

Graduate Student Designer Awards – Application

The Mutually Enriching Mentorship program (MEM) aims to enhance understanding around race-based issues on ASU's campus as it relates to the graduate student experience. We are seeking six graduate students to support this initiative by creating scenarios and learning opportunities to develop the cultural competency of ASU faculty. These scenarios will then be used in a faculty training program to share, inform, and transform systems of inequality in graduate education and support students who have historically been excluded due to race or ethnicity. Help us to explore these topics by applying for a **Graduate Student Designer (GSD) award** ([link](#)).

GSD awards are intended to support and encourage graduate students to share and discuss the challenges of graduate school, academia, and navigating the university as it relates to the context of their identity (specifically scholars who identify as persons historically excluded due to ethnicity and race and Black, Indigenous, People of Color).

Requirements of award:

Attend 1-2 hour meeting in May 2022 with cohort

(Meeting will be an agreed upon time so that all cohort members can join along with our external advisor and [CIMER](#) certified facilitator, [Dr. Kelly Diggs-Andrews](#)).

Create and revise 12-15 scenarios with your cohort by July 2022 (example case study or scenario in application)

Lead a 1-hour graduate student forum in fall 2022 semester (optional but encouraged)

Share a 15-minute presentation at an ASU symposium in November 2022

Application deadline: April 29th, 2022. GSD candidate selection will be announced in early May. Link here: <https://forms.gle/nukLrgKZEmHWmck7A>

MEM Program: Graduate Student Designers (GSDs) will be provided funding support through the Department of Natural Sciences DEI seed grant and will contribute their case studies to a larger faculty training program at ASU called Mutually Enriching Mentorship (MEM). The primary objective of MEM is to provide a space to discuss with faculty openly about race and racism and deepen our knowledge of the experiences of current graduate students at ASU. This program was inspired by both the CIMER (Center for Improvement of Mentored Experiences in Research) and the URGE (Unlearning Racism in the GEOsciences) curriculum. Within the initiative, we will help students connect to other mentoring resources at ASU and provide a supportive and safe space for case study sharing as well as a **\$600 award**.

Rules and eligibility: Applicants must be current graduate students in any of the following programs: (schools involved include SOLS, SOS, SESE, SMS, and the [ESSA graduate scholars network](#)). If you would like to share case studies that come from a different discipline but highlight the graduate student experience in academia, then you may still be considered but you must apply through the ESSA graduate scholars network (contact essa@asu.edu to join).

1. Currently enrolled in a graduate program at ASU
2. Expected continued enrollment in Fall 2022
3. In good academic standing in your unit/program
4. Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) students and PEERs (Persons excluded because of their ethnicity or race in STEM) ([Asai 2020](#)) will be given priority in the application process.

Have other thoughts or want to contribute to this program in other ways? Contact ESSA@asu.edu or michele.clark@asu.edu.