

Approved by Graduate Committee  
March 5, 2008

**Revised policy of the Graduate Committee about awarding HERF caps and the Eberly Doctoral Student Stipend Enhancement Awards.**

The goal is to use these funds to support recruitment and retention of promising and productive graduate students.

***One-year HERF awards (Ph.D. and/or M.S.)***

We typically have four of these awards to allocate per year.

The committee feels that two awards should be used to recruit promising Ph.D. students and two awards should be used to reward 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year doctoral students for outstanding performance.

If suitable candidates cannot be found, then the awards would be used to recruit promising M.S. students and/or reward 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year M.S. students for outstanding performance.

***Three-year, Eberly Doctoral Student Stipend Enhancement Awards (Ph.D. only)***

The number of awards available to Biology is based on the proportion of Ph.D. degrees awarded by the college in the last three years that come from our department. In the past, approximately 1-2 biology students have been receiving these awards in a given year. Since a single award typically lasts three years, there may be years when there are no new awards available to allocate within the department.

The committee feels that when these awards become available to the department, they should be used to reward 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year doctoral students for outstanding performance.

If suitable candidates cannot be found, then our second priority would be rewarding 1<sup>st</sup> year doctoral students for outstanding performance.

Although it is unlikely we would need it, our third priority would be to use this award to recruit outstanding Ph.D. students.

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Note: A student's performance is judged by considering the documented completion of requirements, the timeliness with which requirements are completed, the submission & content of a student's annual report, their progress in the area of research, and their performance as a teaching assistant. The committee may also consider a student's service contribution to the department.