Centre for International & Professional Experience (CIPE) Fellowships Info Session
Introduction

This Presentation Will Cover

- What are Fellowships?
- Examples of Fellowships
- Steps to Pursue a Fellowship
- Goal Setting
- Application Process
An Introduction to Fellowships

What are Fellowships?

- Also called awards, scholarships, grants
- Opportunities lasting from a few months to several years
- Focus on the professional or academic development of the fellow
- Sponsored by a specific association or organization seeking to expand leadership in their field
- Merit-based awarded for specific and competitive experience
An Introduction to Fellowships

Why Consider Applying for Fellowship?

- Experiential Learning
- Leadership and Professional Development
- Enrich your education and push intellectual limits
- Delve deeper into your interests
- Financial support for undergraduate and graduate education, travel, and or research
An Introduction to Fellowships

Before you decide

- Not awarded for general merit – pick your battles
- Highly Specialized – know the criteria
- Purposeful – Know the mission
- Stepping stone to later awards
- Serious time commitment
- Intense writing and revising
- Odds of success low
Categories of Fellowships

**Academic**
- Financing one year or more of coursework toward a degree at a specific institution
- Opportunities for students to participate in exchange programs, graduate study, research, and/or teaching at primary, secondary, or at a university in specific locations
- Funds to cover undergraduate or graduate studies not tied to specific institutions

**Experiential**
- Intended for artist development through study or coursework
- Providing funds to support public service 1-2 years after graduation
- Internship placement in various industries
Examples of Fellowships

Academic
- Chevening in Singapore
- Fulbright
- Gates-Cambridge
- Marshall
- Rhodes
- Schwarzman
- Amgen Scholars
- YSEALI Academic Fellows

Experiential
- Carnegie
- Fulbright
- Princeton in Asia
- Japan Exchange and Teaching
- Future Global Leaders
Steps in Pursuing a Fellowship

- Exploration
- Finding a Fellowship
- Application
- Interviews
Exploration

1. **Exploration**
   a. Defining goals – self assessment, consider type of experience (conduct research, attend grad school, serve a community in need, immerse yourself in foreign culture)
   b. Researching suitable opportunities – paying attention to purpose of each award and how it aligns with goals; eligibility requirements
   c. Consulting knowledgeable resources on campus (Faculty, Staff, Previous Award Winners)

2. **Finding a Fellowship for Unique Interests**
   a. Thinking of fellowships as a means to achieve goals, not the ends or goals in themselves
   b. Eligibility criteria
Reflective exercise: Jot down some notes on....

- Who are you?
- What are you best at?
- What accomplishment are you most proud of?
- Why are you here?
- Where are you going?
- What do you want?
- Articulate a one-line goal statement

Share this with a partner. When you are done, comment on how speaking vs. writing shaped your response. Think about what difference an audience made to your introduction.

Homework if you’re interested:

- Write a 1-2 page self-introduction based on these six questions and revisit your response each time you need to articulate a statement of personal intent.
If you’ve decided to apply

1. Find a fellowship you are interested in and eligible for, research the funding agency. Questions to consider:
   • Who sponsors the fellowship?
   • What is their mission (does it match your goals)?
   • What are their values and principles?
   • What is their funding history?
   • What is their eligibility (do you meet all the basic criteria)?

2. Application Essays
   • Demonstrating match between yourself and a particular project
   • Demonstrating match between yourself and a particular fellowship
   • Being persuasive
   • Considering your audience
If you’ve decided to apply (continued)

3. Letters of Recommendation
   - Find individuals such as your instructors, advisors, coaches, administrators, and supervisors
   - Credibility - Would this audience respect this person?
   - Validity – is this person’s area of expertise relevant?
   - Give recommenders ample time (4+ weeks) to prepare

4. Interviewing
   - Practice/Mock Interviews
   - Read news and major publications on your topic/region of interest
   - Reread the fellowship description and your application

5. Budgeting
   - What are the legitimate expenses required?
   - What assets do you have to commit to the project?
   - Need = Assets - expenses
An Introduction to Fellowships

Common Basis of Evaluation

- Academic record – GPA, Grade, Curriculum
- Prior awards – imply motivation and merit
- Independent work – regardless of major
- Presented at conferences, published in journals, engaged in substantial research
- Activities – work experience, research, teaching, community and public service, leadership roles
- Awards, honors, special recognitions
- Recommendation Letters
- Personal Statements
Next Steps

• Check out Fellowships Website
• Make an appointment
• Contact Navid.Ladha@yale-nus.edu.sg