FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES Ms. Marcia Labiuk Awards Officer

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September 5, 2008

To:All NSERC Eligible DepartmentsFrom:Marcia Labiuk, Awards OfficerRe:NSERC PGS competition 2009/2010

Please be advised that application forms are now available on the web at http://nserc.ca in a pdf format and an on-line version. Students are encouraged to use the on-line version where they must register as a user. The on-line version will enable students to save and preview their application prior to printing the final copy for submission.

For your convenience, I am including the following NSERC information to be disbursed as widely as possible:

- Highlights of the changes to the 2009/2010 competition
- Information on criteria and weightings
- Departmental ranking sheets
- Statistics

Please note that while NSERC no longer requires that Departments complete the Appendix 2, the Faculty of Graduate Studies does require that Departments complete the Appendix 2 and provide meaningful comments about each applicant as this greatly assists our committee in their ranking of applicants.

NSERC's deadline for receipt of applications from all universities is November 25, 2009. Departments are responsible for collecting, assessing and ranking completed applications by their own deadline and forwarding them to the **Faculty of Graduate Studies by Thursday, October 9, 2008**.

Please ensure that all applications submitted are complete and that the applicant is eligible to apply for the award. Note that incomplete applications will be considered ineligible and returned to the Department. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Encl.

TO:NSERC Scholarship Liaison OfficersFROM:Pamela Moss, Director, Scholarships and Fellowships Programs
Mario Lamarca, Director, Life Sciences and Special Research Opportunities
DivisionDATE:August, 2008SUBJECT:2009 NSERC Scholarships and Fellowships CompetitionC.C.:Deans of Graduate Studies

WHAT'S NEW IN THE SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS DIVISION

1. Aboriginal Ambassadors in the Natural Sciences and Engineering Supplement Program (AANSE): This supplement program is available to Aboriginal persons who maintain full-time study, and an active NSERC scholarship or fellowship (USRA, CGS, PGS, PDF, IPS, IRDF or Northern Research Internship). The supplement aims to engage Aboriginal students and fellows in promoting interest and participation in the natural sciences and engineering by visiting Canada's Aboriginal communities and schools and sharing their research and education experiences or participating in science promotion events and activities. Supplements of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to successful applicants (one supplement per year). There is no fixed application deadline for the program.

2. Posting of PGS/CGS/PDF award list on secure site in early March

In order to remain compliant with the Privacy Act, NSERC will no longer be posting the complete list of awarded PGS/CGS/PDF on NSERC's secure Web site in March. Instead, NSERC will provide each university with an award list for only those applications which were recommended by that university. This will be found on NSERC's secure Web site, through each individual university site. For more information regarding this change, please forward your questions and comments to Victor Wallwork (victor.wallwork@nserc.ca), NSERC's Access to Information and Privacy Coordinator.

3. Form 200 - Appendix 2

NSERC no longer requires that the departments complete and sign a portion of this form.

Although the departmental ranking and comments areas concerning the applicant no longer appear on Appendix 2, this information can still be submitted to the Faculty (School) of Graduate Studies when recommending applicants. This information should not be forwarded to NSERC.

4. Industrial Scholarships and Fellowships Programs

a) Foreign Student Candidates eligible for IPS, IIS, and NSERC/MITACS:

Effective September 1, 2008, NSERC will accept IPS, IIS, and NSERC/MITACS nominations from qualified foreign students. These candidates and their applications must meet all the other requirements of the program. IPS, IIS, and NSERC/MITACS awards to foreign students will be permitted up to a maximum of 20% in each of these programs. NSERC will notify universities when these limits are approaching.

Foreign award holders will be subject to the same regulations as other IPS / IIS / NSERC/MITACS award holders as described in their respective Award Holders Guide.

b) IPS replaced by IIS in Quebec:

The Industrial Innovation Scholarships (IIS) program, offered jointly by NSERC and the Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la nature et les technologies (FQRNT) has replaced the IPS for students registered in Quebec universities and working with an industrial sponsor in Quebec.

