

# KU

# MADISON & LILA SELF GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

## 2024–2025 Handbook

Revised February 2025

Madison and Lila Self Graduate Programs • The University of Kansas  
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## **INTRODUCTION AND MISSION**

The mission of the University of Kansas Madison and Lila Self Graduate Fellowship is to identify, recruit, and provide development opportunities for exceptional Ph.D. students who demonstrate the promise to make significant contributions to their fields of study and society as a whole.

There are 47 active fellows and 203 alumni in the 2024–2025 academic year.

The Madison and Lila Self Graduate Fellowship handbook provides general information about the Self Graduate Fellowship (SGF), Self Graduate Fellows, current policies, and 2024–2025 activities. This handbook has been prepared to provide policy statements and answers to the most commonly asked questions about the fellowship including fellowship awards, enrollment, employment, and other funding. These policies may be revised throughout the academic year; the Self Graduate Fellowship Director maintains the current policies.

The Self Graduate Fellowship is offered in collaboration with KU Endowment, Graduate Studies, academic departments, and faculty. Information provided here supplements rules and guidelines provided in the [KU Lawrence Office of Graduate Studies Academic Catalog](#), [KUMC Office of Graduate Studies Academic Catalog](#), by the [Office of the University Registrar](#), and by [KU Endowment](#).

## **MADISON AND LILA SELF**

The late Madison “Al” and Lila Self launched and permanently endowed the Self Graduate Fellowship in 1989, motivated by their strong belief in the vital importance of developing leadership for tomorrow. Kansas natives, Madison and Lila met at the University of Kansas. With their lifetime and estate gifts, the Self’s donated \$106 million to KU, making them the most generous private donors to date in the history of the university.

Madison, who graduated from the University of Kansas in 1943 with a degree in chemical engineering, became an owner and CEO of Bee Chemical Co. in Lansing, Illinois, in 1947. When he sold the company 37 years later, it had grown from a staff of three to a sizable corporation with five manufacturing locations in the United States and international operations in Japan and England.

In 1985, Madison founded Allen Financial, a private investment firm. In 1989, with three associates, he established Tioga International, Inc., a diversified research, development, and manufacturing company. After achieving planned objectives, the group sold Tioga in 1999. In 1997, Madison was awarded a Distinguished Service Citation by the University of Kansas and the KU Alumni Association, the University’s highest honor. He received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters and Science from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1998. The University of Kansas School of Engineering recognized Madison’s contributions to the engineering profession and society by giving him its Distinguished Engineering Service Award in 2000. In 2009, Madison was named a Life Trustee of the KU Endowment Association. He was elected to this position in recognition of exceptional support of the University of Kansas through tireless efforts and philanthropic support. He was one of the first three members of this prestigious group, along with Senator Robert Dole and Christina Hixson.

Madison maintained a lifelong interest in education and leadership development. He was a past international president of the Young Presidents’ Organization, served as chairman of the Chief Executives Organization, and was a founding member of the World Presidents’ Organization—professional associations that provide their members with opportunities for education and idea exchange. He also served as a life trustee of the Illinois Institute of Technology. Madison passed away in January 2013.

Lila’s interests included community organizations, family genealogy, and gardening. She also conducted extensive research on the work of R. Harold Zook, a noted Chicago area architect. Lila passed away in November 2013.

After the couple's passing, an additional gift was endowed to the university, resulting in the creation of the Self Memorial Scholarship in 2014. Although you can find more evidence of the Self's generosity and work throughout campus, the Madison and Lila Self Graduate Programs administer the only two graduate-level programs – the Madison and Lila Self Graduate Fellowship and the Madison and Lila Self Memorial Scholarship.

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Jennifer Roberts, Ph.D., Managing Trustee; Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies; Professor, Geology  
Barbara Bichelmeyer, Ph.D., Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor  
James Clarke, Senior Vice President and Chief Investment Officer, KU Endowment  
Julie Carlsten Christianson, Ph.D., Professor and Vice Chair, Cell Biology and Physiology, KUMC  
Elizabeth Friis, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Mechanical Engineering  
Michael Hageman, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor, Pharmaceutical Chemistry  
Robert Unckless, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Molecular Biosciences  
Ted Harris, Ph.D., Board of Governors, Society of Self Fellows; Associate Research Professor, Kansas Biological Survey

## **STAFF**

Jennifer Roberts, Ph.D., Managing Trustee  
Stefani Buchwitz, Ed.D., Director  
Michelle Compton-Muñoz, Assistant Director  
Daniel Rivera, Recruitment Coordinator  
Tirzah Branwen-Williams, Administrative Associate  
Alyssa Plummer, Graduate Assistant

## **SELF GRADUATE PROGRAMS OFFICE**

### Mailing Address

Campus	Self Graduate Programs Strong Hall, Suite 313	U.S. Mail	Self Graduate Programs The University of Kansas Strong Hall, Suite 313 1450 Jayhawk Blvd. Lawrence, KS 66045-7594
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Phone	(785) 864-7249	Website	<a href="http://www.selfgraduate.ku.edu">www.selfgraduate.ku.edu</a>
Fax	(785) 864-0394	E-mail	<a href="mailto:sgf@ku.edu">sgf@ku.edu</a>

Hours 8:00a.m.–5:00p.m., Monday–Friday  
The Self Graduate Programs staff work a hybrid schedule.  
Closed on state holidays.

### **RECRUITING SELF GRADUATE FELLOWS**

The Self Graduate Fellowship contributes to the University of Kansas efforts in graduate student recruitment. The recruitment goal is to ensure a strong pool of exceptionally well-qualified candidates is available for selecting new Self Graduate Fellows. In collaboration with eligible departments, the Self Graduate Fellowship proactively identifies and recruits prospective fellows – both incoming and first year Ph.D. students. Efforts are ongoing to expand and increase awareness of the Self Graduate Fellowship and graduate education at KU. Once admission into a doctoral program is confirmed, the academic departments identify incoming or first year Ph.D. students who possess the attributes of a Self Graduate Fellow, according to donor Guidelines, for nomination. Both incoming and first-year Ph.D. students may be nominated and are equally eligible for the Self Graduate Fellowship.

### **SELECTING SELF GRADUATE FELLOWS**

After academic departments submit nominations for a Self Graduate Fellowship, a faculty evaluation committee and the Self Graduate Fellowship Board of Trustees review and rank the nominees. Selected nominees are invited for a campus visit to meet department representatives, the Self Graduate Fellowship staff, and in-person interview with a faculty interview team. The Self Graduate Fellowship Board of Trustees considers evaluation and interview results to select the awardees.

Interviews take place in person in late February and awards are offered in mid-March. The University of Kansas follows the Council of Graduate Schools' resolution to honor fellowship offers through April 15. Offers are only valid until April 15 of the year offered. Self Graduate Fellowship offers to prospective fellows or first year Ph.D. students cannot be deferred to future years. Funding must also begin with the fall semester; the fellowship cannot begin in an earlier or later semester, regardless of student status.

### **START-UP AWARD**

The Self Graduate Fellowship Start-Up Award is \$5,000 and awarded to incoming fellows, both recruits and first year Ph.D. students, the pay period prior the GRA appointment start date (*GRA appointment begins on FY pay period 5, start-up awarded on FY pay period 4*). The intention is to support moving expenses and get fellows established in their doctoral studies. Recruits and incoming fellows not yet employed by KU, will receive the \$5,000 via check. First year Ph.D. students (who are transitioning to their second year as a Ph.D. student), if already employed by their academic department, will receive the \$5,000 via HR additional pay as a net award with fringe.

