To: Students, Faculty, Advisors, and University Administration

From: Chris Carter, Educational Programs Manager

Subject: 2006–2007 VSGC Scholarship and Fellowship Program

Date: November 10, 2005

We are pleased to announce the Virginia Space Grant Consortium’s (VSGC) 2006–2007 Scholarship and Fellowship Program. Each academic year, VSGC awards nearly $300,000 to students who will attend, or who are attending Virginia universities.

The Aerospace Graduate Fellowship program provides $5,000 renewable awards (up to three years) of add-on graduate support for students enrolled at a Virginia Space Grant university pursuing any field of graduate study (Masters or Doctoral level) with aerospace relevance.

The Aerospace Undergraduate Scholarship program provides one-year, non-renewable support up to $8,500 for undergraduate students enrolled in a Virginia Space Grant university pursuing any field of study with aerospace relevance and actively engaged in a research project.

I encourage you to distribute the enclosed poster and Scholarship/Fellowship applications to eligible students and related faculty. More information about VSGC's Scholarship/Fellowship program, including link to download applications and posters, can be found on our web site at: http://www.vsgc.odu.edu/.

If you require further program information or additional copies of any applications or posters, please contact me at ecxarter@odu.edu or (757) 766-5210.

Aerospace Partnerships in Education ♦ Research ♦ Industry
The Undergraduate and Graduate SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Important Announcement for Department Chairs and Professors

The Virginia Space Grant Consortium (VSGC) awards approximately $300,000 annually to undergraduate and graduate students at member institutions.

VSGC Student Scholarship Awards and Internships:
The consortium provides a competitive Aerospace Undergraduate Research Scholarship program and Aerospace Graduate Research Fellowship program funded with NASA and Commonwealth of Virginia contributions. These scholarships and fellowships are designed to enhance basic research and education for students pursuing aerospace-related fields of study. Note that these are broadly defined and include engineering, science, math, and some psychology and computer science fields. The VSGC established the Aerospace Undergraduate and Graduate Research Fellowship programs with the major goal of helping to produce the engineers and scientists of the future.

Applications and Posters explaining this opportunity for your students are available through your department Chairs and at the address listed below, as well as on the VSGC website. http://www.vsgc.odu.edu

Application deadline for Undergraduate Research and Graduate Fellowships is February 6, 2006

For details contact:
Virginia Space Grant Consortium
E-Mail: vsgc@odu.edu
Phone: (757)-766-5210
Fax: (757)-766-5205

Virginia Space Grant Consortium
Scholarship and Fellowship Program
Old Dominion University
Peninsula Center
600 Butler Farm Road
Hampton, VA 23666
AEROSPACE GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Application for Academic Year 2006–2007

Deadline: February 6, 2006
VIRGINIA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM
Aerospace Graduate Research Fellowships

I. VIRGINIA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM

In 1988, Congress enacted the NASA National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program to address scientific and technological workforce needs and the national decline in scholastic achievement, especially in math and science. NASA's Space Grant funds education, research, and public service programs in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico through a network of 52 university-based Space Grant Consortia with over 700 participating affiliates. The Space Grant Consortia is united by the common goal of developing the educational and economic benefits of aerospace research and exploration.

The Virginia Space Grant Consortium (VSGC) is a coalition of five Virginia Space Grant colleges and universities (College of William and Mary, Hampton University, Old Dominion University, University of Virginia, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), NASA Langley Research Center, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, Virginia Community College System, the Virginia State Department of Education, the Mathematics and Science Center, the Science Museum of Virginia, the Virginia Air and Space Center, and Virginia's Center for Innovative Technology.

A major goal of the VSGC is to help produce the engineers and scientists of the future. While opportunities for careers in aerospace have expanded, the number of talented students pursuing degrees in mathematics, engineering and the sciences has declined. To encourage talented individuals to pursue aerospace-related fields of study, the VSGC established the Aerospace Graduate Research Fellowship program.

II. AEROSPACE GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Virginia Space Grant Consortium provides a competitive Aerospace Graduate Research Fellowship program, funded by NASA and Commonwealth of Virginia contributions, with goals of:

- Encouraging undergraduate students in aerospace-related fields of study to continue to the graduate level;
- Promote graduate aerospace-related research, while recognizing high academic achievement and promise;
- Increasing participation of underrepresented minorities, females and students with disabilities in aerospace-related careers; and,
- Implementing the goals of the Virginia Space Grant Consortium and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

III. FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

Fellowships are $5,000 add-on awards, designed to supplement and enhance basic graduate research support, such as graduate research assistantships, graduate teaching assistantships, and non-federal scholarships and fellowships. Awards are made annually and are renewable up to a total of three years for students making satisfactory research and academic progress. Awardees will be required to certify through their academic department that basic research support of at least $5,000 is being provided before funds are released.
IV. ELIGIBILITY AND AWARDS PROCESS

Eligibility

The fellowship program is open to graduate students who are U.S. citizens and will be enrolled in a program of full-time study at one of the five Virginia Space Grant universities. Students may apply prior to entering or anytime during their graduate program. Eligibility is not limited to science and engineering majors. Any field of study that includes coursework related to an understanding of or interest in aerospace is eligible.