5. CREATE

In May 2008, NSERC launched the Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) Program to provide an enriching, collaborative and integrative training experience for Canada's next generation of researchers in the natural sciences and engineering (NSE). The program intends to facilitate the transition of new researchers from trainees to productive employees in the Canadian workforce, and support university initiatives that have at least one of the following mandates:

- to help students (from undergraduates to postdoctoral fellows) acquire professional skills to complement their qualifications and technical skills;
- to allow student mobility between universities, or between universities and the private sector or the government, and
- to support interdisciplinary research within the NSE, or at the interface between the NSE and health and/or the social sciences and humanities.

Grants will be provided to groups of accomplished researchers who will collaborate to deliver a defined innovative research training program to outstanding students and postdoctoral fellows from Canada and abroad. These grants are worth up to \$1.65 million over six years, with 80 per cent of the funding going towards stipends for students and fellows.

For further information, contact your university Research Grants office or visit NSERC's Web site at: www.nserc.gc.ca/professors_e.asp?nav=profnav&lbi=create.

6. University Faculty Awards (UFA)

The 2008 UFA competition was the final one, and applications will no longer be accepted for this program. NSERC is developing new programs aimed at addressing the under-representation of women and Aboriginals in the natural sciences and engineering.

PROGRAM REMINDERS

1. PGS Deadline Reminder:

- The deadline for receipt of PGS M and PGS D applications at NSERC is **Tuesday**, **November 25**, **2008**.
- For PGS applicants submitting directly to NSERC, the deadline is Wednesday, October 15, 2008.

Note: The university is responsible for notifying applicants if their application is not forwarded to NSERC.

- 2. Updated Literature Posted on the NSERC Web Site: The 2008 *Program Guide for Students and Fellows* is now available on the NSERC Web site at www.nserc.gc.ca/sf_e.asp?nav=sfnav&lbi=pg.
- 3. Updated On-line System and Form 200: The Application for an NSERC Scholarship or Fellowship, Form 200, has been updated and is available on the NSERC Web Site at <u>www.nserc.gc.ca/forms/formtable_e.htm</u>. Please ensure that all applicants use the up-to-date version of Form 200.
- 4. Global Payments Guide for Universities: An updated version of the Canadian Universities Global Payments Guide for students holding an NSERC PGS/CGS or a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship or CGS was posted on the NSERC secure site in March of 2008.

- 5. Aboriginal Applicants: NSERC is continuing to encourage Aboriginal students to pursue university studies in the natural sciences and engineering. Any Aboriginal student recommended by a Canadian university for a USRA or a PGS will not be counted in that university's application quota. All submitted applications from Aboriginal candidates must be listed on the *Aboriginal Applicants* form.
- 6. Doctoral Prize Nominations: The deadline for 2009 Doctoral Prize nominations is Wednesday, October 1, 2008. The Call for Nominations was sent to universities in June 2008. The documents are also available on the NSERC Web site at http://www.nserc.ca/award_e.asp?nav=doctoral&lbi=nomination.
- 7. Summer Program in Japan or Taiwan: NSERC will be accepting nominations for these programs sponsored by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the National Science Council of Taiwan. They provide the opportunity for graduate students to spend an eight-week period developing collaborative research links with Japanese or Taiwanese researchers. The application deadline is November 1, 2008. Successful students nominated this year will begin in the summer of 2009. For more information, contact NSERC at schol@nserc.ca.
- 8. JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships: NSERC will be accepting nominations for the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships Program. This program provides opportunities in universities or other research institutions in Japan for postdoctoral researchers to conduct, under the guidance of their hosts, cooperative research with leading research groups. The application deadline is January 25, 2009. For more information, contact NSERC at schol@nserc.ca.
- 9. Northern Research Internship Eligibility Window: Northern Research Internships are open to senior undergraduates (i.e., those in the final two years of the undergraduate degree), graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows.
- **10. NSERC/MITACS Program:** MITACS is a Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE) that conducts research in the mathematical sciences. This program combines features of the IPS program with the MITACS Internship Program and offers more funding than the IPS alone.