## SELF GRADUATE FELLOWS AND FACULTY MENTORS

### 2024-2028

Sivani Badrivenkata, pharmaceutical chemistry; Michael Hageman and Hao Lou, mentors  
Kelly Beym, geography; David Rahn, mentor  
Kiera Eckhardt, anthropology; Bartholomew Dean, mentor  
Brody Gatza, aerospace engineering; Cheng Huang, mentor  
Fernando Gonzalez, chemistry; Manar Shoshani, mentor  
Kaitlyn Hinz, pharmacology, toxicology and therapeutics, KUMC; Wen-Xing Ding, mentor  
Ashley Howard, cell biology and physiology, KUMC; Kaela Varberg, mentor  
Danielle Land, ecology and evolutionary biology; Jocelyn Colella, mentor  
Jeb Marshall, aerospace engineering; Shawn Keshmiri, mentor  
Kevin Mulcahy, ecology and evolutionary biology; K. Christopher Beard, mentor  
Macie Proctor-Roser, molecular biosciences; Robin Orozco, mentor  
Alexis Redwine, chemistry; Aaron Teator, mentor  
Marina Stoilova, ecology and evolutionary biology; Paulyn Cartwright, mentor  
Kayla Whatley, bioengineering; Sara Wilson, mentor  
Sheena Zeng, mathematics; Jeremy Martin, mentor

### 2023-2027

Elizabeth Bartlett, chemistry; Ward Thompson, mentor  
Megan Carlson, aerospace engineering; Shawn Keshmiri, mentor  
Emily Daniel, biochemistry and molecular biology, KUMC; Jeroen Roelofs, mentor  
William Hauser, neuroscience, KUMC; Doug Wright, mentor  
Lana Heslop, neuroscience, KUMC; Doug Wright, mentor  
Carrie Lewis-Merritt, atmospheric science; Bing Pu, mentor  
Ashley Lieber, physics and astronomy; Elisabeth Mills, mentor  
Natalie Lind, chemistry; James Blakemore, mentor  
Curtis McLennan, physics and astronomy; Steven Prohira, mentor  
Daniel Mongovin, geology; Michael Taylor, mentor  
Jessica Pfannenstiel, molecular biosciences; Anthony Fehr, mentor  
Yezan Salamoun, pharmaceutical chemistry; Michael Hageman, mentor  
Sophia Terian, environmental and water resources engineering; Amy Hansen, mentor  
Bailey Thompson, accounting; Michael Wilkins, mentor  
Gentry Totta-Griese, neuroscience, KUMC; Doug Wright, mentor

### 2022-2026

Alexandra Berkowicz, biochemistry and molecular biology, KUMC; Randal Halfmann and  
Russell Swerdlow, mentors  
Skylar Bird, cell biology and physiology, KUMC; Vargheese Chennathukuzhi, mentor  
Aleesa Chua, chemistry; Heather Desaire, mentor  
Grahmm August Watt Funk, pharmaceutical chemistry; Hyunjoon Kim, mentor  
Diana Najera, cell biology and physiology, KUMC; Vargheese Chennathukuzhi, mentor  
Kip Nielsen, atmospheric science; David Rahn, mentor  
Jeffrey Xu, aerospace engineering; Shawn Keshmiri, mentor



**2021–2025**

Madeline Isom, chemistry; Heather Desaire, mentor

Samuel Lim, computational biology; Joanna Slusky, mentor

Megan Myers, microbiology, molecular genetics and immunology, KUMC; Jeffrey Bose, mentor

Daniel Owen, aerospace engineering; Brian Kaplinger, mentor

Scott Ring, mechanical engineering; Carl Luchies, mentor

Bryan Rodríguez Colón, geology; Jennifer Roberts, mentor

Mikayla Smith, pharmaceutical chemistry; Michael Hageman, mentor

Lillian Springer, economics; David Slusky, mentor

Lee Taylor, electrical engineering; Carl Leuschen, mentor

Megan Wittman, environmental engineering; Belinda Sturm, mentor

## SELF GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

### Financial Support

Self Graduate Fellows will be appointed in 2024–2025 at a 50 percent full-time equivalent (.50 FTE) Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) for 12 months. All fellows will be appointed at the annual rate of \$36,000 for a maximum of four years, or until graduation, whichever comes first. Funding cannot extend beyond graduation. The rate of pay will hold steady during the entire period of appointment unless raises are applied at the discretion of the Self Graduate Fellowship Board of Trustees and/or KU. New fellows will be appointed to begin work in early August ([the fifth pay period of the fiscal year calendar](#)). Paychecks are distributed bi-weekly as a direct deposit into a bank account and follow the [payroll calendar](#). Year-round, 12-month support is provided to help Self Graduate Fellows make progress to their degrees and maintain continual employment.

It is important to understand the nature of GRA employment as it relates to compliance with the Affordable Care Act. University policies include:

- [Graduate Research Assistants \(GRAs\) and Affordable Care Act \(ACA\) Compliance](#)
- [GRA, GTA, and GA Appointments: General Guidelines and Eligibility](#)
- [Student Employee Eligibility Requirements and Appointment Limits](#)
- KUMC students should refer to [this website](#)

**Fellows must contact the Self Graduate Fellowship Director if they are considering any other employment, outside funding, or appointment to make sure there are no conflicts with their Self Graduate Fellowship GRA appointment and to be consistent with KU and KUMC graduate student and employment policies and procedures.** Fellows must complete an Additional Financial Support Form (see Appendix) and submit to the Self Graduate Fellowship Director for consideration. The form must be submitted as early as possible to avoid conflicts. Failure to do so may jeopardize continued appointment as a Self Graduate Fellow. It is the responsibility of all Self Graduate Fellows to notify the Self Graduate Fellowship Director in advance if they will not be enrolled during a semester or will be absent for an extended period, including summers. **This is important because the GRA appointment is an employment contract.**

### Employment Status

As Graduate Research Assistants, Self Graduate Fellows are employees of the University of Kansas and State of Kansas.

#### *Employment Eligibility*

KU employees are considered a part-time employee if the appointment in a regular position is 48 percent to less than 75 percent FTE. Self Graduate Fellowship GRAs are appointed at a 50 percent FTE. GRAs are salaried student employees who perform research that is in their fields of study and is integral to the student's education (e.g. dissertation topic). The duties performed are under the direct supervision of faculty within the fellows' academic department. Details regarding GRA appointment eligibility are available within the [Graduate Research Assistant Appointment Eligibility policy](#).

### *Workers Compensation*

The University of Kansas provides workers' compensation coverage to all employees, including student employees and part-time employees. GRAs are covered under State of Kansas Workers Compensation and the Kansas Tort Claims Act. Under the Kansas Workers Compensation Act, if an employee is injured or becomes sick due to work, that employee may be eligible, as determined by the State Self Insurance Fund, to receive medical coverage and compensation for lost wages subject to a weekly maximum.

### **Health Insurance**

The University of Kansas, in coordination with the Kansas Board of Regents, offers voluntary health insurance coverage for eligible graduate students through United Healthcare Student Resources. Please note that dental coverage and vision coverage are voluntary and not provided under this health insurance plan. The University of Kansas does not contribute towards dental and vision premiums for graduate students. Self Graduate Fellows are responsible for making their own health insurance decisions and enrollment. For Self Graduate Fellows who enroll in the GRA health insurance plan offered by the Kansas Board of Regents, the Self Graduate Fellowship pays the employer's share of the student premium. Specifically, Self Graduate Fellowship pays 75 percent of the total student-only premium for eligible GRAs when fellows elect for coverage provided by KU. The promoted coverage rates and plans already account for the 75 percent coverage available due to GRA appointments for fellows. Any bills from KU for health insurance reflect the student's share of 25 percent.

Eligibility is determined at the beginning of each semester (coverage period). The following requirements must be met each semester for a student to be eligible for this plan:

- **Fall and spring semesters:** A student must have at least a 50% GRA appointment for a minimum of eight consecutive work weeks
- **Summer semester:** A student must have at least a 50% GRA appointment for a minimum of four consecutive work weeks

Applications and premiums are accepted by the semester only.

- [GRA and Affordable Care Act \(ACA\) Compliance](#)
- [GRA benefits for Lawrence-based students](#)
- [GRA information for KUMC students](#)

### **Taxes**

All students who receive payments from the Self Graduate Fellowship are responsible for declaring these payments on their tax return. Students appointed as GRAs will receive a W-2 form from the University of Kansas. All Self Graduate Fellows should be self-informed about IRS regulations and consult tax advisors if additional assistance is needed. Fellows may find useful information through the Payroll Office on each campus. Tax assistance is available from [KU Legal Services for Students](#).

Though summer enrollment is not required per the University of Kansas Graduate Studies policy, note that a lack of summer enrollment does have an effect on tax liability for this period. Fellows have experienced increased tax liability during summer semester pay periods when unenrolled. For more information, reach out to the Payroll Office.

## **Tuition and Fees**

Tuition and fees are not waived at the University of Kansas; consequently, the Self Graduate Fellowship pays full tuition and fees (a 100% sponsorship level) for Self Graduate Fellows to aid them in their pursuit of doctoral degree. Payment of tuition and fees is made directly to the Student Accounts & Receivables Office for University of Kansas classes and to Student Financial Accounting for KUMC classes. The Self Graduate Fellowship pays for fall, spring, and summer tuition each year for a maximum of four years. The four-year tuition payment cycle begins in the fall and ends in the summer. The Self Graduate Fellowship does not limit the number of credit hours supported, but enrolled hours are reviewed each semester by the Director. Fellows should only enroll in the necessary number of hours for progress to degree and degree completion. Fellows are encouraged to review their enrollment through [Enroll & Pay](#) each semester for accuracy, to understand the expenditures, and to ensure that proper payment has been completed.

