

# ACTION PLAN DEVOLVED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Department of Physics and Engineering Physics

Approved on Mar 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011

## **1. Departmental Awards Program:**

### Top-up Funds for Tri-Council Awards

Department of Physics and Engineering Physics will top up Tri-Council scholarships by \$4000/year, both at the MSc and PhD level, during each twelve-month period they hold the Tri-Council scholarship.

### Maximum devolved Graduate Scholarship

\$18,000/year for up to 3 years for PhD students.

\$15,000/year for up to 2 years for MSc students.

Partial Scholarships will also be awarded and considered in conjunction with other departmental support, such as named scholarships and Graduate Teaching Fellowships.

It is expected Department that all graduate student in the department receive minimum financial support roughly equivalent to the amount normally provided by the University Graduate Scholarship. This support may come from various sources including devolved scholarship funds, teaching fellowships and appointment, supervisor research funds, etc. All major scholarships are paid in monthly installments.

## **2. Conditions for Devolved Scholarships Awards**

- i. Maximum duration for a major scholarship support is 2 years of support within the first 2 years for MSc program; 3 years of support within the first 4 years for PhD program, and 4 years of support within the first 4 years for MSc to Ph D transfer Program.  
The program starts from the time of registration in the M.Sc. program. The combined support from various departmental sources in values exceeding \$5,000 is considered as a major scholarship.
- ii. To be eligible for the award continuing graduate students must have an average of 80%.
- iii. Students must maintain the passing grades (as per CGSR regulations) during tenure of the award. Failing grades in any class included in the program of studies will result in cancellation of the departmental award.

- iv. Devolved Scholarship Award holders must maintain registration throughout the tenure of the award.
- v. The College of Graduate Studies and Research requires that the student and their Advisory Committee meet annually. To be eligible for the award, students who have been enrolled in a graduate program in our department for more than 12 months, must have had a recent meeting of the student's Advisory Committee.
- vi. The recipients of devolved funding may be required to provide the equivalent of four hours per week of lab instructing, teaching, marking assistance, etc. as assigned by the Department. No additional remuneration is provided for this service. The four-month summer period will be reserved strictly for research work with no departmental work obligations expected from the students. Students who receive Graduate Teaching Fellowships may be required to provide additional service (in the form of lab instructing, teaching, marking assistance, etc.) to the department according to the GTF regulations.
  
- vii. The Graduate Scholarship recipients have no legal entitlement to vacations since they receive vacation pay in lieu of time off. However, the Department suggests that it is reasonable to allow these recipients up to 2 weeks of leave annually.

### **3. Equity Plan**

Using the College of Graduate Studies and Research plan for implementing education equity as a guideline, the Department of Physics and Engineering Physics will strive to ensure that the allocation of new graduate awards will reflect the diversity of the student population at the University of Saskatchewan. Our goal is to promote the participation in our graduate programs from each of the four designated groups: aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, visible minorities and women.

### **4. Awarding of Devolved Funds**

The competition for the College's Devolved Scholarships will be normally held once a year. The call for applications will normally be sent out in early May and all applications must be received by mid-June. Award recommendations will be made by the Graduate Affairs Committee and approved by the Department by simple majority vote. Only students who have submitted the standard Scholarship application forms will be considered for the award.

### **5. Ranking Students for Devolved Funding**

Scholarships are financial rewards for academic excellence. Grade Point Averages are calculated using criteria outlined by the College of Graduate Studies and Research. For new M.Sc. students, the last 60 credit units from their undergraduate program are used, starting with the last courses taken.

Tri-council awardees will first be recognized. The Graduate Affairs Committee will then rank all remaining candidates. The preference will be given to the Ph D students both in the amount of the awards and the priority . The following factors will be considered in the decision making process: grades and course work, marks from the Comprehensive Examination, research progress as evidenced by published, accepted, and submitted papers, conference presentations, content and form of the Scholarship application. New students are eligible and will be considered for the awards based on the availability of funds. Only students who have submitted the standard Scholarship application forms will be considered. New students are evaluated based on the Scholarship application form, transcripts of previous degrees, Letters of Reference and other available information.