CGS/PGS/PDF INFORMATION PACKAGE FOR Scholarships Liaison Officers (SLOs)

This year's information package for university scholarship liaison officers for the 2009 CGS/PGS/PDF competition has been posted on NSERC's secure Web site at https://secure.nserc.ca/index.htm. On this site you will find documents pertaining to the receipt, processing, and review of NSERC Postgraduate Scholarship applications from your university. Please follow the guidelines carefully and provide the information needed in the format requested. The quotas will be posted in your individual university's site. All other documents are posted under **Documents common to all institutions – NSERC Scholarships**.

The documents you should access are:

- 1. Quota: indicates the application quota for your university. This is a global quota and may be divided at your university between the PGS M and PGS D categories and the discipline groupings, as deemed appropriate.
- 2. Table I: lists the selection criteria and where their indicators are found in the application form.
- 3. Table II: lists the selection criteria and their relative weightings by program.
- 4. SLO Responsibilities: summarizes the responsibilities of the SLOs in the administration of the PGS competition.
- 5. Verification Guidelines: provides detailed information for verifying PGS applications.

- 6. University Selection Committee Guidelines: provides detailed information and regulations for use by the university scholarships selection committee(s).
- 7. Recommended Applicants Form: a template to be completed by the university listing your recommended PGS applicants. The completed template is to be sent to NSERC with the application forms.
- 8. Statistical Table: a template to be completed by the university listing the number of recommended and non-recommended applicants from your university according to their status; to be submitted by February 1, 2009.
- **9.** Aboriginal Applicants Form: a template to be completed by the university listing all recommended applications from Aboriginal students.
- 10. Poster: PGS Competition posters were mailed to the universities on August 9, 2008.

MEMO DISTRIBUTION AND THANKS

Please distribute this memo along with the **Verification Guidelines** as widely as possible within the university – to Department Chairs, faculty members and administrative staff responsible for processing NSERC Postgraduate Scholarship applications.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact our office at <u>schol@nserc.ca</u>. A staff list can be found at: www.nserc.ca/staff/department e.asp?cboPrimary=4&cboSecondary=33&nav=3.

On behalf of NSERC, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to you and your colleagues for your collaboration in promoting our programs and your work in relation to the annual competition.

Table I: Selection Criteria And Indicators For PGS And PDF (FORM 200)

CRITERION	INDICATORS	EVIDENCE			
Acadamia	Academic record	University Transcripts			
Academic Excellence	Departmental/university ranking and comments	Appendix 2 - Part II			
(PGS M 50%) (PGS D 30%)	Scholarships/awards (competitiveness, amount, duration and prestige)	Page 4 - Scholarships and Other Awards Offered			
(PDF – N.A.)	Duration of previous studies	 Page 1 - Academic Background Page 5 - Thesis Completed or in Progress 			
Research Ability	Scholarships/awards (competitiveness, amount, duration and prestige)	 Page 4 - Scholarships and Other Awards Offered 			
or Potential (PGS M 30%)	Duration of previous studies	 Page 1 - Academic Background Page 5 - Thesis Completed or in Progress 			
(PGS D 50%) (PDF 70%)	Academic training and relevant work experience (co-op included)	 Page 2 - Academic, Research and Other Relevant Work Experience Contributions and Statements – Part III, Applicant's Statement Appendix 1 			
	Justification for location of tenure (PDF Only)	Page 6 - Justification for Location of Tenure (PDF Only)			
	Contribution to research and development (publications, patents, reports, posters)	 Page 5 – Summary of Thesis Most Recently Completed or in Progress Contributions and Statements – Part I, II, and III Appendix 1 			
	Research proposal (feasibility, merit and significance)	Outline of Proposed Research			
	Critical thinking, application of knowledge, judgment, originality, initiative, autonomy, enthusiasm for research	 Contributions and Statements – Part III, Applicant's Statement Appendix 1 Appendix 2 - Part II 			
	Ability to complete projects within an appropriate time period	 Page 1 – Academic Background Page 5 – Summary of Thesis Most Recently Completed or in Progress Appendix 1 			