### *Enrollment*

Fellows are responsible for knowing KU enrollment policies. Information is available from the [Office of the University Registrar](#). KUMC students should review [this website](#) for information. Students with a 50 percent (.50 FTE) GRA appointment must be enrolled for no fewer than six credit hours in the fall and spring semesters. This is considered full time enrollment.

- **KU-Lawrence Fellows:** [Policy](#) no longer requires GRAs to enroll for the summer semester. However, SGF-funded GRAs are encouraged to continue enrolling in summer semester courses in support of progress to degree and in fulfilling degree requirements. **KUMC Fellows:** Information regarding KUMC enrollment policies can be found [here](#). Enrollment in 3 credit hours is considered full-time enrollment for GRAs in the summer semester.

[Doctoral candidates](#) who have completed 18 post-comprehensive hours may enroll in fewer hours. After passing the comprehensive examination for a doctoral degree, fellows must remain enrolled during the fall and spring semester until all requirements for the degree are completed (including the filing of the dissertation). Summer enrollment is not required, but is encouraged by the Self Graduate Fellowship. If, after 18 hours of post-comprehensive enrollment, the degree is not completed, fellows must continue to enroll during the fall and spring semester until all degree requirements have been met. The 18-hour count includes the semester in which the comprehensive examination was completed. Typically, fellows can enroll in one credit hour. Fellows should direct questions about enrollment hours to their advisors.

- For additional [doctoral candidacy](#) information
- KUMC students can refer to [this website](#)

### *Degree courses*

The Self Graduate Fellowship expects fellows to enroll in classes that meet the departmental course requirements for the Ph.D. and/or are recommended by advisors for the course of study. Fellows must maintain full-time graduate enrollment (as defined by the academic department) until they pass the comprehensive oral examination for a doctoral degree.

### *Non-degree courses*

The fellowship will pay tuition for courses needed to meet deficiencies or a foreign language requirement or for courses that are recommended by the fellow's advisor. The fellowship does not pay tuition for courses that do not meet departmental and/or school requirements for the Ph.D. The fellowship does not pay tuition for courses for an additional degree (i.e. if a fellow wants to pursue a second degree while pursuing the Ph.D. degree). While fellows may study abroad, the fellowship does not pay for courses at other colleges or universities or other additional expenses incurred due to study abroad. Students should check with the Self Graduate Fellowship Director prior to enrollment if they have questions. The Director will contact fellows directly when there are questions regarding enrollment decisions. Fellows may clarify in advance about enrollment. If enrollment does not meet Self Graduate Fellowship policy, fellows may be required to pay tuition and fees associated with the optional enrollment.

### *Field Trips*

For degrees that include field trip enrollment options, the fellowship will pay for enrollment fees associated with a maximum of two field trips over the four year fellowship award period. However, the fellowship will not pay for travel expenditures associated with the field trips (i.e. airfare, hotels, car rentals, per diem, etc.).

### *Certificates*

Pursuit of certificates must be approved by the fellow's faculty mentor and the Self Graduate Fellowship Director. The purpose is to ensure that the certificate topic and additional coursework are a match to the fellow's academic and career goals, Self Graduate Fellowship policy, and to manage Self Graduate Fellowship tuition expenses.

### *Late enrollment*

The fellowship does not pay [late enrollment fees](#). Students will be billed and responsible for paying late fees.

### *Adding/Dropping classes*

Penalties for [adding and/or dropping classes](#) begin on the first day of classes each semester. Fellows will be billed and responsible for costs associated with dropping classes.

### **TEXTBOOK AND TECHNOLOGY AWARD**

To further support fellows, a \$1,000 textbook and technology award is available for fellows in their second, third, and fourth fellowship years. Items covered under this award include but are not limited to the following: textbooks for course enrollment, books that supplement the Ph.D. area content, laptop, tablet, computer software. Office supplies, furniture, and items for research labs are not eligible for this award. Questions regarding approved items for financial support should be directed to the Administrative Associate. The funds will be accessible through a reimbursement process. Fellows will be requested to complete a Textbook and Technology Award Form reporting the item description, cost, purpose, and attach an itemized receipt. Upon completion, the documentation is submitted to the staff, reviewed, and if approved, the fellow will be reimbursed at the cost amount up to \$1,000 per academic year. The purchased items will be for the fellow's personal use, and as such are not property of the University or SGF.

## **ACADEMIC PROGRESS**

Fellows are expected to enroll in fall and spring semesters while completing their coursework and to make satisfactory academic progress toward their degrees while maintaining good academic standing according to the [KU policy](#). Summer enrollment is optional but encouraged in support of progress to degree and in fulfilling degree requirements. The Self Graduate Fellowship Director will check cumulative GPAs at the end of each semester to ensure good academic standing. Fellows follow Graduate Studies and department guidelines concerning enrollment. Fellows are expected to complete an academic progress report and submit it to the Self Graduate Fellowship in May each year. The 2024–2025 deadline is May 9, 2025. (See Appendix)

Maintaining high academic standards and high professional and student conduct is required for all Self Graduate Fellows and closely monitored in order to continue as a Self Graduate Fellow.

The following shall be reason to discontinue the Self Graduate Fellowship:

- Failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward meeting degree requirements as determined by the home academic department
- Failure to maintain a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.0 or above
- Earned an NP (no progress) for research hours
- Failure to maintain eligibility for employment as a Graduate Research Assistant
- Placement on academic probation by academic department
- Ineligibility to hold student employment and termination from employment as a Graduate Research Assistant
- Failure to maintain high standards for academic and research conduct
- Failure to maintain high standards for professional and student conduct
- Failure to comply with requirements set forth in the Self Graduate Fellowship Handbook

If any of the above reasons occur, the Self Graduate Fellowship will be discontinued at the end of the current semester. Employment as a Graduate Research Assistant will be terminated, tuition and fees sponsorship will be stopped, participation in the Fellow Development Program concludes, and access to the additional awards expires. The Self Graduate Fellowship cannot be deferred if it is terminated as a result of the above reasons. A student may not be nominated for the Self Graduate Fellowship again in a future cycle. A student may only receive the Self Graduate Fellowship one time and with the support from one academic department nomination.

## **ACADEMIC CONDUCT**

One goal shared by the graduate programs at KU and KUMC is to provide an educational environment in which a student can master a special field of knowledge and strive to develop competence in independent scholarship and research to make original contributions to knowledge. In achieving that goal, there is an expectation by KU that graduate students will conduct themselves with high integrity and professional ethics. Such conduct by a graduate student must include adherence to the written and observed or taught guidelines for ethical standards of the profession the student is seeking to enter.

Academic misconduct including, but not limited to, plagiarism, fabrication of data, negligence in laboratory safety or recordkeeping, sabotage of labmates' research, disruption of classes, and giving or receiving unauthorized aid on examinations will not be tolerated and shall be reason to discontinue the Self Graduate Fellowship. A graduate student is responsible for informing themselves about these requirements and expectations of conduct as well as seeking answers to their own questions about what constitutes misconduct.

#### **NON-ACADEMIC CONDUCT**

Self Graduate Fellows are expected to maintain a respectful and supportive environment. This is demonstrated by being courteous; respecting boundaries, opinions, individual differences; ensuring equal access to opportunities; creating a positive environment; not tolerating prejudicial actions or remarks; and supporting and protecting those who report violations of departmental or university policies. Non-academic misconduct, including conviction of serious criminal charges, will not be tolerated and shall be reason to discontinue the Self Graduate Fellowship. More information can be found within the [Student Non-Academic Conduct Procedures](#).

#### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Self Graduate Fellows may petition the Self Graduate Fellowship for a leave of absence from the fellowship to pursue full-time professional activities related to the doctoral program and long-range professional goals. Leaves of absence also may be granted because of illness or other emergency. A leave of absence is granted by semester, up to a maximum of three semesters or one year. During a leave of absence, Self Graduate Fellowship financial support, including GRA appointment and tuition and fees sponsorship, may be suspended depending on the situation. During the leave, the Self Graduate Fellow will not be required to participate in Fellow Development Program activities. Fellows need to be aware that the fellow development program is coordinated in a four-year sequence, so their curriculum will be impacted.

