



## Exploring New Issues: PICS Graduate Fellowships Call 2017

### *Application Guidelines*

Faculty members resident at one of the four PICS consortium universities are invited to apply for graduate-fellowship support for exploration of novel issues that focus on climate-change adaptation or mitigation. Proposals must focus on climate solutions, be relevant to British Columbia, and engage stakeholders/knowledge users in the design and development of the research.

PICS' current five research foci are: energy efficiency in the built environment; low C transportation futures; carbon stewardship in BC's forests; BC natural gas development; and integration of the western Canadian electrical grid ([PICS Research](#)). Proposals for Graduate Fellowships related to these five topics will not be excluded from consideration, but PICS especially encourages applications that embrace other topics that fall under the broad climate-change solutions challenges that face society. Topics that we are particularly encouraging applications for include **clean technologies and innovations** that can be commercialized and adopted globally; effective **adaptation options** especially for small and medium business, indigenous communities, and high risk populations; and **effectiveness indicators for GHG reduction policies**.

***Applications may only be submitted by continuing (tenured or tenure-track) faculty members.*** If subsequently recommended for funding, the faculty member will recruit and nominate a suitable student to hold the fellowship. ***Only one fellowship will be provided to each successful faculty researcher in this competition.*** Up to five fellowships will be awarded in 2017 for support at the Masters or PhD level.

*Note: prospective graduate students **do not apply directly to PICS**, but are encouraged to discuss research projects with potential faculty supervisors, who will be the applicants in this competition.*

#### Selection Process

- Project proposals are to be submitted electronically to PICS on the application form provided on the PICS Graduate [Fellowship page](#). **Evaluation** will be based primarily on: a) the broad fit to the PICS mandate (described in our [Missions and Objectives](#)); b) *the potential impact, in the context of developing solutions for adaptation or mitigation*, and c) presenting a strong case that the issue to be addressed may have unrecognized importance or potential that requires investigation.

## Important Dates for Faculty Applicants

Project proposals must be received by midnight, Monday, January 16, 2017. Please send your application **as a pdf file** to [picsadmin@uvic.ca](mailto:picsadmin@uvic.ca). Late applications will not be accepted. A confirmation of receipt will be sent by email.

Adjudication results will be announced in early February, 2017.

Once a project proposal is recommended for funding at either the Master's or PhD level, the successful faculty researcher will nominate a suitable graduate student for fellowship support by forwarding the student's CV to [picsadmin@uvic.ca](mailto:picsadmin@uvic.ca). Successful applicants will have until January 2018 to recruit a suitable student.

Fellowship awards may be taken up as early as May 1, 2017 should the student be in a position to begin research then. However, it is anticipated that most new fellows will take up their positions in September 2017.

## Eligibility

Researchers who apply for student fellowship funding **must** hold a *continuing faculty appointment* (tenured or tenure-track) at one of the four PICS universities: SFU, UBC, UNBC or UVic.

Students who receive fellowship funding **must** be enrolled in **full-time** graduate studies at one of the four PICS universities.

## Level of Support

There are three levels of fellowship support available to students:

PhD – \$21,000 per year for a maximum of three years

Masters – thesis or extended project required – \$18,500 per year for two years

Masters (single year)– project required – \$4,000 per year for one year

Fellowships are not intended to support students who already hold a major fellowship from another agency. However, they can be used to provide top-ups to a maximum total annual support level of \$38,000 for PhD students and \$28,000 for Master's students.