Program Description

Based in the Graduate School Diversity Office, the Community of Scholars Program (COSP) aims to create an institutional environment that supports the academic and professional success of Native American graduate students and graduate students of color. COSP assists students (U.S. citizens and permanent residents) to develop supportive relationships with advisors; build a sense of community; and pursue research, teaching and community engagement opportunities within and outside the Twin Cities area.

Travel Grants
Grants of up to $1,000 per student are provided to support travel to conduct research or to present at a conference. All travel grant recipients participate in a fall research symposium to showcase their work to the University community.

Workshops and Forums
Several workshops and forums are scheduled throughout the academic year focusing on dissertation/thesis and grant writing, networking, and job search processes, to name a few topics.

Predoctoral Fellowship
Doctoral candidates can apply to teach one course per semester at the UMN Morris, Duluth or Rochester campus while writing the dissertation. The fellowship appointment is for one academic year. Fellows will receive a stipend, housing, tuition, health insurance, professional development funds and a mentor.

Individual Consultations
Consultation with the COSP director on academic, professional, and personal matters is available by appointment. Please email Cori at cbazemor@umn.edu.

Mentoring
Students can request faculty mentors from within or outside the University as well as community leaders or individuals from industry to guide and support their career paths.

Writing Initiative
COSP provides writing support for all COSP students through individual consultations, writing groups, and retreats.

(continued on reverse)
Adjunct Faculty Positions in the Midwest
COSP students can apply for adjunct faculty positions while completing their degrees. COSP collaborates with the following colleges to provide teaching opportunities: Augsburg University, Gustavus Adolphus College, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, St. Catherine University, and St. Olaf College.

Social Events
COSP provides opportunities for students to build community with one another at social events throughout the year. Students’ families are welcome at many of these events.

Community Engagement
One major COSP component is providing participants an opportunity to serve as mentors and tutors at Twin Cities schools and youth-serving organizations. COSP participants encourage youth to finish high school and to attend college.

Twin Cities Multicultural Resources Directory
To connect students to off-campus resources and services, visit the Twin Cities Multicultural Resources Directory online at z.umn.edu/tcdirectory.

About the Graduate School Diversity Office
Diversity is a driving force and necessary condition for academic excellence. The Graduate School Diversity Office (GSDO) coordinates and leads the University's initiatives in the recruitment, funding, retention and graduation of graduate students who are underrepresented in higher education. Our goal is to create a welcoming academic environment in which all graduate students are positioned to succeed in the advancement and creation of new knowledge.

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