

## **Guidelines for Applications for the Bilinski Fellowship**

### **The Bilinski Educational Foundation**

Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski's goal in life was to be independent and challenged intellectually. They strongly believed in people being self-sufficient, ambitious, and above all, responsible. Both Russell and Doro were true intellectuals, as well as being adventuresome, independent and driven. Russell was a researcher, academician and an entrepreneur. Doro was an accomplished artist and patron of the arts. Russell and Doro believed that education was a means to obtain independence, and this is the legacy they wished to pass on to others.

In furtherance of that goal, when Russell and Doro died, they left a significant gift for the formation of a nonprofit corporate foundation. The Bilinski Educational Foundation seeks to fulfill this legacy by providing fellowship funds for post-secondary education for students who have demonstrated, and are likely to maintain, both the highest academic achievement and good moral character, but who lack the financial resources to pay for the highest caliber post-secondary education.

### **The University of Hawaii Bilinski Fellowship in Linguistics**

The UH Bilinski Fellowship in Linguistics supports the top doctoral students in the University of Hawaii Department of Linguistics who have exhibited the potential to contribute substantially to the advancement of our understanding of human language. The fellowship supports students working in the area of language documentation and conservation, the area of experimental linguistics, and those whose research crosses these two areas.

The fellowship provides students with up to \$12,500 per semester for up to two semesters. A third semester of support may be available for students planning to engage in substantial field-based data collection (typically greater than 4 months in duration). Fellows are expected to work **full time** on their dissertation for the duration of the fellowship period (i.e., no outside employment), and are expected to defend their dissertation and complete the degree before the end of the fellowship period.

The fellowship period commences at the beginning of the Fall semester following selection of fellowship awardees. Payment will be made to students on a semesterly basis at the beginning of each semester. Fellows will be required to provide semesterly progress reports, as well as to sign a statement of continuing financial need each semester in order to receive the funds.

### **Criteria for Selection**

Fellowships are awarded on the basis of the following criteria:

- a) Success in the program thus far, as measured by time taken to become ABD, quality of publications, success in classes, etc.
- b) Demonstrated potential for substantial contributions to the field of linguistics in the future.
- c) Demonstrated commitment to either language documentation and conservation (through, for example, extensive fieldwork or contributions to communities whose languages are endangered) or experimental linguistics (through, for example, the publication/presentation of high quality experimental research).
- d) How representative the proposed research is of the Department of Linguistics at UH.
- e) Likelihood for completion of the dissertation during the fellowship period.
- f) Fellowships will not be awarded if the dissertation has already been substantially completed before time of the award.

**Eligibility**

In order for applicants to be considered for the Bilinski Fellowship in Linguistics, they must:

- a) meet citizenship/residency requirements;
- b) be full time doctoral students in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Hawaii;
- c) have defended their dissertation prospectus within the last two semesters;
- d) be able to demonstrate financial need.

**Application Procedure**

Applicants should submit the following to the Department of Linguistics:

- (i) A completed application form, available from the Department of Linguistics office, or from the web.
- (ii) A two-page dissertation summary.
- (iii) A one-page time line.
- (iv) A current CV.

Applicants are urged to compile the application materials in consultation with their faculty advisor.