December 21, 2016

The Zuckerman STEM Leadership Program
Post-Doctoral Scholarships at Tel-Aviv University
Call for Applications 2017-18

The Zuckerman Postdoctoral Scholars Program attracts high-achieving postdoctoral researchers from premier universities in the United States to do research at one of four Israeli universities. Once they complete their research, many Zuckerman postdocs are expected to accept faculty positions at top North American universities, weaving a network of academic collaboration and goodwill that will greatly benefit U.S.-Israeli scientific cooperation.

The Zuckerman Postdoctoral program strengthens the connection between the participants and the countries of the United States and Israel through unique experiences and new relationships formed during the program.

In addition, Zuckerman scholars enjoy programming and activities specially organized for them by the host universities, such as sightseeing tours, educational experiences, and social programs. These activities are aimed at strengthening the scholars’ knowledge of and affiliation with Israel, and at cultivating an esprit de corps within the program.

Duration and Funding
- Zuckerman Postdoctoral Scholarships are up to two years.
- The amount of the stipend is $50,000 per year up to two years, with $36,000 each year devoted to living expenses and $14,000 each year for research ($10,000) and travel ($4000) expenses.

Eligibility
- Zuckerman Postdoctoral Scholars are chosen through a rigorous selection process, based on their academic and research records and their letters of recommendation, without regard to race, religion, gender, ethnicity, or age.
- The selection committee assesses candidates’ potential to make cutting-edge contributions in STEM fields, as well as their demonstrated leadership qualities.
- Five postdoctoral scholarships are allocated to Tel-Aviv University.
- Candidates must be citizens of the United States or Canada, from premier universities and those who have unlimited residence permit (have a documented status that allows them to study and work in the country).
- Candidates are requested to write a short letter of intent declaring their plans to return to the United States or Canada and compete for a position at the university there.
- Candidates are expected to secure and submit written consent from a potential supervisor at Tel-Aviv University along with their application. Candidates may apply to more than one University.
- Candidates must hold a Ph.D. degree from a premier university, or that their Ph.D. thesis was sent to referees.
Applications can be submitted for the upcoming deadline by candidates who began their postdoctoral training at the host institution after October 1, 2016; or who will arrive to begin their training no later than October 1, 2017.

Academic and Social Activities
• Zuckerman scholars are required to participate in sponsored events and activities during the academic year. These events include but are not limited to:
  o a day-long academic event at each participating university campus
  o visits to various departments, research programs, and research facilities, including opportunities to meet students and faculty at other universities
  o a Zuckerman Institute scientific seminar with media coverage that will be open to the public, where selected postdoctoral scholars from all the participating universities in the Zuckerman STEM Leadership Program will present their research
• In addition, scholars will be invited to social activities and sightseeing trips. They will be exposed to Israeli culture, meet with various sectors and ethnic groups, and visit science parks and high-tech incubators, etc., in Israel.

Publications
• Zuckerman Postdoctoral Scholars must identify themselves as members of the Zuckerman Postdoctoral Scholars Program in all academic and scientific papers, articles, publications, presentations, etc. through duration of participation in the program.

Required Documents
1. CV including a paragraph on demonstrated leadership qualities + list of publications (minimum of three publications), listing the impact factor of the journals in which papers were published.
2. Written confirmation that the candidate is entitled to a Ph.D. degree and the date it was awarded, or an administrative confirmation that the candidate’s doctoral thesis was sent to referees.
3. Research proposal (maximum 3 pages).
4. Letter of support from the potential supervisor.
5. Three letters of recommendation, including a letter from the candidate’s PhD supervisor. If possible, one letter should be from a university other than the one where the candidate’s PhD was granted.
6. Personal statement detailing the candidate’s future career plans.
7. A short letter of intent declaring the candidate’s plans to return to the United States or Canada and compete for a position at the university there.

Applications, including the letters of recommendation, should be submitted by the hosting supervisor in one hard copy to the Foundations & Grants Unit, Senate Building, Room 221, and also sent via email in one pdf file to Shlomita@tauex.tau.ac.il.

Deadline for applications: February 8, 2017