Self Graduate Fellows who are granted a leave of absence will be expected to complete their four-year commitment to the Self Graduate Fellowship. This will be accomplished by adding the number of semesters that match the leave of absence length. During this time fellows will receive full support from the Self Graduate Fellowship or receive the additional support not provided during the leave. Pending the length and timing of a leave of absence, fellows may be required to participate in fellow development program activities upon their return or the opportunity for participation may have passed if the programming sequence is too impacted. This decision will be at the discretion of the Self Graduate Fellowship Director.

Self Graduate Fellows who additionally wish to be granted an academic leave of absence must follow the policies and procedures of their department and [Graduate Studies](#). Fellows should submit petitions to the Self Graduate Fellowship after they have received approval from their department and must include a copy of the approval from the department of the appropriate graduate department. If a leave of absence is approved by the Self Graduate Fellowship, while the Fellow is on leave, communication by email is required at a minimum of one time per semester.

If support is deferred, deferrals are limited to 12 months/26 pay periods, maximum. Deferrals can only be paid while the fellow is a full-time student (as defined by the Graduate Studies

policy). Deferrals are paid out at the Self Graduate Fellowship standard support rate for the fellow's cohort.

Fellows should consult the Self Graduate Fellowship Director in advance to determine when their inability to participate in the development program may require a leave of absence from the Self Graduate Fellowship.

#### **POLICIES ON ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

The Self Graduate Fellowship financial support should be sufficient to support a student, therefore outside part-time employment is discouraged and potentially in conflict with employment policies. All appointments must fit within University of Kansas and Self Graduate Fellowship policies. It is important to understand the nature of GRA employment as it relates to compliance with the Affordable Care Act.

- [Graduate Research Assistants \(GRAs\) and Affordable Care Act \(ACA\) Compliance](#)
- [GRA, GTA, and GA Appointments: General Guidelines and Eligibility](#)
- [Student Employee Eligibility Requirements and Appointment Limits](#)
- KUMC students should refer to [this website](#)

**Fellows must contact the Self Graduate Fellowship Director as soon as possible if they are considering additional financial support or conflicting appointments/employment in order to negotiate the alignment with University of Kansas and Self Graduate Fellowship policies. Self Graduate Fellows must complete the Additional Financial Support Form and submit to the Director (see Appendix).**

**Fellows are discouraged from accepting outside employment unrelated to their Ph.D. programs during their tenure on Self Graduate Fellowship support.**

#### **3G Appointments: Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTA), Graduate Research Assistant (GRA), Graduate Assistants (GA)**

The Self Graduate Fellowship can only provide funding for a GRA appointment; however, fellows may have reason or opportunity to hold a GTA, GA, or GRA appointment funded by another department (typically an academic unit) during their four-year Self Graduate Fellowship tenure. The Self Graduate Fellowship recognizes these opportunities. With regards to a GTA appointment, there is value to gaining teaching experience. Additionally, some academic departments require graduate students to serve as GTAs. The Self Graduate Fellowship does not typically approve concurrent 3G appointments. 3G appointments should typically not overlap with a Self Graduate Fellowship GRA appointment. As such, Self Graduate Fellows must inform the Self Graduate Fellowship Director as soon as possible so that support can be deferred. Self Graduate Fellowship GRA funding and/or tuition and fees sponsorship will be deferred to a future semester. Self Graduate Fellows may accept a 3G appointment through their academic department for a maximum of three semesters during their tenure on Self Graduate Fellowship support. The three semesters do not have to be consecutive.

In rare scenarios, a Self Graduate Fellow may add a .225 FTE 3G appointment at 9 hours weekly funded by their academic department. This .225 FTE 3G would allow for a fellow to maintain a



.50 FTE, 20 hours weekly, Self Graduate Fellowship funded GRA appointment. The 3G appointment cannot be higher than .225 FTE and 9 hours weekly to keep the .50 FTE GRA appointment. The Self Graduate Fellowship will not lessen the .50 FTE GRA appointment. The combination of 3G appointments shall not exceed the equivalent of a .725 FTE appointment (29 hours weekly). Graduate students' primary association with the University is to progress and complete their degree program. Employment for a maximum of 29 hours weekly during the academic year assists in maintaining the balance between academic progress and University employment.

- [Student Employee Eligibility Requirements and Appointment Limits | Policy Library \(ku.edu\)](#)
- [Benefits Available to Graduate Research Assistants, Graduate Teaching Assistants and Graduate Assistants | Policy Library \(ku.edu\)](#)

### **Internships**

The Self Graduate Fellowship recognizes the value of gaining internship experience. Additionally, some academic departments require graduate studies to have an internship experience. To ensure internships, paid or unpaid, align with university and Self Graduate Fellowship policies, Self Graduate Fellows must inform the Self Graduate Fellowship Director as soon as possible. In the case of paid internships, Self Graduate Fellowship GRA funding must be deferred. If enrollment will continue while the fellow is holding a paid internship, the Self Graduate Fellowship may continue funding the tuition and fees.

### **Outside Employment Related to Ph.D. Programs**

At least 12 months on Self Graduate Fellowship must occur before this policy is considered. It is preferable if outside employment occurs only after comprehensive examinations are passed, but outside employment before this period may be negotiated if there is a tangible research benefit. If fellows are offered employment related to their Ph.D. program outside of KU for 20 hours a week or more, at a rate that is equal to or more than the SGF-funded GRA (.50 FTE) salary, fellows may be allowed to accept employment under certain circumstances at the discretion of the Director. The Self Graduate Fellowship additional financial support form must be completed and a faculty mentor agreement submitted to ensure the employment remains in support of progress to degree. If long-term outside employment is accepted, with the intention of continuing the employment through Ph.D. completion, the Self Graduate Fellowship funded GRA appointment will be permanently terminated, without a deferred funding plan. The fellow may be able to maintain tuition and fees sponsorship for the remainder of the fellowship period. Fellows are expected to remain active participants in the Fellow Development Program. If employment is outside of the Lawrence/Kansas City area, where significant travel may be necessary, participation in the Fellow Development Program may be negotiated with the Director. Attendance will remain mandatory at key programs (Skill Sessions, Government and Science Policy, International Seminar, Poster Sessions, and Symposium). Luncheon attendance may be modified with plans to attend a percentage of the policy luncheon programs.

### **Research Funds**

A fellow may accept internal and external research funds and grants that support the research directly related to the fellow's doctoral studies as verified by the fellow's faculty mentor. The

Self Graduate Fellowship is not considered direct support for research; rather, the fellowship is considered support for the researcher.

### **University Scholarships**

Due to limited funds available for graduate students at the University of Kansas, Self Graduate Fellows are discouraged from applying for additional university scholarships, fellowships, and professional development awards during their tenure on Self Graduate Fellowship support. There are also several university scholarships, fellowships, and awards that Self Graduate Fellows are ineligible for due to their status with and funding from the Self Graduate Fellowship.

### **External Fellowships and Training Grants**

In most cases, the Self Graduate Fellowship must be the primary fellowship and Self Graduate Fellows may not hold other major University of Kansas fellowships. Fellows are expected to participate in Fellow Development Program for four consecutive years with their fellowship cohort. Fellows may not hold another fellowship that includes program activity concurrently and in conflict with the SGF.

A fellow may hold an NSF-GRFP award and the Self Graduate Fellowship concurrently with the following award package modifications. If the NSF-GRFP is accepted at the same time as SGF, the SGF GRA salary and tuition and fees sponsorship are forfeited for the overlapping three years (1-3). This disallows for duplication of funding support. The remainder of the SGF benefits package (Start-up Award, Professional Development Award, Textbook and Technology Award, Fellow Development Program, fellowship cohort participation) is retained while on NSF-GRFP funding for years 1-3. In year 4, the SGF GRA salary and tuition and fees sponsorship resumes. If the SGF and NSF-GRFP are awarded in different years, the SGF Director will work with the Fellow and Graduate Studies to create a plan that allows for both awards while still following the NSF rules and SGF donor guidelines. If graduation has not yet occurred, in year 5, the SGF GRA salary and tuition and fees sponsorship are available. Funding is not available beyond the collective year 5.

The Self Graduate Fellowship has restrictions regarding additional funding. Similarly, most external fellowships and training grants (e.g., National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Fulbright) also have restrictions regarding additional funding. For example, the NIH F32 is usually awarded in the third year of graduate school or later. If a Fellow is awarded an F32, the fellow may retain the programmatic and benefits aspects of the SGF but would forfeit the remaining GRA salary and tuition and fees sponsorship since the F32 would likely support the student past year 5. On a case-by-case basis, the Self Graduate Fellowship will consider deferring the GRA salary and tuition and fees sponsorship to accommodate for some major external fellowships and training grants.

