



Biomedical & Health Sciences Institute

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

ARCS FOUNDATION GLOBAL IMPACT AWARD

Global Health, Public Good and Graduate Education Case for Professional Development Support

Faculty and graduate students are the lifeblood of research universities. They are essential for the discovery, creation and communication of new knowledge, and the preservation and conservation of existing knowledge. They bring fresh perspectives, pose new questions, and boldly challenge convention. In doing so, they constantly reshape the face of academic research, keeping it innovative, exhilarating and vital to the issues of the day. This lens on graduate education is traditional, time-honored, and one that does not fade away, erode or dilute with the passage of time and the emergence of change in the academy.

In addition to creating new knowledge, graduate education also contributes to the public good. Through research, discovery, and programmatic action, graduate education adds to the difference many organizations are making to address the most pressing and complex problems of this day, especially in areas of health and society. Complex problems are examined through interdisciplinary approaches that involved multiple disciplines that cross the biomedical and social sciences, humanities and public health. Advancing research and action in *global health* is one of the best examples where multiple disciplines align for research and graduate training that have a high likelihood of addressing policy, programs, and social action.

Graduate students involved in global research issues focus their work on programs and develop partnerships with large agencies and small organizations, countries and villages, in a number of important areas. These include for example, the impact of global migration; design, training and use of community health leaders in Africa; epidemiology of infectious disease and the associated political, environmental and cultural issues; health and biomedical workforce and workforce shortages in the developing world; and the impact of water quality and adequate nutrition to poverty and health, just to name a few. Students engaged in global research are addressing some of the most pressing problems of the day and they do so with great reach, across borders from the laboratory bench to clinic, from city to village. Graduate research effecting global issues is research aimed at the public good.

The Atlanta Chapter of ARCS Foundation is willing to support, with a \$10,000 award, the professional development of a doctoral student at the University of Georgia who is performing research which will have a global impact. Funding may be used to support student travel for short trips to visit labs, research a particular technique, perform interviews or acquire samples of raw materials directly related to their research. This award will have no restriction but the ARCS Scholar must be focusing on research which affects global issues and research that is aimed at impacting the larger society with their work. We hope this award will enhance the ARCS Scholar's professional development and help meet the short term needs associated with their project.

*Please note that the students chosen this year for the Global Impact Award will be awarded the full \$10,000 for each their three years as long as they maintain eligibility (this is a change from previous years).