Successful scholarship recipients are expected to have grade point averages of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Priority for fellowship awards will be given to those who do not receive other federal fellowships such as NASA Graduate Student Researcher Program Fellowships, National Science Foundation Fellowships, etc. Since an important purpose of this program is to increase the participation of underrepresented minorities, females, and persons with disabilities in aerospace-related careers, the VSGC especially encourages applications from these students.

V. AWARDS PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

Application Review Process

Applications must be received by the VSGC by February 6, 2006. Awards will be announced in April 2006, with funding provided to students through the universities for the 2006–2007 academic year beginning with the Fall 2006 semester.

Awardee Requirements

Awardees are required to participate in the VSGC’s Annual Student Research Conference to be held in late March or early April 2006. Participation includes attendance and active involvement throughout entire conference, an oral or poster presentation on current research progress, and submission of a research brief for inclusion in the conference proceedings.

Additionally, awardees must provide a photo and biographical information upon selection; inform the Consortium of changes of address; and respond to academic and employment follow-up surveys for Space Grant Aerospace Graduate Research Fellows. Students may also be asked to share research experiences in public forums, classroom presentations and professional meetings. Presentations that encourage interest in aerospace careers and research to high school students are of particular interest to the Consortium.

Disposition of Unused Funds

If an awardee terminates his/her academic program during the 2006–2007 academic year the University is required to return a prorated share of the fellowship award to the VSGC. Fellowship funds are not transferable.

VI. APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR FELLOWSHIP RENEWALS

Renewing Virginia Space Grant Fellows need only submit the following materials for review: 1) a completed Applicant Information Form; 2) an evaluation from the faculty advisor assessing the student’s research and academic progress made in the past year; 3) a statement written by the student outlining his/her academic and research progress; 4) a list of papers published, conferences attended, presentations made, awards and honors received; and 5) a certified transcript from current college or university with grades through Fall 2005 (an official grade report for Fall 2005 must be received by February 7, 2006 in VSGC office). Refer to Section VIII for application submission guidelines.
VII. APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR NEW APPLICANTS

Applicant Information Form

An Applicant Information Form must be filled out on both sides, signed by the student and endorsed by: a) a faculty advisor (if adjunct faculty, must obtain a sponsor signature from a full-time faculty member); b) the department chair; and c) the university official responsible for committing the institution for sponsored research (e.g., Director of Research Administration, Dean of Research, Director of Sponsored Programs). Applications will not be processed without the appropriate signatures and information requested.

Attachments

Description of Proposed Research and Plan of Study
A statement written by the student in consultation with the advisor should describe: the key elements of the proposed research and plan of study; what he/she intends to accomplish; and, identify any aerospace application of the proposed research activity. The statement should not exceed five double-spaced pages. The selection committee is made up of university faculty in a variety of disciplines. Applicants should present their proposed research in a form that will be understandable to a range of readers.

Letters of Recommendation
Applicants should submit two letters of recommendation, with at least one letter of recommendation from a university faculty member in the student’s discipline. It is understood that students who have not matriculated to a Virginia Space Grant university at the time of application may not have established a firm relationship with a faculty advisor. In this instance, students do not have to submit a plan of study and will be judged based on the relevance of the proposed research.

Resume and Faculty Advisor’s Vita
Applicants should submit a short resume of education, significant accomplishments (e.g. honors or scholarships), research to date, and any other relevant information. The faculty advisor must submit a short vita (no longer than two pages) that includes name, current position, title, department, university address, phone number, research to date, and principal publications.

Transcript
A certified transcript with grades through Fall 2005 is required. This official grade report for Fall 2005 must be received at VSGC by February 27, 2006. Transcripts must be provided for each institution of higher education attended, whether as an undergraduate or graduate student.