## **FELLOW DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

The Fellow Development Program is a distinctive feature of the Self Graduate Fellowship. It provides general education and training in communication, management, innovation, policy, and leadership to assist Self Graduate Fellows in their preparation for future leadership roles, complementing the specialized education and training provided in Ph.D. programs.

According to the Self Graduate Fellowship Participation Agreement, acceptance of the Self Graduate Fellowship includes a firm commitment to actively participate in the Fellow Development Program along with a desire to learn and develop skills. Active participation expectations are reviewed annually during the Fall Skill Session. Attendance at programming is recorded. The Self Graduate Fellowship Assistant Director reserves the right to connect with a fellow if participation is lacking. Failure to be an active participant in the Fellow Development Program activities shall be reason to discontinue the Self Graduate Fellowship award. Fellows are expected to participate in the Fellow Development Program for four consecutive years. The development program time commitment is approximately 90 hours each year, plus preparation and travel time.

A schedule of events for the next academic year is provided in June/July so fellows can avoid scheduling conflicts. Attendance at the Skill Sessions, Government and Science Policy Seminar, International Seminar, and Symposium is considered mandatory. Attendance at luncheons and communication coaching sessions is expected unless scheduled in conflict with a required class. Fellows should contact the Self Graduate Fellowship Assistant Director in advance regarding class conflicts and with any questions about the schedule and participation in the development program.

Program changes may be made on short notice and notification will be sent only by e-mail. Fellows must check their e-mail messages regularly.

If a fellow graduates early, but remains in Lawrence post-graduation, the fellow may continue participation in and completion of the four-year Fellow Development Program alongside their active participating cohort. They may attend the Fall Skill Session, Spring Skill Session, Symposium, communication coaching, and luncheons. If the seminars with travel have not yet occurred, the fellow may not participate as an alumni.

### **Skill Sessions**

A skill session serves as a weeklong focus on professional development to expand perspectives and knowledge in communication, management, innovation, and leadership. Two skill sessions are scheduled each year. The Fall Skill Session is held in August and the Spring Skill Session is held in January.

Dates:

2024-2025: Fall, August 12-16, 2024; Spring, January 13-17, 2025  
2025-2026: Fall, August 11-15, 2025; Spring, January 12-16, 2026

### **Communication Coaching**

Communication coaching workshops with KU faculty and outside experts build skills and confidence in communication through group and individual practice. Fellows work with other members of their entering class and individually with communication instructors in the fall and spring semesters each year. The communication coaching workshops are held in progressive sequence over the four years.

### **Luncheons**

The development program includes discussions of public policy topics that are designed to expand fellows' perspectives and knowledge on cultural trends and other matters of broad interest. The public policy topics are introduced during the Fall Skill Session and further addressed during luncheons. Approximately ten luncheons are scheduled each year, five each semester. Luncheons are held during the fall and springs semesters, typically on Tuesdays. A buffet luncheon is held from 12:15-12:45p.m. followed by a public policy presentation from 12:45-2:00p.m. Public policy topics are identified in discussion with current fellows and one topic is selected for the annual focus. Internal and external experts are invited to present to the fellows on various facets of the selected policy topic.

### **Poster Sessions**

Two poster sessions afford current fellows the opportunity to present their research and to learn about the research of other fellows. One poster session is for the Self Graduate Fellowship stakeholders (internal facing) and one poster session is for the university (external facing). Both poster sessions are held in November or December. This presentation may also count towards department requirements for research presentations.

### **Symposium**

The annual Symposium brings together Self Graduate Fellows, members of the Society of Self Fellows, and friends of the fellowship for meetings, networking, and celebration. The Symposium includes the Society of Self Fellows Board of Governors annual meeting, a Society of Self Fellows and Self Graduate Fellowship luncheon, a public lecture featuring a special guest, a reception and dinner celebrating the outgoing fourth-year fellows, and an alumni panel. The Symposium is held Thursday evening and all-day Friday in mid-April. The next Symposium is scheduled for April 24-25, 2025.

### **Government and Science Policy Seminar**

Self Graduate Fellows travel together to Washington, D.C. for a customized government and science policy seminar. This seminar is held every other year. Fellows typically participate in their second or third year of the fellowship. Sessions include presentations by D.C. experts on topics including political parties and leadership, Congress, public policymaking and processes, the federal budget, science policy advocacy, and policy fellowships. The seminar also includes tours of the city and monuments and a networking dinner with local Society of Self Fellows members. The next Government and Science Policy Seminar is scheduled for October 14-17, 2024.

## **International Seminar**

Self Graduate Fellows travel together abroad for a customized international seminar. This seminar is held every other year; fellows participate in their second or third year in the fellowship, alternating from the Government and Science Policy Seminar in D.C. The seminar typically takes place in May, immediately following Commencement. Both outbound training and the seminar provide cross-cultural context for the fellows, providing skills in traveling, presenting, and networking abroad. Through tours and speakers, fellows learn about the unique structures of the host country's academia, industries, and government, as well as regional history. Through a poster presentation, the fellows gain an opportunity to practice communicating their research to an international audience. The 2024 International Seminar visited Paris, France; Brussels, Belgium; Frankfurt, Germany; and Darmstadt, Germany. Future international site locations may vary. The next Self Graduate Fellowship International seminar will be in May 2026 for the 2023-2027 and 2024-2028 fellow cohorts.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

The purpose of the Self Graduate Fellowship Professional Development Award is to encourage professional development opportunities and enhance the student-to-career transitions of Self Graduate Fellows. The award supports fellow participation in domestic or international professional meetings of an academic or professional organization as a participant or as a presenter (paper, poster, other). Additionally, the award can support skill development through participation in seminars, workshops, short courses, and certificate programs. The opportunity must be sponsored by an established organization.

1. The total award amount of \$5,500 is available for the length of the four-year fellowship. To maximize the benefits of the support, fellows are encouraged to identify several professional development opportunities.
2. A complete application is required for award consideration and will be accepted on a rolling basis to allow for maximum professional development opportunities. Each application is reviewed and approved by the SGF staff. Retroactive funding will not be considered. The professional development opportunity cannot conflict with a mandatory Fellow Development Program event (Skill Session, Government & Science Policy Seminar, International Seminar, Symposium); funding will not be awarded if there is a conflict. Funding must be spent during the time that the fellow is an active participant in the Fellow Development Program.
3. The award application must be submitted no later than six weeks before the date in which support is requested by email to [sgf@ku.edu](mailto:sgf@ku.edu). Fellows will be notified of approval within one week of SGF receiving the completed application and all relevant supporting documentation.
4. Travel expense estimates must be based on known expenses to be incurred during approved travel. Estimates for flights and lodging must be accompanied by bookings (fully paid or test bookings) showing total price inclusive of taxes and fees. When driving your personal vehicle, a map showing the anticipated route taken to the activity and total mileage must be provided. On-site travel expenses can be educated estimates. Meal per diem will be awarded as a lump sum based on allowable KU maximums by city/region, and the final amount will be calculated by SGF staff. Applications not including

supporting documentation are considered incomplete and cannot be processed until said documentation is received and the award total is finalized with SGF staff.

5. All approved expenses must be in accordance with KU Endowment and KU spending policies. Submission of a university Travel Authorization is required prior to travel. Information on this authorization will be provided at the time your award is approved along with any additional next steps.
6. If the application is approved by SGF, upon the usage of the funds, the fellow should contact [sgf@ku.edu](mailto:sgf@ku.edu) with receipts for any funded travel within one week of usage.
7. Fellows who receive the SGF professional development award are expected to make a brief presentation on their professional development experience at a Self Graduate Fellowship luncheon and provide content for a social media highlight as possible. Additional details for these items will come in the email notification of award approval. If a fellow utilizes this funding after March 1 of their final year, they are expected to present on the experience.

## **SOCIETY OF SELF FELLOWS**

The Society of Self Fellows (SSF), the Self Graduate Fellows' alumni network, was envisioned by Madison and Lila Self at the time the fellowship was established. By accepting a Self Graduate Fellowship, each Self Graduate Fellow assumes the permanent obligations of the Society of Self Fellows. Society members are expected to contribute to the program throughout their careers.

The Society of Self Fellows began formal activities in 2000, with 17 alumni. This year there are 203 SSF members.

Self Graduate Fellows become associate members of the SSF when they complete their four years of fellowship support. Upon conferral of the Ph.D. degree, associate members become lifetime members.

