The Saul and Ruth Levin Educational Enrichment Grant

Thanks to the generosity of Distinguished Professor Saul Levin and his family, the Department of Classical and Near Eastern Studies is pleased to announce the

Saul and Ruth Levin Educational Enrichment Grant

If you are a currently enrolled BU student majoring in classics, this may be the grant for you! It is intended to help fund classics-related educational experiences like the following:

- Study abroad
- Foreign travel with an educational focus
- Research projects involving expenses (travel, equipment, etc.) incurred by the student researcher
- Other possible projects or experiences with an educational and classics-related focus

The Grant is open to all students currently majoring in one of three classics tracks at Binghamton University (Classics, Greek and Latin; Latin; Classical Civilization). Those considering a major should formally declare with the assistance of the Undergraduate Director to be eligible to submit an application by the deadline below.

Please consider putting together a proposal of up to 600 words, due date November 18, 2016. For more information see below. But you’re also encouraged to contact Andrew Scholtz, our Undergraduate Director for Classics (ascholtz@binghamton.edu), or John Starks, our Departmental Chair (jstarks@binghamton.edu).

Details on How to Apply

To apply for the Saul and Ruth Levin Educational Enrichment Grant, please submit a proposal in the form of a word document or similar. Your proposal (please try to confine it to 600 words) should include the following:

- A concise but clear description of the project or experience (henceforth to be referred to as “experience”) and how it is related to your Binghamton University classics major. Include the general outlines of the proposed experience:
  - Is this about study abroad? If so, which program or programs are you looking at? Why?
  - If travel, the where and the why — what is it that you plan to do? What do you hope to get out of it? What do you expect to produce (paper, artwork, other) as a direct result of the experience?
  - If a research project, what is the topic? What do you expect to produce and what do you hope to achieve?
  - Or if it’s something other than the above, explain what you have in mind
- Those aspects of the experience that you anticipate will require funding and how much funding, in other words, a summary estimation of relevant costs
  - Travel
  - Lodging
  - Equipment
  - Possible other
- Please note that funding requests must not exceed $3000.00
Some experiences may cost more than available funding, in which case grant recipients will need to seek additional funding elsewhere.

**Submission Information (including deadline)**
E-mail your proposal to the Classical and Near Eastern secretary, Margaret Dwyer (mdwyer@binghamton.edu).

The deadline to apply is November 18, 2016.

**Decision Timeline**
The selection committee will inform applicants of their decision by December 2, 2016.

**Nature and Amount of Grant(s)**
As noted above, proposals should not seek more than $3000 in grant money, which means that, depending on anticipated costs, applicants may need to consider additional sources of funding.

It is possible that, depending on the character of proposals and on available funds, multiple grants will be awarded.

**Who May Apply, Timetable for Experience**
If you’re a declared Binghamton University Classics major (that includes multiple majors, Classics plus something else: Classics, Greek and Latin; Classical Civilization; Latin, are the three major tracks that count as ‘Classics’ major) and a registered student, full-time, in fall 2016, you may apply for the Grant. Note that the experience must also be completed while you are still a full-time (12 credits), enrolled, and officially declared Classics major.

Do keep in mind that any grantees will need to have completed the experience activities they are seeking to fund for the 2016-17 award by the time of graduation, May 20, 2018. (Example: Say you are a sophomore and would like to spend grant funds on your junior semester abroad in spring 2018. The timetable allows for that.)

**Exception:** Since graduating seniors are no longer full-time students after completion of their degree requirements, they may apply in fall of their senior year only for experiences that will occur during the spring of their senior year. A traditional senior applicant’s experience would need to be completed, for example, by May 21, 2017. Students with senior standing who would be full-time students the following fall and graduate in December, would be eligible to apply for a summer or fall experience that ends before the date of their December graduation.

**Selection Criteria**
Though the selection committee will be free to exercise broad discretion in awarding grants, it should be noted that all awards will be merit-based. Criteria include the merit of the proposal itself (its suitability and educational potential in relation to the major and to the applicant’s interests, plus its overall viability and excellence) and the applicant’s academic record, both in the major and generally.

**Receipt of Grant Money**
Receipt of Grant money will take place in response to documented need. Say that you need to purchase a plane ticket. Before- or after-the-fact reimbursement will require documentation in
the form of a record of purchase plus a copy of the electronic or paper boarding pass. If you have requested funding for room and board while abroad, you will need to present a record of reservations plus receipts for funded expenses.

Note that it will be possible to receive an advance on all or part of awarded funding, but only if the request is documented as just described, and with the promise that full documentation of expenditures will be provided at the conclusion of the experience.

**Documentation, Reporting**

Those awarded a Levin Grant will, at the conclusion of the funded experience, present records of expenditures plus a report on the experience itself: what the grant recipient learned from it, what the recipient feels should be shared with others about it, that kind of thing.

Recipients who are on campus the semester following the experience will be expected to attend the annual Levin Grant reception and to describe to attendees their respective experiences. Recipients who cannot make the reception will be asked to supply written comment to be shared at the reception. Any recipient who so wishes should feel free to create and to share a very brief slideshow (PowerPoint or similar).

The award recipients will also share a written report of educational benefits and outcomes from the experience with thanks to the benefactors, Dr. Saul and Ruth Levin, and their family.

**For More Information...**

For more information, contact the Classics Undergraduate Director or the Departmental Chair. For detailed information on rules and procedures, visit the department website:

http://binghamton.edu/cnes