VIII. APPLICATION SUBMISSION

NEW AND RENEWING APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT A SIGNED APPLICATION PACKAGE, PLUS SIX STAPLED COPIES. An application package for new applicants consists of: 1) Application; 2) Description of Proposed Research; 3) Plan of Study; 4) Two Letters of Recommendation; 5) Student Resume and Faculty Advisor’s Vita; and 6) Transcripts. Renewing fellows should refer to Section VI for submission requirements. Mail materials to: Virginia Space Grant Consortium, Attn: AGR Fellowship Coordinator, Old Dominion University Peninsula Center, 600 Butler Farm Rd., Hampton, VA 23666. ALL MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00 PM EST ON FEBRUARY 6, 2006 TO BE CONSIDERED. Faxed applications will not be accepted.

IX. INQUIRIES

Questions concerning the preparation and submission of proposals and the administration of this program should be directed to the VSGC’s Fellowship Coordinator, Telephone (757) 766-5210; Fax (757) 766-5205; or e-mail: vsgc@odu.edu.
VIRGINIA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM
Aerospace Graduate Research Fellowships
ACADEMIC YEAR 2006–2007

APPLICANT INFORMATION FORM

Check appropriate category: ☐ New Submission ☐ Renewal ☐ Second Renewal

General Information

Student’s Name ____________________________ Last First MI

Social Security Number _______________________ Minority Status (state, if applicable) ________________

Current Address ________________________________________________________________

City __________________________ State __________ Zip __________

Telephone __________________________ E-Mail address ________________________________

Permanent Home Mailing Address _________________________________________________

City __________________________ State __________ Zip __________

Permanent Telephone __________________________ Email _____________________________

Congressional District __________________________

Virginia Space Grant Institution will attend __________________________________________

Target Degree (MS, Ph.D.) ______________ Field of Study _____________________________

Do you plan to pursue a Ph.D.? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, briefly describe plans ______________________________________________________

Have you completed your Ph.D. exams? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Date Completed: __________________________ University: ____________________________

Undergraduate Institution _________________________________________________________

Major(s) __________________________ Minor(s) __________________________

GPA __________________________ on a scale of __________________________ Expected Completion Date ______________

Graduate Institution (if applicable) _________________________________________________

Major(s) __________________________ Minor(s) __________________________

Target Degree __________________________ Expected Completion Date ______________

GPA __________________________ on a scale of __________________________

Faculty Advisor Information

Faculty Advisor __________________________ Title __________________________

Printed Name __________________________ Department/Division __________________________

Complete Address ________________________________

Telephone __________________________ Fax __________________________ E-Mail __________________________

(continued on other side)
Research Abstract

Provide a short summary in the space provided below of the objectives of your research and plan of study together with the methodology to be used. Note: A complete description needs to be included in your proposal.

Sponsored Funding

Anticipated funding for student study and research (other than VSGC) for the 2006-2007 academic year. Use additional sheets if necessary. Note: You should list other fellowships (not financial aid) for which you have applied.

Source ________________________________________ Amount $ ____________

Source ________________________________________ Amount $ ____________

Certification

I certify that I am a citizen of the United States and am or will be a full-time student at one of the five Virginia Space Grant Colleges. I will comply with VSGC Scholarship reporting requirements and other administrative requirements of this grant as detailed in the application package guidelines. I also certify that all information contained in this application package is accurate.

Signature of Student ______________________________ Date __________________

I certify that I will serve as the student's advisor and will supervise his/her research, as well as fully comply with VSGC Scholarship reporting and administrative requirements. (Sponsor signature required only if advisor is adjunct faculty.)

Signature of Advisor ______________________________ Date __________________

Telephone __________________________ E-mail __________________________

Signature of Sponsor (if necessary) ______________________________ Date __________________

Telephone __________________________ E-mail __________________________

The following individuals have reviewed the student's application and indicate endorsement by signing below.

Signature of Dept Chair ______________________________ Date __________________

Telephone __________________________ E-mail __________________________

Complete Address __________________________

Signature of Institution’s Research Administrator ______________________________ Date __________________

Telephone __________________________ E-mail __________________________

Complete Address __________________________

NOTE: NEW AND RENEWING APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT A SIGNED APPLICATION PACKAGE, PLUS SIX STAPLED COPIES. An application package for new applicants consists of: 1) Application; 2) Description of Proposed Research; 3) Plan of Study; 4) Two Letters of Recommendation; 5) Student Resume and Faculty Advisor’s Vita; and 6) Transcripts. Renewing fellows should refer to Section VI for submission requirements. Mail materials to: Virginia Space Grant Consortium, Attn: AGR Fellowship Coordinator, Old Dominion University Peninsula Center, 600 Butler Farm Rd., Hampton, VA 23666. ALL MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00 PM EST ON FEBRUARY 6, 2006 TO BE CONSIDERED.