The Society of Self Fellows is governed by alumni leaders called the Board of Governors. The first Board of Governors was appointed in 1999, and the elections for new governors are held each spring. The board includes four elected governors, one of which resides within 60 miles of the KU Lawrence campus. Elected governors serve staggered four-year terms with annual elections happening each spring. In the final year of their term, Governors serve as presidents of the board. Governors plan engagement opportunities for the full Society such as poster sessions or book discussion groups and coordinate ways for the Society to interact directly with the current Fellows through mentorship. The Board meets in-person annually at the SGF Symposium.

The Society of Self Fellows offers opportunities to connect with fellows and alumni. Society members also have the opportunity to give back through an annual fundraising campaign to support the University of Kansas, graduate studies, and/or their academic department.

### **2024 Board of Governors, Society of Self Fellows**

Nikki Johnson, Ph.D., Governor, 2021-2025, President

Ted Harris, Ph.D., Governor, 2022-2026

Molly McVey, Ph.D., Governor, 2023-2027

Cassidy Krause, Ph.D., Governor, 2024-2028

### **2020-2024**

Kalin Baca, chemical and petroleum engineering; Mark Shiflett, mentor

Reb Bryant, ecology and evolutionary biology; James Bever, mentor

Patrick Connelly, chemistry; Mikhail Barybin, mentor

Grant Downes, bioengineering; Cory Berkland, mentor

Nicholas Ferry, geology; Michael Blum, mentor

Taylor George, aerospace engineering; Brian Kaplinger, mentor

Kara Hageman, bioengineering; Terence McIff, mentor

Kelly Pfeiler, ecology and evolutionary biology; Brian Atkinson and Kelly Matsunaga; mentors

Rena Stair, neuroscience, KUMC; Kyle Baumbauer, mentor

Emily Roberts, molecular and integrative physiology, KUMC; Vargheese Chennathukuzhi, mentor

### **2019-2023**

Dalton Brucker-Hahn, electrical engineering and computer science; Alexandru Gavril Bardas, mentor

Katie Childers, bioengineering; Steven Soper, mentor

Jenna Frick, neuroscience, KUMC; Julie Christianson, mentor

Jordan Gamble, mechanical engineering; Elizabeth Friis, mentor

Eryn Gerber, bioengineering; Carl Luchies, mentor

Jacob Immel, medicinal chemistry; Steven Bloom, mentor

Shaun Kelsey, chemistry; Mikhail Barybin, mentor

Margaret Lazarovits, physics and astronomy; Chris Rogan, mentor

Kathleen Rust, ecology and evolutionary biology; Chris Beard, mentor

Tristan Yount, civil, environmental, and architectural engineering; William Collins, mentor

### **2018-2022**

Nadia Alissa, cancer biology, KUMC; Nikki Cheng, mentor

Christine Chan, geology; Noah McLean, mentor

Devon DeRaad, ecology and evolutionary biology; Robert Moyle, mentor

Grace McMonagle, electrical engineering and computer science; Matthew Moore, mentor

Christopher Tacca, bioengineering; Elizabeth Friis, mentor

Kristina Tirol-Carmody, organizational behavior; Niki den Nieuwenboer, mentor

Alexander Wilson, mechanical engineering; Carl Luchies, mentor

Michael Wrigley, chemistry; David Weis, mentor

### **2017-2021**

Diana Acevedo, pathology and laboratory medicine, KUMC; Nikki Cheng, mentor

Clay Campbell, geology; Michael Taylor, mentor

Jennifer Cooper, physics and astronomy; Gregory Rudnick, mentor

Camille Delavaux, ecology and evolutionary biology; James Bever, mentor

Max Fairlamb, biochemistry and molecular biology, KUMC; Bret Freudenthal, mentor

Kaylee Herzog, ecology and evolutionary biology; Kirsten Jensen, mentor

Sarah Mullinax, molecular biosciences; Robert Unckless, mentor

S. Mukui Mutunga, bioengineering; Sara Wilson and Carl Luchies, mentors

Chase Stucky, chemistry; Michael Johnson, mentor

Alex Von Schulze, molecular and integrative physiology, KUMC; John Thyfault and Paige Geiger, mentors

### **2016-2020**

Isaac Allred, geology; Michael Blum, mentor

Bailey Banach, bioengineering; Brandon DeKosky, mentor

J. Daniel Griffin, bioengineering; Cory Berkland, mentor

Ember Krech, bioengineering; Elizabeth Friis, mentor

David Menager, electrical engineering and computer science; Arvin Agah and Dongkyu Choi, mentors

Matthew Schaich, biochemistry and molecular biology, KUMC; Bret Freudenthal, mentor

Bailey Spickler, mechanical engineering; Chris Depcik, mentor



Justin Williams, physics and astronomy; Christophe Royon, mentor

### **2015–2019**

Lance Frazer, bioengineering; Kenneth J. Fischer, mentor

Leila Joyce Seals, geology; Rolfe D. Mandel, mentor

Cassidy Krause, mathematics; Erik Van Vleck, mentor

Samuel Lane, physics and astronomy; Ian Lewis, mentor

Alexandra Machen, biochemistry and molecular biology, KUMC; Mark Fisher and Aron Fenton, mentors

Lauren Schumacher, aerospace engineering; Ronald Barrett, mentor

Stephen Shannon, anatomy and cell biology, KUMC; Paul Trainor, mentor

Ian Weidling, neuroscience, KUMC; Russell Swerdlow, mentor

### **2014–2018**

Ashley Archer, molecular and integrative physiology, KUMC; Paige Geiger, mentor

Eileen Cadel, bioengineering; Elizabeth A. Friis, mentor

Michael Cooper, neuroscience, KUMC; Doug Wright, mentor

Mackenzie Cremeans, geology; J. F. Devlin, mentor

Doug Orsi, medicinal chemistry; Ryan Altman, mentor

Alyssa Rollando, bioengineering; Sara Wilson and Stephen Waller, mentors

### **2013–2017**

Andrea Freemyer, neuroscience, KUMC; Dianne Durham, mentor

Theodore Harris, ecology and evolutionary biology; Val H. Smith and Jerry deNoyelles, mentors

Michelle McWilliams, molecular and integrative physiology, KUMC; Vargheese M. Chennathukuzhi, mentor

Joseph Siegel, chemistry; Susan M. Lunte, mentor

Michael Stees, electrical engineering and computer science; Suzanne M. Shontz, mentor

### **2012–2016**

Kathryn Denning, ecology and evolutionary biology; Bryan Foster, mentor

Regis Dowd Jr., chemical and petroleum engineering; Trung Van Nguyen, mentor

Jeffrey Hirst, pathology and laboratory medicine, KUMC; Andrew K. Godwin, mentor

David Minnick, chemical and petroleum engineering; Aaron M. Scurto, mentor

Christopher Neal, neuroscience, KUMC; Dianne Durham, mentor

Zach Raff, economics; Dietrich Earnhart, mentor

Blair Benson Schneider, geology; Rolfe D. Mandel and Don W. Steeples, mentors

Emily “Cate” Wisdom, bioengineering; Candan Tamerler, mentor

### **2011–2015**

S. Nicole “Nikki” Galvis, bioengineering; Elizabeth A. Friis, mentor

Brittany Hartwell, bioengineering; Cory J. Berkland, mentor

Matthew Josephson, molecular biosciences; Erik A. Lundquist, mentor

Karl Kammerer, business - strategic management; Laura Poppo, mentor

Angela Pierce, neuroscience; Julie A. Carlsten Christianson, mentor

Lei Shi, electrical engineering and computer science; Christopher T. Allen, mentor  
Sarah Wildgen, chemistry; Robert C. Dunn, mentor

#### **2010–2014**

Annaria Barnds, bioengineering; Carl W. Luchies, mentor  
Jodi Gentry, civil, environmental, and architectural engineering; Belinda S. M. Sturm, mentor  
William Gilbert, chemical and petroleum engineering; Jenn-Tai Liang, mentor  
Erin Mannen, mechanical engineering; Elizabeth A. Friis, mentor  
Julie Mitchell, microbiology, molecular genetics, and immunology, KUMC; Thomas M. Yankee,  
mentor  
Patricia Sprouse, bioengineering; Stevin H. Gehrke, mentor  
Erik Van Kampen, chemical and petroleum engineering; Stevin H. Gehrke, mentor

