



## **Training Future Chemical Engineering Leaders in the Molecular Design of Polymeric and Soft Materials (Poly-SM)**

*DoEd GAANN Fellowship Application and Program Requirements*

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### **Program Director**

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Professor and Graduate Coordinator

Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering

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### **Poly-SM GAANN Applicant Requirements**

- U.S Citizen or Permanent U.S. Resident
- Admitted to the Chemical Engineering Ph.D. program at UA
- Excellent academic record
- Demonstrated financial need – (<https://fafsa.ed.gov>)
- Women and underrepresented minority candidates are strongly encouraged to apply

### **Poly-SM GAANN Award Information**

- GAANN Fellowships are need-based. The financial need of each GAANN Fellow is determined each year by the University of Alabama Financial Aid Office based on the information provided in the Fellow's FAFSA submission for the year.
- Each GAANN recipient receives a stipend to cover the Fellow's financial need. The assessed need is different for each recipient, with a maximum stipend of \$34,000 per calendar year. The Fellow's tuition is paid by the GAANN program.
- GAANN Fellowships are awarded without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disabling condition. US citizens and permanent residents are eligible to apply for a GAANN Fellowship.
- Each GAANN Fellowship application will be judged in part on the applicant's demonstrated commitment to pursue a career in either research or teaching after completion of the Ph.D. program.



## Poly-SM GAANN Fellow Requirements

**1<sup>st</sup> Semester:** The Fellows will be paired with either their Ph.D. advisor or one of the other faculty members involved in the GAANN grant, and this person will serve as a long-term Teaching Mentor (TM) to the student. The Fellows will collaborate with their TM to formulate a small set of in-class exercises and/or learning modules within the context of an undergraduate CHE course.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Semester:** The Fellows will deliver three lectures throughout the semester (again focusing on the same course from the 1<sup>st</sup> semester). During the first lecture, the primary TM will observe and assess the Fellow's teaching (using a standard teaching rubric used to evaluate faculty teaching). During the second lecture, in addition to the TM, the ChBE Department Head will also observe and provide a comprehensive written assessment. Finally, near the end of the semester, the last lecture will be evaluated by a broader committee.

**Summer (optional):** We plan to select three Ph.D. students to assist with our international course offerings every summer (currently: Denmark, Scotland, and Ireland). GAANN Fellows will receive highest priority to participating in these courses as teaching assistants. Travel and living expenses abroad will be covered by the UA Education Abroad program budgets.

Finally, as part of the two-semester teaching experience and training, each GAANN Fellow will be expected to develop **one blog post** (with their TM) via the *Teach Hub* portal (<https://teachinghub.as.ua.edu/>). This is intended to help the Fellows reflect and analyze their experience and ideas within the broader context of academics.

**Coursework Requirements:** Within the coursework requirements of the Ph.D. degree in chemical engineering, GAANN Fellows must complete the following two courses: (1) *Polymer Materials Engineering*; and (2) *Tissue Engineering* before or during their time as a GAANN Fellow.



## Poly-SM GAANN Nomination Materials

*To nominate graduate students for the Poly-SM GAANN Program, please complete this form and attach the following supporting documentation:*

- (1) **Letter of nomination** from mentor, including a brief description of the nominee's current or proposed research and how it relates to the GAANN research area (Polymers and Soft Materials, Poly-SM).
- (2) **A statement of purpose** (continuing students, ONLY) from the nominee, to include interest and motivation for a career in academia or research. This **MUST** also include a statement from the nominee expressing his/her commitment to completing the supervised teaching requirement and associated reporting requirements.
- (3) **A current CV** from the nominee.
- (4) **List of graduate-level coursework** completed or in progress by the nominee (if applicable). Include course number, course title, and hours. Do not include research hours or independent study.
- (5) A completed Poly-SM GAANN **Nominee Information** form (next page).

*This application and supporting documents should be completed and returned to Prof. C. Heath Turner ([hturner@eng.ua.edu](mailto:hturner@eng.ua.edu)) as a single PDF document.*



**Poly-SM GAANN Nominee Information**

1. Full name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_
3. CWID: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Undergraduate Institution: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Undergraduate GPA: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Graduate GPA (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_
7. Research Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Dissertation Topic: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Completed semesters of full-time graduate study: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Nominee's current financial support for graduate studies, if applicable (i.e., GTA, NSF, GAANN, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

*If selected, I agree to complete the GAANN Fellowship and Teaching Requirements. Furthermore, I agree to participate in GAANN Fellow meetings (typically once a month), and I agree to complete all of the reporting requirements by the specified deadlines. I recognize that failure to comply with these requirements will jeopardize my status as a GAANN Fellow (including the related financial support).*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nominee signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date