

## JEROME A. AND MARY JANE STRAKA FELLOWSHIP: DETAILS OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS

### Eligibility

This fund was established by Jerome A. Straka April 24, 1974 to "honor his University and express his gratitude for the education he received there". Successful applicants must be:

- a) Pursuing a course of study in one of the fields of engineering, physical or biological sciences, mathematics or economics (concentrating on the advantages of the free-enterprise profit system).
- b) Ambitious, talented and "gifted" students whose academic record to date gives every indication that they are destined for an exceptional contribution as useful citizens, especially in the field of their choice.
- c) Good representatives of the middle-class, middle-income group for whom the financial aid provided will make the difference between their continuation of additional education and the abandonment of all such plans.

One (1) student will be selected for a 12-month fellowship with a total stipend of \$25,055. In selecting a student for this fellowship, the Graduate School will give preference to dissertators who have an expected doctoral time-to-degree that is no more than their academic program's average Final PhD Program time-to-degree **and** no more than the AAU peers' average Final PhD Program time-to-degree (refer to Page 4 of the academic program's [data profile](#) for these numbers, e.g., 5.6 years for Economics and 5.0 years for Neuroscience).

### Application Process

Students who believe that they are eligible for this fellowship may apply through the Common Scholarship Application (CSA) <http://scholarships.wisc.edu/Scholarships/>. Until the deadline, you may re-enter the system to edit your application. **Deadline = April 21, 2017, 12:00 p.m.**

### Information you will need for your application

- Your name, e-mail address, and campus ID.
- Primary academic program and degree pursued.
- Semester and year of entry to program.
- Abstract of your dissertation research. Limit = 250 words. Description should be accessible to reviewers from a broad range of STEM disciplines and speak to the broader impact of your research.
- Statement on how you fit the "gifted" criterion. This should include major competitive awards you have received, significant publications you have prepared for peer-reviewed journals and the status of those publications (submitted, accepted, published), and additional examples of your impact on the discipline and/or your academic program (scholarly accomplishments, leadership activities, service, etc.) that you believe would be helpful to the committee in making its recommendations. Limit = 500 words.
- Statement on how you fit the "middle-class" criterion. This should include examples in your upbringing or recent experiences to indicate how being part of the middle class has impacted your academic experience and personal worldview. It should especially highlight how you have been disadvantaged financially due to the inability to receive funding available for low-income students and/or the inability to cover educational expenses on your own. Limit = 500 words.
- Current CV.
- Support letter from your advisor. The letter should be no more than one (1) page in length and should address your advisor's knowledge of how you meet the eligibility criteria. Note that you will indicate your advisor in the CSA system, then the advisor will receive an e-mail with directions on how to submit the letter her/himself in CSA.

You may direct any questions about this competition to Cassandra Rademaekers, Fellowship Director, in the Office of Fellowship and Funding Resources, [offr@grad.wisc.edu](mailto:offr@grad.wisc.edu).