#### **2009–2013**

Amy Newton, molecular biosciences; Stephen H. Benedict, mentor  
Amanda Renth, bioengineering; Michael Detamore, mentor  
Erin Saupe, geology; Paul A. Selden and Bruce S. Lieberman, mentors  
Leslie Smith, aerospace engineering; Saeed Farokhi, mentor

#### **2008–2012**

Sommer Amundsen, bioengineering; Carl W. Luchies, mentor  
Heather Eilers, civil, environmental, and architectural engineering; Thomas E. Glavinich and  
Oswald Chong, mentors  
Laci Gerhart Barley, ecology and evolutionary biology; Joy K. Ward, mentor  
Katrina Legursky, aerospace engineering; Richard D. Hale and Shahriar Keshmiri, mentors  
Corinne Myers, geology; Bruce S. Lieberman, mentor  
Griffin Roberts, chemical and petroleum engineering; Susan M. Williams, mentor  
Clayton Wauneka, bioengineering; Wen Liu, mentor

#### **2007–2011**

D. Fernando Estrada, molecular biosciences; Roberto N. De Guzman, mentor  
Steven Hart, pharmacology, toxicology, and therapeutics, KUMC; Xiao-bo Zhong, mentor  
Talia Martin, pharmaceutical chemistry; Jennifer S. Laurence, mentor  
Annalise Nawrocki, ecology and evolutionary biology; Paulyn Cartwright, mentor  
Sarah Pyszczynski, pharmaceutical chemistry; Valentino Stella and Eric J. Munson, mentors  
Andrea Romero, ecology and evolutionary biology; Robert M. Timm, mentor  
Peter Schillig, geology; John F. Devlin, mentor  
Joshua Sestak, pharmaceutical chemistry; Cory J. Berkland, mentor  
John Shelley; civil, environmental, and architectural engineering; Bruce M. McEnroe, mentor

#### **2006–2010**

Mark Bailey, bioengineering; Cory J. Berkland, mentor  
Stephanie Bishop; pharmacology, toxicology, and therapeutics, KUMC; James Luyendyk,  
mentor  
Gary Brandt, medicinal chemistry; Brian S. J. Blagg, mentor  
Natalie Ciaccio, pharmaceutical chemistry; Jennifer S. Laurence, mentor

Adam Duerfeldt, medicinal chemistry; Brian S. J. Blagg, mentor  
Molly McVey, mechanical engineering; Carl W. Luchies, mentor  
Jay Sarthy, molecular biosciences, 2006–2009; Michael H. Crawford, mentor  
Cameron Siler, ecology and evolutionary biology; Rafe M. Brown, mentor

#### **2005–2009**

Martha Carletti, physiology, KUMC; Lane K. Christenson, mentor  
Maria Feeney, pharmaceutical chemistry; Christian Schoeneich, mentor  
Kristin Lichti-Kaiser, pharmacology and toxicology; Jeffrey L. Staudinger, mentor  
Mary Krause, chemistry; Jennifer S. Laurence, mentor  
Brian Platt, geology; Stephen T. Hasiotis, mentor  
Diana Sperger, pharmaceutical chemistry; Eric J. Munson, mentor

#### **2004–2008**

Robert Berendt II, pharmaceutical chemistry; Eric J. Munson, mentor  
Chadd Clary, mechanical engineering; Lorin P. Maletsky, mentor  
Megan Johnson, anatomy and cell biology, KUMC; Douglas R. Wright, mentor  
Quinn Long, ecology and evolutionary biology; Kelly Kindscher, mentor  
Joseph Soltys, mechanical engineering; Sara E. Wilson, mentor  
Christopher Taylor, electrical engineering and computer science; Arvin Agah, mentor

#### **2003–2007**

Heather Amthauer, electrical engineering and computer science; Costas Tsatsoulis, mentor  
M. Danielle Barker, chemistry; Joseph A. Heppert, mentor  
Heather McLeod, civil, environmental, and architectural engineering; David Darwin and  
JoAnn Browning, mentors  
Kristin Price, chemistry; Craig E. Lunte, mentor

#### **2002–2006**

Efugbaike Ajayi, American studies; William M. Tuttle Jr., mentor  
Sophie Ambrose, speech/language/hearing; Marc E. Fey, mentor  
Robin Aupperle, psychology; Douglas R. Denney, mentor  
Bryce Baker, mechanical engineering; Terry N. Faddis, mentor  
Shannon DeVaney, ecology and evolutionary biology; Edward O. Wiley, mentor  
Erin Burger-Dunn, chemistry; Jon A. Tunge, mentor  
Jaime Gassmann, American studies; Brian L. Donovan, mentor  
Scott Grecian, medicinal chemistry; Jeffrey Aubé, mentor  
Joseph Lubach, pharmaceutical chemistry; Eric J. Munson, mentor  
Timothy Nelson, clinical child psychology; Ric G. Steele Jr., mentor  
Laura Peek, pharmaceutical chemistry; C. Russell Middaugh, mentor  
Julie Sergeant, gerontology; David J. Ekerdt, mentor  
Emily Stamey, history of art; David C. Cateforis, mentor  
Oliver Zeltner, history; Jeffrey P. Moran, mentor

#### **2001–2005**

Carla Berg, psychology; C. Richard Snyder, mentor

M. Elizabeth Burns Kramer, psychology and research in education; James W. Lichtenberg, mentor  
Monica Flask, social welfare; Marianne Berry, mentor  
Carrie Hohl, civil, environmental, and architectural engineering; Dennis D. Lane, mentor  
J. Erik Rytting, pharmaceutical chemistry; Kenneth L. Audus, mentor  
Hal Shorey, psychology; C. Richard Snyder, mentor  
Sarah Smiley, geography; Garth A. Myers, mentor  
Alycia Stigall, geology, 2001–2004; Bruce S. Lieberman, mentor  
Heather York, ecology and evolutionary biology; Robert M. Timm, mentor

#### **2000–2004**

Daniel Hoyt, English; Thomas D. Lorenz, mentor  
Lon Mitchell, mathematics; William L. Paschke, mentor  
Matthew Ramspott, geography; Kevin P. Price, mentor  
Rachel Robson, pathology and laboratory medicine, KUMC; Rebecca T. Horvat, mentor  
Lisa Castle Walker, ecology and evolutionary biology; Kelly Kindscher, mentor  
Matthew Zart, chemistry; Andrew S. Borovik, mentor

#### **1999–2003**

Jennifer Austenfeld, psychology; Annette L. Stanton, mentor  
Jason Botz, entomology; Catherine Loudon, mentor  
Resha Cardone, Spanish and Portuguese; Katherine V. Unruh, mentor  
Adrienne Harris, Slavic languages and literatures; Edith W. Clowes, mentor  
Stephanie Krogmeier, pharmaceutical chemistry; Elizabeth M. Topp, mentor  
Adam Powell, psychology; C. Daniel Batson, mentor  
Brian Thomas, physics and astronomy; Adrian L. Melott, mentor  
Katie Wilkinson, political science; Philip A. Schrodtt, mentor

#### **1998–2002**

Nathan Berg, economics, 1998–2001; D. Donald Lien, mentor  
Anna Carlson, ecology and evolutionary biology; Edward O. Wiley, mentor  
Bridgett Chapin, ecology and evolutionary biology; F. Jerry deNoyelles, mentor  
Allyson Tubaugh Charbonnet, chemistry; Craig E. Lunte, mentor  
Nathan Goodman, electrical engineering and computer science; James M. Stiles, mentor  
Nancy Holcroft Benson, ecology and evolutionary biology; Edward O. Wiley, mentor  
Christy McCain, ecology and evolutionary biology; Norman A. Slade and Robert M. Timm, mentors  
Karen Beckman Pace, nursing; Carol E. Smith, mentor  
Noel Rasor, American studies; Garth A. Myers and Norman R. Yetman, mentors  
Carol Stotz, pharmaceutical chemistry; Elizabeth M. Topp, mentor  
Charles Svoboda Jr., aerospace engineering; Jan Roskam and David R. Downing, mentors

#### **1997–2001**

Matt Ackermann, biochemistry and molecular biology, KUMC; Radhakris Padmanabhan, mentor  
Richard Baldauf, civil and environmental engineering, 1997–2000; Dennis D. Lane, mentor

Oliver Komar, ecology and evolutionary biology; A. Townsend Peterson, mentor  
Brian Lobo, pharmaceutical chemistry; C. Russell Middaugh, mentor  
Sheldon Moss, pharmacology and toxicology; Stephen C. Fowler, mentor  
Sarah Vickery, chemistry; Robert C. Dunn, mentor  
Chris Wiethoff, pharmaceutical chemistry; C. Russell Middaugh, mentor