CRITERION	INDICATORS	EVIDENCE		
	Awards for papers, reports, posters or oral presentations	 Page 4- Scholarships and Other Awards Offered (e.g., best paper award at a conference) 		
Communication , Interpersonal and Leadership	Quality of presentation of application	 Outline of Proposed Research Page 6 - Justification for Location of Tenure (PDF only) Contributions and Statements – Part III, Applicant's Statement 		
Abilities (PGS 20%) (PDF 30%)	Participation in publication writing (e.g., Contributions and Statements)	 Contributions and Statements – Part II, Most Significant Contributions to R&D Appendix 1 		
Note : Consider length of time in Canada for	Rating and detailed evaluation of applicant	 Appendix 1 Appendix 2 - Part II 		
applicants whose mother tongue is neither English nor French.	Professional and extra curricular interactions and collaborations with supervisors, colleagues, and peers (e.g. teaching, mentoring, supervising, project managing, chairing committees, organising conferences/meetings, elected positions and industrial work experience)	 Page 2 – Academic, Research and Other Relevant Work Experience Contributions and Statements – Part III, Applicant's Statement Appendix 1 		



NSERC

Postgraduate Scholarships and Postdoctoral Fellowships

Criteria and Relative Weightings

Competition 2009

Table II: Relative Weightings 2009					
Criterion	PGS M	PGS D	PDF		
Academic Excellence	50	30	N.A.		
Research Ability/ Potential	30	50	70		
Communication, Interpersonal & Leadership Abilities	20	20	30		
Total	100	100	100		



Guidelines for the Verification of NSERC PGS M and PGS D Applications for the 2009 Competition

Please read the information section on Postgraduate Scholarships in the 2008 *Program Guide for Students and Fellows* (http://www.nserc.gc.ca/sf_e.asp?nav=sfnav&lbi=2a).

Applicant Eligibility:

Ensure that the applicant:

- is eligible to apply as of November 25, 2008, as described in the 2008 *Program Guide for Students and Fellows*.
- is currently registered <u>full</u> or <u>part-time</u> or on an approved leave of absence at your university, <u>or</u> is not registered and has completed all requirements for a degree from your university in 2008.
- if registered, is registered in an NSERC-supported field. (Please contact NSERC if you are unsure.)
- is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada as of November 25, 2008.
- has a first-class average in each of the last two completed years (24 months) of study in a field supported by NSERC (2 years of part-time study equals 1 year of full-time study).

Proposed research:

For each application, verify that:

- the primary research subject code corresponds to the applicant's **proposed** field of study (see Form 200). A secondary research subject code may be provided, but is not necessary.
- the proposed research is in an area of natural sciences or engineering supported by NSERC. Do not send an application to NSERC from an applicant who should be applying to CIHR or SSHRC. You will not be able to replace this application if it is rejected by NSERC. If in doubt, contact NSERC as soon as possible.

Completeness:

Ensure that the applicant:

- used a font comparable to 12 point, Times New Roman regular.
- signed the cover page.
- completed ALL sections of Form 200, including the free form section (may indicate "N.A.", where necessary).
- respected the page limits.

Appendix 1:

For each application, verify that:

- two (2) Appendix 1 forms have been completed.
- both Appendix 1 forms are signed.

Appendix 2:

NEW THIS YEAR:

- For NSERC purposes, the Departmental ranking and Comments no longer appear on Appendix 2.
- For internal evaluation purposes universities may request that each department provide a
 Departmental evaluation for the applicants that they are recommending to the Faculty (School) of
 Graduate Studies. For more information, the departments can be directed to the Appendix 2
 Instructions, the section titled *Departmental evaluation* found on the NSERC Website at
 http://www.nserc.gc.ca/forms/instructions/200/a2_e.asp.
- The Departmental evaluation may be an additional page added to the group of applications, which could include such information as ranking of the applicants.
- This information must not be included with the applications when submitted to NSERC.
- University comments on the applicant are optional unless you are recommending an applicant who has not achieved a first-class average during the last two years of study, or if you need to describe international degrees or diplomas used as a basis for the applicant's admission to the current program.

