

GAANN Project Administration

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This presentation will focus on how DePaul University's School of Computing meets the administration goals of the GAANN program.

Unique qualities of DePaul:

- Large adult student population
- Large MS program (~2000 students)
- Urban setting
- Diversity is a hallmark of the university

GAANN Regulations

(f) Project administration. (7 points) The Secretary reviews the quality of the proposed project administration, including—

1. How the applicant will select fellows, including how the applicant will ensure that project participants who are otherwise eligible to participate are selected without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disabling condition;
2. How the applicant proposes to monitor whether a fellow is making satisfactory progress toward the degree for which the fellowship has been awarded;
3. How the applicant proposes to identify and meet the academic needs of fellows;
4. How the applicant proposes to maintain enrollment of graduate students from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds; and
5. The extent to which the policies and procedures the applicant proposes to institute for administering the project are likely to ensure efficient and effective project implementation, including assistance to and oversight of the project director.

Selection of Fellows

- Integrated with school PhD admissions; ensures quality of applicants
 - Letters of recommendation must address GAANN
- Applicants must fill out FAFSA
 - Suggest a supplemental form for Financial Aid office to adjust need based on extraordinary circumstances
- The policies of the university prohibit discrimination based on race, creed, color, ethnic origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.
 - An integral part of DePaul's mission

Monitoring of Fellows

- Assign individual faculty mentor to each fellow
 - in addition to traditional research advisor
- Mentor uses classroom observations, meetings with the fellow, quarterly evaluation meetings, and reviews of grades and course plans.
- Specific milestones have been developed to ensure that fellows remain in good standing.

Academic Needs of Fellows

- Initial evaluation of fellow upon admission
 - Coursework, teaching, possible research areas
- Close monitoring of fellow throughout academic career
 - Faculty mentor in addition to research advisor
 - Regular GAANN committee meetings
- Matching funds might include equipment/supplies, travel, etc.

Graduate Students from Traditionally Underrepresented Backgrounds

- DePaul School of Computing PhD students:
 - 29% female (20.4% national average)
 - 9% African-American (1.4% national average)
 - 1% Hispanic (1.1% national average)
- Previous and current GAANN Fellows
 - 55% female
 - 27% African-American
 - 11% Hispanic

Underrepresented Populations and Nondiscrimination

- Obviously, it helps if the student population is diverse
- Additional advertisement can be aimed at underrepresented populations (but not part of GAANN budget or matching funds)
- Once students have applied, fellowship selection is based on merit

Ensuring Efficient and Effective Project Implementation

- Institution must provide sufficient FTE faculty time (not part of matching funds)
- Mentor/mentee relationship is critical
- Committee of mentors meets regularly to discuss and evaluate Fellows
- Emphasis on individual fellows' progress and needs
 - Milestones, but flexibility