Future Agreement with China Scholarship Council

For information, graduate officers and supervisors December 2009

University of Waterloo has initiated discussion of a funding agreement with China Scholarship Council. We anticipate that the agreement will be signed in the upcoming months. The agreement covers doctoral students who receive a scholarship from China Scholarship Council: the CSC provides a living allowance (approximately \$15,000/year for four years) plus health care coverage and travel to Waterloo. Under this agreement, the University of Waterloo agrees to cover the tuition for these students: the supervisor is expected to provide funding to the amount of domestic tuition (whether through a teaching assistantship, research studentship or other source), and the University commits to providing the International Doctoral Student Award for four years.

The process for application is as follows: students are expected to apply directly to UW for admission, specifying that they are applying for the UW/CSC joint scholarship scheme. UW will evaluate the candidates and decide which students are admissible, and will send an offer letter to the student by the end of February. The student must present the offer letter to CSC by their deadline (see below). The offer letter should be unconditional in terms of academic performance and English language capability (i.e. students must have already completed the TOEFL or equivalent). The offer letter should also clarify that UW will offer each candidate a fellowship (TA, RA or others) equivalent to tuition fee, for four years of doctoral study, subject to them getting CSC's support. CSC will provide to UW a final list of scholarship recipients (we have requested further information as to the likely date by which this would be decided).

A similar agreement is being drafted regarding postdoctoral candidates, who receive a living allowance plus UHIP plus travel expenses from CSC. Faculty supervisors wishing to accept postdocs must provide provide at least \$15,600 per year (or pro-rated for shorter visits) as matching support.

While the agreement has not yet been signed, following a very successful recruitment fair in Beijing December 11-13, there may be students who apply in anticipation of the signed agreement. Supervisors who can cover the equivalent of the domestic tuition for the necessary four years for a doctoral student, can choose to accept students on the terms above.

The China Scholarship Council also funds Masters students. There is no institutional-level agreement for Masters students: however individual supervisors can choose to accept such students according to pre-existing practice. (UW already has students registered here, funded by the CSC).

Note: CSC support is suitable only for those who plan to work in China for two (?) years after receiving the degree or finished the postdoc term. It is also possible that you do one postdoc (outside China) after PhD before going back to China.

For more details, please contact me or go to: http://www.csc.edu.cn/ -Bo Cui (bcui@uwaterloo.ca)