Ensure that:

- the academic average and maximum possible average for the last two completed periods of study have been indicated.
 - See instructions for completing Appendix 2 to know which grades to use for calculating the average of the last and second last periods
 - (http://www.nserc.gc.ca/forms/instructions/200/a2_e.asp).
- the university ranking of recommended PGS M and PGS D applicants has been inserted in the lower right-hand section.
- it is NOT indicated in the comments section of Appendix 2 that the student is Aboriginal. If the student has self-identified and will not be included as part of the university quota, the university must indicate this information on the *Aboriginal Applicants* form(template provided on the NSERC secure Web site).

Transcripts:

Verify that the transcripts:

- of all university studies in the natural sciences and engineering are included.
 o including any transferred courses taken at other universities
- are official, original, up-to-date, clear, and suitable for photocopying. Certified copies will be accepted **only** for transcripts from foreign locations where official transcripts would be hard to obtain.
- clearly indicate the weighted average for each of the applicant's last two completed periods of study.
- indicate any semesters when the applicant was not a full-time student or was registered even though no courses were taken.
- provide the exact date when a student was transferred from a master's degree to a doctoral degree without having completed their Master's,
- are translated if the original is in a language other than English or French.
- are accompanied by a supporting statement in the case of applicants who have completed all
 previous studies outside of Canada or the United States. (Statement about the academic strength
 of the applicant and the reputation of the university at which the applicant's studies were completed to
 be provided by the department chair, the Faculty of Graduate Studies or the University Scholarships
 Selection Committee.)

Incomplete applications may be rejected by NSERC or disadvantaged in the review process.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AND RECOMMENDED NSERC POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP (PGSM) 2009-2010 **Deadline: October 9, 2008** *Recommended students must have a minimum GPA of 3.75 in each of the last two full years of study. Incomplete applications will be returned to the Department **DEPARTMENT: PHONE NUMBER: CONTACT PERSON:**

PGSM – HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AND RECOMMENDED IN ORDER OF MERIT

1.	11.
2.	12.
3.	13.
4.	14.
5.	15.
6.	16.
7.	17.
8.	18.
9.	19.
10.	20

COMMENTS:

DEPARTMENT HEAD:	SIGNATURE:	

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AND RECOMMENDED NSERC POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS (PGSD) 2009-2010						
Deadline: October 9, 2008						
*Recommended students must have a minimum GPA of 3.7. Incomplete applications will be returned to the Department.	5 in each of the las	st two full years of study.				
DEPARTMENT:		1				
CONTACT PERSON:		PHONE NUMBER:				
PGSD – HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AND RECOMME	ENDED IN ORDI	ER OF MERIT				
1.	11.					
2.	12.					
3.	13.					
4.	14.					
5. 15.						
6.	16.					
7.	17					
8.	18.					
9.	19.					
10.	20.					

COMMENTS:

DEPARTMENT HEAD:	SIGNATURE:

NOT RECOMMENDED ONLY

NSERC POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Note: Please <u>do not forward</u> not recommended applications. It is the department's responsibility to contact those students who are not recommended to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Any not recommended applications forwarded to Graduate Studies will be returned.				
2009	-2010			
DEPARTMENT:				
CONTACT PERSON:	PHONE NUMBER:			
PGSM				
1.	7.			
2.	8.			
3.	9.			
4.	10.			
5.	11.			
6.	12.			
PGSD				
1.	7.			
2.	8.			
3.	9.			
4.	10.			
5.	11.			
6.	12.			
DEPARTMENT HEAD:	SIGNATURE:			

NATURAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH COUNCIL

SUCCESS RATE FOR NEW AWARDS

	<u>05/06</u>	<u>06/07</u> (07/08	<u>08/09</u>
Highly Recommended Applications	107	136	119	104
Recommended to NSERC	82	77	72	75
Awarded by NSERC	45	52	44	53
Overall Success Rate in Percentage	55%	68%	61%	71%