### **1996–2000**

Amy Blackmarr, English; Elizabeth A. Schultz, mentor  
Karl Brooks, history; Donald E. Worster, mentor  
Jennifer Forsee Golden, medicinal chemistry; Jeffrey Aubé, mentor  
Jill Story, speech/language/hearing; Diane F. Loeb, mentor

### **1995–1999**

Cory Beard, electrical engineering; Victor S. Frost, mentor  
Timothy Hubin, chemistry; Daryle H. Busch, mentor  
Karyl Leggio, business, 1995–1998; Paul D. Koch, mentor  
Julie Mach, pharmacology and toxicology; Elias K. Michaelis, mentor  
Elizabeth Smith, entomology; Deborah Smith, mentor  
Shari Baron Sokol, hearing and speech; Marc E. Fey, mentor

### **1991–1998**

Christine Cameron, psychology, 1991–1995; Annette L. Stanton, mentor  
Kristine Frank, medicinal chemistry, 1994–1998; Lester A. Mitscher and Jeffrey Aubé,  
mentors  
Michael Handley, geography, 1991–1995; James R. Shortridge, mentor  
Brian Miller, pharmaceutical chemistry, 1993–1997; Christian Schoeneich, mentor  
Dana Price, ecology and evolutionary biology, 1992–1996; Kelly Kindscher, mentor  
Andrew Vance, chemistry, 1993–1997; Daryle H. Busch, mentor  
Kyle Wetzell, aerospace engineering, 1994–1995; Saeed Farokhi, mentor

**University of Kansas**  
**Madison and Lila Self Graduate Fellowship**  
**Additional Financial Support Form**

*Details regarding additional financial support policies are in the Self Graduate Fellowship Handbook*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SGF Cohort: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Additional Financial Support:**

*Documentation detailing the additional financial support offer will be required with completion of this form.*

Graduate Research Assistantship

Department \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate Teaching Assistantship

Department \_\_\_\_\_

Internship

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Other

Describe \_\_\_\_\_

Location (City, State): \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Financial Support Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Financial Support End Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Aim to follow academic semesters and KU payroll calendars.*

How will participation in this opportunity contribute to your academic goals and progress to degree completion?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How will participation in this opportunity contribute to your professional development and career goals?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Will you be able to continue participation in the Fellow Development Program?

Yes

No

Discussion Needed

Fellow Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Mentor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send the completed form and additional financial support documentation by email to Stefani Buchwitz (buchwitz@ku.edu) at a minimum of six weeks before intended funding start date. Stefani will review for approval and confirm if a deferred funding plan is required.**



# MADISON & LILA SELF GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

## 2024-2025 Professional Development Award Application

The purpose of the Madison and Lila Self Graduate Fellowship (SGF) Professional Development Award is to encourage professional development opportunities and enhance student-to-career transitions of Self Graduate Fellows. The award supports fellow participation in national or international professional meetings of an academic or professional organization as a participant or as a presenter (paper, poster, other). Additionally, the award can support skill development through participation in seminars, workshops, short courses, and certificate programs. The opportunity must be sponsored by an established organization.

1. The total award amount of \$5,500 is available for the length of the four-year fellowship. To maximize the benefits of the support, fellows are encouraged to identify several professional development opportunities.
2. A complete application is required for award consideration and will be accepted on a rolling basis to allow for maximum professional development opportunities. Each application is reviewed and approved by the SGF staff. Retroactive funding will not be considered. The professional development opportunity cannot conflict with a mandatory Fellow Development Program event (Skill Session, Government & Science Policy Seminar, International Seminar, Symposium); funding will not be awarded if there is a conflict. Funding must be spent during the time that the fellow is an active participant in the Fellow Development Program.
3. The award application must be submitted **at least six weeks before** the date in which support is requested by email to [sgf@ku.edu](mailto:sgf@ku.edu). Fellows will be notified of approval within one week of SGF receiving the completed application and all relevant supporting documentation.
4. Travel expense estimates **must** be based on known expenses to be incurred during approved travel. Estimates for flights and lodging must be accompanied by bookings (fully paid or test bookings) showing total price. When driving your personal vehicle, a map showing the anticipated route taken to the activity and total mileage must be provided. On-site travel expenses can be educated estimates. Meal per diem will be awarded as a lump sum based on allowable KU maximums by city/region, and the final amount will be calculated by SGF staff. **Applications not including supporting documentation are considered incomplete and cannot be processed until said documentation is received and the award total is finalized with SGF staff.**
5. All approved expenses must be in accordance with KU Endowment and KU spending policies. **A Travel Authorization is required prior to travel.** Information on this authorization will be provided at the time your award is approved along with any additional next steps.
6. If the application is approved by SGF, upon the usage of the funds, the fellow should contact [sgf@ku.edu](mailto:sgf@ku.edu) with receipts for any funded travel within **one week** of usage.
7. Fellows who receive the SGF professional development award are expected to make a brief presentation on their professional development experience at a Self Graduate Fellowship luncheon and provide content for a social media highlight. Additional details for these items will come in the email notification of award approval. If a fellow utilizes this funding after March 1 of their final year, they are expected to present on the experience at a luncheon in the fall of the following year. This presentation will be scheduled in consultation with SGF.

# 2024-2025 Professional Development Award Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SGF cohort: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Meeting/Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting/Activity Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting/Activity Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Days (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of involvement:      Attendee                      Presentation/Poster                      Workshop/Short Course  
   Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

(If applicable) Date of presentation: \_\_\_\_\_ Presentation title: \_\_\_\_\_

How will participation in this opportunity contribute to your professional development?

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How will participation in this opportunity contribute to your academic goals and progress to degree?

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Please provide an **itemized** list of your estimated expenditures that you will request for reimbursement:

Registration: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Airfare: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lodging (your portion if sharing): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Transportation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Private vehicle mileage (calculated at \$0.67 per mile): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Parking: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tolls: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Meals/per diem (<https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Course or workshop cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total estimated cost:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total requested SGF Professional Development Award amount:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_



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2024-2025 Professional Development Award Application**

What supplemental materials will you be including? (\* - required material)

Copy of the meeting/activity description\*

Copy of the meeting/activity schedule\*

Abstract of the presentation/poster, if applicable

Proof of presentation acceptance, if applicable

Itemized documentation for reimbursable expenses as available\*

Other

Is this your final year as a Self Graduate Fellow?

Yes

No

If yes and applying for an experience after March 1, do you agree to present on the this experience at a luncheon (date to be determined by SGF staff) in the fall of next year?

Yes

No

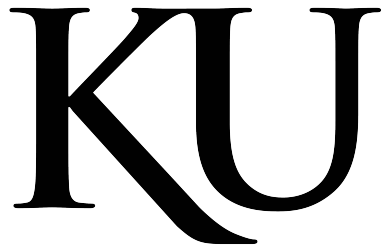
N/A

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Mentor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Mentor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Send this completed application and supplementary materials to [sgf@ku.edu](mailto:sgf@ku.edu)  
at least six weeks before the date of support requested.**



MADISON & LILA  
SELF GRADUATE  
FELLOWSHIP

**Textbook and Technology Award Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Item description:

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Cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose:

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**For award approval, an itemized receipt for your purchase must be attached.**

# Madison and Lila Self Graduate Fellowship 2024–2025 Academic Progress Report

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Departmental coursework requirements.** Are you fulfilling all departmental coursework requirements? How many credit hours of required coursework are still to be completed? What other progress have you made toward your Ph.D.? (master's degree, comprehensive oral exam.)

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**2. Research.** Please describe your current research. Additionally, list the states and countries of your academic research location(s).

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**3. Professional activities.** List any publications, presentations, and attendance at national or international meetings.

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**4. Awards.** If you have received any awards or other recognition for your work, please explain.

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**5. Faculty mentor interaction.** Please comment on the nature and quality of your interactions with your mentor. Please also confirm your current faculty mentor's name.

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**6. Degree completion date.** When do you anticipate receiving your Ph.D.? \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Please comment on your progress toward your professional and SGF goals and vision.**

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**8. I plan to continue as a Self Graduate Fellow in 2025–2026.**      Yes      No  
Please provide a tentative list of courses for each semester, including summer, with credit hours, and include any plans for any other appointments.

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**Please attach a current version of your brief biography (saved as a word document) for use on the Self Graduate Fellowship website and in other publications.**

This form must be received by May 9, 2025, in order for next year's appointments to be processed. Please submit electronically to [sgf@ku.edu](mailto:sgf@ku.edu).