MEMORANDUM:

TO: University Deans, Chairs, Faculty, and Administrators

FROM: Gerald B. Kauvar, Chairman, Cosmos Club Foundation

DATE: September 1, 2014

SUBJECT: Cosmos Scholars Program

The Cosmos Club Foundation is pleased to announce its 2014-2015 Cosmos Scholars Program. As in past years, the program provides grants to graduate students to fill unmet needs in their research programs. Gifts to the Foundation from members of the Cosmos Club have enabled us to increase the maximum grant from $3,000 to $4,000.

Your assistance in promoting the program by posting the enclosed brochures in prominent places on campus and sharing them with any students you think may be interested in the grant program is greatly appreciated. Information about the Cosmos Scholars Program is also available on our web site at www.cosmosclubfoundation.org.

Please contact us at grants@cosmosclubfoundation.org if you have questions or need additional brochures. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Enclosures: Program brochures
ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

American University
The Catholic University of America
Corcoran College of Art + Design
Gallaudet University
George Mason University
The George Washington University
Georgetown University
Howard University
Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies
Marymount University
Trinity University
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
University of the District of Columbia
University of Maryland, College Park

COSMOS SCHOLARS
A GRANT PROGRAM OF THE COSMOS CLUB FOUNDATION IN SUPPORT OF GRADUATE STUDENTS AT WASHINGTON AREA UNIVERSITIES

2014 – 2015

Cosmos Club Foundation
2121 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 2, 2014
Purpose
The program provides grants to meet specific research needs not covered by other supporting funds, including but not limited to special supplies, travel, unanticipated expenses that would enhance the work, etc. Specifically excluded are general financial support, tuition, and living expenses (except in connection with supported travel).

Scope of Program
There is no restriction as to academic field, and the project should be focused on objective scholarly research rather than commercial or political activity, social activism, or other non-academic goals. The number of grants to be awarded is not rigidly fixed, but is expected to be at least fifteen. Amounts of awards will be determined individually, but are contemplated to be in the range of $500 to $4,000.

Eligibility
Applicants must be enrolled, on a full-time or part-time basis, in a program leading to a graduate degree (Masters or Doctoral) at one of the local institutions listed on the back panel.

Guidelines
The major criterion for selection is the excellence of the research proposal. No specific format or organization is required, but applicants should state clearly what work is proposed, how and when it would be performed, and why the results would be important or useful. Our preference is for topics not anticipated when the overall research program was proposed and therefore not covered by support originally planned.

It is essential to make the project description understandable to scholars in other fields, while retaining enough detail to satisfy a specialist in the field of the proposal.

Pay attention to the stated limits on length. The CV must be limited to one page. The proposal statement must not exceed one page; space for the required brief budget statement is provided on the application form.

Do not request support for work that will be conducted prior to the announced date of awards, or so soon thereafter that the funds, if awarded, could not be applied to it.

Funds for tuition or related expenses for personal professional education will not be provided.

Generally funds will not be provided to support remuneration to participants in studies or stipends for research assistants. If the proposal is for part of a group or team effort, the proposer’s role and level of individual participation must be clearly described.

All Cosmos Scholar grants are made directly to individual graduate students, not to their host or sponsoring institution. Any restrictions or conditions the institution may impose on the Scholar’s use of granted funds must be clearly described.

Budget
Grants will not exceed $4,000. Every research proposal must include (in the space provided on the application form) a brief budget statement that lists clearly the funds requested and explains how the money will be allocated. The budget must also state what other support has been sought or received for the work proposed.

Items of equipment and special supplies are eligible, but the equipment should be expendable. Items that the institution ought to provide or that graduate students can be expected to own are not eligible. Items and services that will outlive the project are not considered expendable and are generally not eligible.

Travel for field research or to research facilities to consult documents or to study artifacts in situ or to conduct cultural exploration is generally eligible. Travel to consult with an expert practitioner may be considered. Travel to attend professional meetings to present an accepted paper or poster exhibit may also be considered. Travel to a conference simply for networking or job-hunting is not eligible. Applicants should keep in mind the virtues of economically modest travel requests.

Application Procedures
The entire application must be submitted online.

The Deadline for receipt of applications is Sunday, November 2, 2014 at 12 midnight.

Detailed instructions will be posted on the Foundation’s web site at

www.cosmosclubfoundation.org

Evaluation and Selection
Successful proposals will be selected by the Cosmos Club Foundation Trustees after evaluation and recommendation by panels chosen by the Foundation. Proposals will be judged on both substance and clarity. The Foundation may make awards in amounts different from those requested. Decisions of the Foundation are final and not subject to review. Winners’ names will be posted on the Foundation web site, no later than Tuesday, February 3, 2015. Recipients of grants will also receive a letter requiring a reply to the Foundation before funds will be disbursed.

Conditions of Award
Cosmos Scholars are expected to provide a summary report of the results of the project in support of which they have received awards, and to indicate how the award contributed to the project. This report is expected within one year of the date of the award, and the Foundation may post the report on its web site. Cosmos Scholars may also be invited to present their results at a special Cosmos Club Foundation function organized to recognize them and their accomplishments. Publications resulting from supported research must acknowledge the Cosmos Club Foundation’s support.