12 point font),
    - …how his/her interests include performing interdisciplinary research in social/behavioral AND natural/physical aspects of environmental science and policy, and
    - …how his/her academic background and previous professional and practical experiences predisposes him/her to interdisciplinary work or allows him/her to be positioned to become more interdisciplinary upon arrival at MSU, and
    - …any other aspect of his/her background that makes him/her uniquely suited to make contributions to the ESPP.
- Curriculum vitae

DEADLINE: Copies of application materials must be received by ESPP no later than Friday January 30th, 2009. We regret that applications received after this date will not be considered. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. This is a once-per-year call; applications will only be considered at this time (not off-cycle). Please send nomination materials to:

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<tr>
<th>Electronic</th>
<th>Campus Mail</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:espp@msu.edu">espp@msu.edu</a></td>
<td>Environmental Science and Policy Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject Line: ESP RF09</td>
<td>ATTN: PhD Recruiting Fellowship</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>274 Giltner Hall</td>
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Departments and programs will be notified of the fellowship awards in March 2009. Questions can be directed to Joseph Arvai at arvai@msu.edu or Dr. Thomas Dietz at tdietz@msu.edu.

SELECTION PROCESS: A fellowship review committee approved by the ESPP Program Advisory Group will make recommendations to the Director and Associate Director of ESPP based on the criteria listed in the application process.