

## **NAPS Dissertation Research Grant**

### **Description:**

The North American Patristics Society is pleased to announce the annual award of one (1) Dissertation Research Grant, provided by an annual withdrawal from the society's investment funds.

The purpose of Dissertation Research Grant is to assist students who are working toward doctorates in the areas of patristics and early Christian studies with their research costs.

The selection committee consists of members of the NAPS Board's Awards and Prizes Committee.

The amount awarded for this grant is \$5,000.

### **Eligibility:**

NAPS membership consists of scholars from a wide variety of academic disciplines whose research agendas are linguistically, geographically, historically, and theologically diverse. The NAPS selection committee welcomes applications from Ph.D. students whose research pertains to the broad study of patristics, which includes, but is not limited to: history, theology, philology, ancient philosophy, archaeology, paleography, art history, cultural studies, and pedagogy.

Applicants must be graduate students in good standing with their university. Applicants must be enrolled full-time or working on their dissertation research for the equivalent of full-time enrollment regardless of actual registration status.

Applicants must have completed all doctoral requirements, including successful defense of the dissertation proposal, prior to the application deadline.

Applicants must be members of the North American Patristics Society. Students who are not members and are interested in being considered for this award must apply for membership to NAPS. Their membership materials must be processed by the John Hopkins University Press by time of deadline for application (January 31).

Applicants must not have previously received a NAPS Dissertation Research Grant

### **Restrictions:**

The \$5,000 award is unrestricted and may be used in any way that the winner chooses to advance the research and writing of his or her dissertation. Possible uses include the underwriting the costs of travel to geographical locations or archival collections requiring consultation for research purposes, equipment that will facilitate the research process, etc. The funds may not be used for university tuition or fees.

No request for a deferral of the grant monies will be entertained. If the winner finds that she or he cannot accept the award for the year it is given, the winner will have to decline the award and re-apply another year.

How to Apply:

1. Each year's committee, in consultation with the President, will examine all applications for eligibility.
2. Please submit your packet of application materials electronically (preferably, all materials except the letter of reference should be combined into one, PDF file) to the NAPS Secretary, Brian Matz (bmatz@fontbonne.edu) before January 31. Please use a font of at least 10 points, and one-inch margins. Materials may be single or double spaced.

Please include each of the following:

- a. *Two-page maximum* curriculum vitae including publications, presentations, research and teaching experience (the curriculum vitae may contain only highlights and does not have to be a complete version).

Make sure you include your name and e-mail address on this document.

- b. *Two-page maximum* cover letter that broadly describes your research interests and plans, as well as your career plans. This letter is more of a general, overarching personal statement than a specific justification of your dissertation project. That justification will be made in the following document (c).

Make sure that your cover letter includes your name and e-mail address.

- c. *Five-page maximum* presentation of your proposed dissertation project, including project background and rationale, an explanation of research design (methods, procedure, etc.) and other important aspects of the project. One additional page listing references may be included, but citations should be included in the text. It is in the best interest of the applicant to make a strong argument as to why one's particular research project promises feasibility, originality, and broad application for the field.

Make sure that your dissertation project description includes your name and e-mail address.

- d. One letter of recommendation from your dissertation advisor under separate cover (also sent electronically to bmatz@fontbonne.edu). Your major professor also should confirm that as of application deadline you have defended your dissertation proposal.

- e. A brief writing sample (not more than 15 pages, or your dissertation proposal).

Please save a copy of your submitted materials for your own records. Submitted materials will not be returned to applicants. You will receive an e-mail after the application deadline confirming that your application has been received.

3. Decisions will be based solely upon the quality of the submitted information.
4. The winner of the NAPS Dissertation Research Grant will be chosen by May. Recipients will be notified by e-mail before the convening of the annual meeting in Chicago (or, in every fourth year, before we join in at Oxford Patristics). In the years when NAPS convenes, the winner will be announced at the meeting. Winners will also be listed on the NAPS website.
5. By the end of May in the year following the granting of the award, the NAPS Dissertation Research Grant recipient must submit a two page final report specifying how the funds were used and outlining progress made on the dissertation research. This report must be signed both by the award recipient and his or her dissertation advisor.