2008/2009	success rate in each category					
PGSM	19/41	46%				
CGSM	14/41	32%				
PGSD2	7/34	21%				
PGSD3	10/34	29%				
CGSD2	2/34	6%				
CGSD3	2/34	6%				

	<u>96/97</u>	<u>97/98</u>	<u>98/99</u>	<u>99/00</u>	<u>00/01</u>	<u>01/02</u>	<u>02/03</u>	<u>03/04</u>	<u>04/05</u>
Highly Recommended Applications	78	100	92	78	98	101	115	97	110
Recommended to NSERC	67	51	53	63	67	70	72	73	80
Awarded by NSERC	35	40	44	42	44	50	50	46	48
Overall Success Rate in Percentage	52%	78%	83%	67%	66%	71%	69%	63%	60%

2007/2008 success rate in each category

PGSM	10/44	23%
CGSM	17/44	39%
PGSD2	10/28	38%
PGSD3	3/28	11%
CGSD2	3/28	11%
CGSD3	0/70	0%

2006/2007	success rate in each category					
PGSM	18/52	35%				
CGSM	12/52	23%				
PGSD2	8/25	32%				
PGSD3	6/25	24%				
CGSD2	4/25	16%				

3/25

12%

CGSD3

2005/2006 PGSM	success rate in ea 19/56	ch catego 349
CGSM	7/56	139
PGSD2	6/26	239
PGSD3	6/26	239
CGSD2	6/26	23%
CGSD2 CGSD3	1/26	23% 4%
CUSDS	1/20	4%
2004/2005	success rate in eac	ch categor
PGSM	22/51	43%
CGSM	10/51	209
PGSD2	9/29	319
PGSD3	3/29	10%
CGSD2	4/29	149
	success rate in eac	-
PGSA	36/52	69%
PGSB	12/21	57%
CGSM	7	
CGSD	2	
	success rate in eac	-
PGSA	34/51	679
PGSB	16/21	769
2001/2002	success rate in eac	h Catego
PGSA	37/50	749
PGSB	13/20	65%
2000/2001 PGSA PGSB	Success Rate in ea 34/50 10/17	ich Categ 689 599
rusd	10/17	59%
1999/2000	Success Rate in ea	ich Categ
PGSA	29/42	699
PGSB	13/21	629
1998/99 Su	ccess Rate in each	Categor
PGSA	32/37	86
PGSB	12/16	75
1997/98 Su	ccess Rate in each	Categor
	27/34	79
PGSA PGSB	13/17	76
PGSB	13/17	
PGSB		

PGSA	19/41	46%
PGSB	16/26	62%

NATURAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH COUNCIL

SUCCESS RATE FOR NEW AWARDS

		<u>88/89</u>	<u>89/90</u>	<u>90/91</u>	<u>91/92</u>	<u>92/93</u>	<u>93/94</u>	<u>94/95</u>	<u>95/96</u>
Highly Reco Application		119	109	97	104	91	70	102	86
Recommend	ed to NSERC	107	88	66	71	61	61	80	63
Awarded by	Awarded by NSERC		60	45	47	47	51	36	34
Overall Succ Percentage	ess Rate in	70%	68%	68%	66%	77%	84%	45%	54%
1995/96 Suc	cess Rate in each	Category							
PGSA	22/44	50%							
PGSB	12/19	63%							
1994/95 Suc	cess Rate in each	Category							
PGSA	25/53	47%							
PGSB	11/27	41%							
1993/94 Suc	cess Rate in each	Category							
PGSA	39/45	87%							
PGSB	16/12	75%							
1992/93 Suc	cess Rate in each	Category							
PGS1	32/40	80%							
PGS3	11/12	92%							
PGS4	4/9	44%							
1991/92 Suc	cess Rate in each	Category:							
PGS1	31/37	84%							
PGS2	5/10	50%							
PGS3	8/18	44%							
PGS4	3/6	50%							
1990/91 Suc	cess Rate in Each	Category:							
PGS1	29/32	91%							
PGS2	3/6	50%							
DCC2	0/20	150/							

PGS3

PGS4

9/20

4/8

45%

50%