



The Academy of Leisure Sciences



LUCILLE AND DERBY DUSTIN FUTURE SCHOLARS PROGRAM



sponsored by
**ACADEMY OF LEISURE SCIENCES,
SOCIETY OF PARK AND RECREATION EDUCATORS,
NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION**

2008 APPLICATION PACKET

Dear Future Scholars Program Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Lucille and Derby Dustin Future Scholars Program sponsored by the Academy of Leisure Sciences, the Society of Park and Recreation Educators, and the National Recreation and Park Association. This packet includes information that you will need to complete your application.

The purpose of the Future Scholars Program is to provide graduate students who are interested in pursuing a doctorate in an area related to recreation and leisure studies the opportunity to meet some of the outstanding researchers and scholars in this field. To accomplish this purpose, selected applicants will be invited to attend the National Recreation and Park Association Annual Congress as guests of the Academy of Leisure Sciences and the Society of Park and Recreation Educators (SPRE). The selected Future Scholars receive complementary registration for the Congress plus \$1000 to cover transportation, lodging, and meal expenses.

At the conference, Future Scholars will have an opportunity to interact with researchers and authors of textbooks in our field. In addition, they attend meetings of the Academy of Leisure Sciences, the Leisure Research Symposium, the SPRE annual banquet, NRPA educational sessions, and other social functions. This is an excellent opportunity for students to ask questions about the field and inquire about doctoral program opportunities.

This packet includes: eligibility criteria, selection criteria, instructions for applying, and a note for faculty sponsors. The application is a separate document.

LUCILLE AND DERBY DUSTIN FUTURE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The purpose of the Future Scholars Program is to provide graduate students who are interested in pursuing a doctorate in an area related to recreation and leisure studies the opportunity to meet some of the outstanding researchers and scholars in this field by attending the National Recreation and Park Association Congress.

ELIGIBILITY: INDIVIDUALS WHO MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.

- Completed or are currently enrolled in a master's degree program but have not yet committed to doctoral study at a particular university.
- Not currently enrolled in a doctoral program nor will you be at the time of the 2008 Congress.
- Have a major interest in pursuing a doctoral degree in recreation and parks, leisure studies, tourism, or recreation resource management.
- Plan to initiate doctoral studies within the next three years.
- Maintained a grade point average of at least 3.0 during your undergraduate and graduate studies.
- Can attend the NRPA Annual Congress in Baltimore, MD, October 14 – 18, 2008.
- Will become a member of the National Recreation and Park Association if selected.

SELECTION CRITERIA: FUTURE SCHOLARS ARE SELECTED FROM AMONG ALL APPLICANTS WITH CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA.

- Academic ability (based on GPA and faculty sponsor letter).
- Indications of scholarly potential in this field (based on publications, presentations, research experience, and/or faculty sponsor letter).
- Strength of intention to pursue doctoral studies in a leisure-related subject (based on applicant's cover letter and faculty sponsor letter).
- General level of professionalism (based on format and depth of application materials, presentation of written materials, and professional involvement).

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS: A COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKET WILL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING FIVE COMPONENTS.

1. Cover letter with descriptions of:
 - a. your major areas of interest in recreation and parks, leisure studies, recreation resource management, or a related field;
 - b. your academic and career plans for the future;
 - c. what you want to get out of a doctoral degree;
 - d. areas of research you might pursue within a doctoral program;
 - e. how you will benefit from participating in the Future Scholars Program.
2. Completed application form.
3. Current resume including your educational and occupational experience.
4. Transcripts of your entire academic work in higher education (these do not need to be official transcripts).
5. One (1) letter of sponsorship from a faculty member in recreation, parks, tourism, leisure studies, or a closely related field who is able to speak to your academic strengths (see attached Faculty Sponsor letter which you should give to that individual).

NOTE: Only one student from any particular university will be selected in any given year.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION: APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY APRIL 11, 2008. NOTIFICATION WILL BE MADE AROUND JUNE 1, 2008.

Please e-mail you're the entire application packet to awards@nrpa.org.

If you have any question, please contact Dr. Michael Mahon at (mike.mahon@ualberta.ca) or telephone (780.492.3364).

*Thank you for your interest in the Future Scholars Program.
We hope you will apply!*

**APPLICANT: GIVE THIS FORM TO THE FACULTY MEMBER
WHO HAS AGREED TO SPONSOR YOUR APPLICATION FOR THE
LUCILLE AND DERBY DUSTIN FUTURE SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

Date: March 2008

To: University Faculty Sponsor

From: Dr. Michael Mahon, Chair 2008 Lucille and Derby Dustin Future Scholars Committee

Re: Lucille and Derby Dustin Future Scholars Program

Thank you for sponsoring one of your outstanding graduate students for the Lucille and Derby Dustin Future Scholars Program sponsored by the Academy of Leisure Sciences, the Society of Park and Recreation Educators, and the National Recreation and Park Association. You can view eligibility and selection criteria and other instructions for the applicant online by going to the SPRE website at www.nrpa.org/spre or the Academy of Leisure Sciences website at www.academyofleisureciences.org.

Your letter of support is particularly important in helping us select from among the many qualified applications we will receive. We are particularly interested in your perceptions of the student's academic abilities relative to other graduate students with whom you have worked, her or his scholarly interests and potential, and the strength of her or his intention to pursue doctoral studies in recreation and leisure studies, tourism, recreation resource management, or a closely related field.

The student's application packet must be submitted by **April 11, 2008** to be considered in this year's competition. If you are comfortable giving your letter directly to your student, please do so prior to that date so it can be included in the application packet. If you prefer to mail your letter directly to me, please mail four (4) copies by April 15th to the address below.

Please note that only one student from any particular university will be selected in any given year.

If you have questions about the program or procedures, feel free to contact me by email (mike.mahon@ualberta.ca) or telephone (780.492.3364).

Thank you for supporting your student and the Future Scholars Program.

Dr. Michael Mahon
Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta, CA