Call for Proposals - CSE Fellowship

Introduction
- Graduate students in participating departments are invited to submit CSE Fellowship Proposals for support of interdisciplinary research in Computational Science and Engineering (CSE).
- Several awards are expected to be given for the 2018—2019 academic year.
- Fellowships run from August 16, 2018 to July 15, 2019.
- Proposed research projects must be interdisciplinary, and must be oriented toward computational science and engineering and/or applied mathematics.

Eligibility
- The student submitting the proposal must be jointly supervised by at least two faculty members, preferably from separate departments or areas. Each faculty supervisor must be affiliated with the CSE program (see list here).
- The student must enroll in the CSE program once the fellowship begins.

Participating Units
Academic units participating in CSE include:
- Aerospace Engineering
- Agricultural and Biological Engineering
- Astronomy
- Atmospheric Sciences
- Bioengineering
- Biophysics and Computational Biology
- Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
- Chemistry
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Computer Science
- Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Industrial and Enterprise Systems Engineering
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Science and Engineering
- Molecular and Cellular Biology
- Nuclear, Plasma and Radiological Engineering
- Physics
- School of Integrative Biology (Animal Biology, Entomology, and Plant Biology)
- Statistics

Proposal for Renewal
Current first-time CSE Fellows may submit proposals for a renewal for a second year. However, these proposals will be subject to the same criteria in the review (see below).

Awards & Benefits
Student participants in winning proposals will be designated as CSE Fellows and will receive the following benefits:
- 50% research assistantship
- Tuition waiver
- Support for approved research-related conference travel up to $500

Expectations
- CSE Fellows will be expected to participate in the CSE Fellows Seminar Series to present current research findings.
- As part of the CSE Fellows Seminar Series, CSE may develop promotional materials including a video abstract.
- CSE fellows and their faculty advisors will provide a one-page summary of the fellowship at the end-of-the-year, including publications, talks, contributions to grants, and other derived outcomes.
The **application package** must include the following information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Cover Page</th>
<th>A proposal specific summary that can be <a href="https://cse.illinois.edu">downloaded</a> from the CSE website.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Resume</td>
<td>One-page resume/CV</td>
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| 3. Research Proposal | Description of proposed research  
  ▪ Limited to three pages including references  
  ▪ The proposal should clearly and concisely highlight (see below):  
    ▶ The interdisciplinary nature of the research  
    ▶ The novelty of the proposed work  
    ▶ How the proposed research fits within the student's broader educational and career plans  
    ▶ Why the research is transformative and defines a unique research direction |
| 4. Summary of accomplishments (for renewal proposals only) | A summary of accomplishments of the project for the preceding year, including list of any publications or presentations (one-page). In addition, the proposal must make a clear and distinct plan for additional work. |
| 5. DARS Report | A current audit of your records indicating classes taken. This may be downloaded from the Office of the Registrar. |
| 6. Two Letters of Recommendation | Two Letters from Faculty Supervising the Project:  
  ▪ The **first letter** from the primary supervisor, highlighting: the importance of the research and the value in pursuing this research direction (e.g. opportunities for funding, breaking ground in a new research direction, developing a community of practice in an emerging research topic, etc.).  
  ▪ The **second letter** must be from the second supervising faculty, which addresses the interdisciplinary nature of the project and the plans for collaboration. |

**Proposal Submission**

- Applicants must complete the online **CSE Fellowship Application** on [EasyChair](http://cse.illinois.edu) by midnight **CDT** April 11, 2018:  
  ▪ Submit a PDF file for each item above in the **Application Package** section.  
  ▪ Provide **two** names of faculty supervisors, including contact information.  
- Confidential letters of recommendation should be submitted directly by the faculty supervisors to **fellows@cse.illinois.edu** by **midnight (CDT) April 11, 2018.**  
- Applicants are responsible for communicating the letter request to their primary and secondary supervisors directly, and ensuring the letters are submitted promptly.  
- Applications will not be reviewed until CSE has received all the requested materials.
Selection Criteria

• Proposals will be evaluated by a panel with members from the CSE Steering Committee and additional CSE Affiliated Faculty.
• Faculty supervisors with proposals under consideration are not eligible to serve on the selection panel.
• Proposals will be selected for funding based on the following criteria:
  ➢ Quality, originality, and significance of research proposed
  ➢ Appropriateness of proposed research to CSE in terms of its interdisciplinary nature
  ➢ Quality of student's academic performance and research background
  ➢ Potential to contribute to a student’s overall career and educational objectives
  ➢ Potential to contribute to additional funding opportunities, for example by facilitating and enhancing collaboration
  ➢ Overall balance of projects across research areas

Results

• The decisions will be sent to the applicants via email.
• The awards will be announced in May.

Contact

Please contact CSE at fellows@cse.illinois.edu for any questions.