



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

### SPECIAL EDUCATION DOCTORAL PROGRAM

The University of Oregon has received funding to support two doctoral students in Special Education, Secondary Special Education and Transition (SSET) area. According to *U.S. News & World Report's* annual survey of top graduate schools, the College of Education ranks number five of all education programs in the nation and the college's [special education](#) program is ranked third in the nation for the ninth consecutive year (*U.S. News & World Report* 2008–9). The current funding will support doctoral training in policy, advocacy, instruction and research pertaining to secondary special education and transition beginning in the Fall, 2010 term.

**POLICY.** Doctoral training in SSET builds students skills in policy review and analyses at the local, state and federal level. Students will have an opportunity to take coursework related to policy issues and complete internships at state agencies (i.e., vocational rehabilitation, Oregon Department of Education) to experience “real-world” policy settings.

**ADVOCACY.** The SSET doctoral program allows students to choose cognates of interdisciplinary coursework to further develop a sound transition-related and adolescent knowledge base for being future advocates for youth and young adults with disabilities.

**INSTRUCTION.** Doctoral students will advance their teaching skills by learning current research on instruction and its implications for practice. Advanced teaching is developed through special seminars, opportunities to co-teach courses related to secondary special education and transition.

**RESEARCH.** The doctoral program at the University of Oregon's College of Education is a research-intensive degree program. All students are expected not only to learn to interpret research, but to learn the skills to develop, implement, and test evidence-based practices in the field. Students take courses that include quantitative, qualitative, and single subject methodologies and will intensively work with faculty each term in conducting research studies.

#### PROGRAM COURSEWORK

A program plan of sequenced coursework for students is designed around (a) required special education courses, (b) courses in four key secondary special education and transition related content specialties (i.e., Cultural Competence; Policy/Advocacy; Mental Health and Adolescent Development; and Curriculum, Standards, and Assessment), and (c) a rigorous sequence of research coursework including quantitative, qualitative and single subject design.

#### PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR & APPLIED RESEARCH

As part of the program, all students will also participate in ongoing professional seminars and applied research opportunities throughout the program. Professional seminars provide students with additional opportunities to develop research skills and competencies and all students will be matched with SSET faculty to participate in ongoing research projects. In addition, internships in various state agencies (i.e., vocational rehabilitation, Oregon Department of Education, Oregon Youth Authority) are available for students to hone research and policy-related skills in an applied setting.

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

This opportunity provides full funding for coursework and a stipend of approximately \$1,200 per month for two new students. Funding is provided by an OSEP funded doctoral leadership training grant.

#### APPLICATION INFORMATION

The initial application deadline is January 5, 2010. Applications for unfilled slots will be accepted through May 1, 2010. Program start date is Fall, 2010. Application materials are available on the College of Education website (<http://education.uoregon.edu>). Please indicate interest area in Secondary/Transition Services.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For additional information or questions regarding this opportunity contact Christopher Murray ([cjmurray@uoregon.edu](mailto:cjmurray@uoregon.edu)), 541-346-1445 or Deanne Unruh, ([dkunruh@uoregon.edu](mailto:dkunruh@uoregon.edu)), 541-346-1424.