

**ISEN CLUSTER FELLOW COMPETITION  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-2019**

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2018, 5PM (ALL MATERIALS, INCLUDING  
RECOMMENDATION LETTERS, DUE!)**

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Graduate School (TGS) has awarded to the Institute for Sustainability and Energy at Northwestern (ISEN) a Cluster on Energy and Sustainability, whose task is to promote research, development, education, outreach and communication at NU on these topics. This Cluster is central to ISEN's graduate teaching program, which parallels another ISEN undergraduate teaching program. ISEN's mission is to create, advance, and communicate new science, technology and policy for sustainability and energy. Its particular focus is on sustainable energy supply, demand and use.

**CLUSTER FELLOWS**

ISEN Cluster Fellows are exceptional TGS students with deep interest in energy and sustainability, who will be identified with the Cluster for three quarters. During this time, they are expected to take two ISEN graduate core classes and participate in other ISEN activities (e.g. ISEN seminars and workshops). They will also be required to grade or TA one undergraduate ISEN course (at the level of 5-10 hours per week) for one quarter. Finally, they will participate in regular Cluster Fellow meetings, present their research, and represent ISEN, as appropriate, in judging panels for various student competitions related to energy and sustainability topics.

**CLUSTER FELLOWSHIPS**

Students will be awarded a full tuition scholarship and a stipend at the base TGS level for two of the three quarters. The stipend is expected to be increased by their graduate research advisers to the level guaranteed by their home graduate program.

**ELIGIBILITY**

All TGS graduate students are eligible to apply; students from other professional graduate programs (Kellogg, Law, Medill, Feinberg) are unfortunately ineligible. At the time the Cluster award begins, the Fellows must have completed their first year as a graduate student at NU. Ideally, at the start of the ISEN Cluster, Fellows are in their second year of graduate study. Students who are already supported by external funding are eligible to apply.

**DEPARTMENT APPROVAL**

Electronic submission of the application by the applicant will generate an email to the department chair or program adviser. The email will provide a link for uploading a recommendation letter from the

department chair or program adviser (see below - additional materials required from faculty) constituting confirmation that the application has been vetted and endorsed by the department or program.

### **DEADLINE AND NOTIFICATION DATES**

The deadline to submit an application with all required materials is **August 31, 2018**.

### **REVIEW PROCESS**

ISEN will review all applications. Students and advisers will be notified via email, with a letter to follow.

### **SUBMISSION PROCESS**

The materials indicated below (see materials required from student) should be emailed to [isened@northwestern.edu](mailto:isened@northwestern.edu). Your application is not complete until both recommendation letters are received, due on the same deadline as the application. **Please note: It is your responsibility to ensure that the department chair and your faculty adviser comply with the deadline.**

Applications must include all required materials and adhere to all page, font, and format restrictions. Please do not include materials other than those requested. Applications that do not comply with these instructions, which are intended to ensure a level playing field for nominees across disciplines, will be returned without review.

### **MATERIALS REQUIRED FROM STUDENT**

The required materials are to be submitted in the following order:

1. The completed application form.
2. Abstract. A short description in lay terms describing the candidate's interest and/or research in energy and sustainability, **not to exceed one page**. The abstract must be double-spaced and in Times New Roman 12-pt. font.
3. A curriculum vitae (CV) and/or resume including education, professional experience, awards, presentations, publications, and professional memberships.
4. An unofficial Northwestern transcript. Unofficial transcripts may be obtained from CAESAR. After logging in to CAESAR, you can view your unofficial transcript by selecting "For Students" then "Academic Information" then "View Unofficial Transcript." Once the transcript is displayed, select "Switch to printer-friendly view" at the top of the screen. To save your unofficial transcript as an electronic document, copy and paste the entire transcript into a Word (or equivalent) file.
5. A sample of scholarly work in electronic format. This could be a scholarly article, conference paper, research, review article or coursework.

## **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS REQUIRED (FROM REFERENCES)**

**Two letters of recommendation.** One letter of recommendation should be provided by the department or program chair, which should describe the outstanding qualities of the nominee and his or her research and/or academic work. A second letter of recommendation should be provided by the student's Adviser (if the student has been previously financially supported by a RA) or other designated faculty member best qualified to comment upon the student's scholarship, research goals, or work experience in the energy & sustainability field. Both letters should address the following points: the qualities that set this student apart from others in the department or program; the significance of the scholarly research in energy and/or sustainability (within the discipline or across disciplines) and how the nominee would contribute to and benefit from ISEN courses. Furthermore, the Adviser letter should contain a statement acknowledging that he/she understands that "the student will be involved with the Cluster for three quarters, and during this time, will take the two ISEN graduate core classes (see below), assist with one undergraduate ISEN course (at the level of 5-10 hours per week) for one quarter, and participate in other ISEN activities.

## **APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

Prior to the deadline, the ISEN Cluster student applicant should prepare the required items as electronic documents and provide these to his or her adviser, who will write a recommendation letter. The student is responsible for asking the faculty members to prepare the recommendation letters in electronic form. The applicant is responsible for assembling the documents (except the recommendation letters) and submitting the application to ISEN. Once the application is submitted, an email will be sent to the department or program chair and the Adviser or other designed faculty member, requesting the letter of recommendation.

## **ISEN Cluster Requirements**

### **A. Coursework Requirements**

A Fellow is required to take two ISEN core courses in the three consecutive quarters of the Fellowship as follows:

#### **► ISEN 410 – Topics in Contemporary Energy & Climate Change (Fall 2018)**

The increasing worldwide demand for energy presents a number of complex interdisciplinary challenges, from oil depletion to global warming. This class will challenge students to answer the question, How shall we power the world in the 21st century? We will examine the history and geography of energy use; links between energy and climate change; and technological, economic and environmental benefits and drawbacks of various energy sources. This is a non-technical course and students from all disciplines are welcome.

► **ISEN 430 – NUvention: Energy (Winter 2019)**

NUvention: Energy is one of an expanding NUvention portfolio of topically focused cross-campus entrepreneurship programs. Over an intense quarter, graduate students from schools across campus will come together in interdisciplinary teams to develop a product or service and a business in the burgeoning sustainable energy industry. Students benefit from interaction with NUvention: Energy's Advisory Board of business leaders in the sustainable energy field.

**B. Other Required Participation**

A Fellow is required to grade or TA one undergraduate ISEN course (at the level of 5-10 hours per week) for one quarter.

**C. Additional Optional Courses**

The Fellows are encouraged to take, on an optional basis, additional courses with energy or sustainability topics offered by other departments and programs. Other ISEN graduate courses are listed on the ISEN web site at:

<http://isen.northwestern.edu/isen-courses-graduate>

Cluster activities will be funded and supported through ISEN as described below, and ISEN Cluster Fellows are encouraged to participate in campus programming throughout the year.

**To fill out the application:**

<http://isen.northwestern.edu/graduate-cluster-fellowships>

**DEADLINE: August 31, 2018**