Support for Northwestern Faculty & Graduate Students

Northwestern Buffett is dedicated to fostering meaningful engagement across borders of all kinds — bringing the brightest minds from Northwestern University and around the world together to address critical global challenges that can’t be solved from a singular disciplinary or geographic perspective. Our programs catalyze and support collaborative work on global challenges through grants and process facilitation. All Buffett programs are open to faculty and graduate students from across the University. We prize interdisciplinary engagement, risk-taking and global impact. Buffett support falls into five main categories:

Northwestern Buffett Idea Incubation Process

We support faculty in interdisciplinary global research that addresses United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Our programs support idea formation and research incubation through the following vehicles:

Idea Dialogues
Idea Dialogues convene Northwestern faculty from different disciplines and schools for informal explorations of a question or topic of global significance. We help curate interdisciplinary groups and prepare and facilitate the discussion in a 1.5-hour workshop that may be held in-person, virtually or in hybrid format. The goal is to uncover new perspectives and questions that seed research projects around global issues. Idea Dialogues can lead to follow-up conversations, small collaborations or partnerships or our annual Idea Incubation Workshop. Idea Dialogues are held on a rolling basis from May through November.

Idea Incubation Workshop
The annual Idea Incubation Workshop reconvenes Idea Dialogue groups for three 3-hour work sessions designed to develop broad ideas into proposals for concrete research projects. We help curate interdisciplinary groups and facilitate the process. Participating groups share proposals with a selection committee of Northwestern faculty and other experts for the opportunity to receive Northwestern Buffett grants. Workshops are held annually during the winter quarter, with funding decisions announced in April.

Global Working Groups

Northwestern Buffett Global Working Groups work together as interdisciplinary research teams based on the project proposal generated through the Idea Incubation Workshop process. Funding: $150k per year for two years plus ongoing administrative support. Support may include course buyouts, graduate assistantships, and other funding needed to support the proposed projects.

Global Connections Seed Grants
Global Connections Seed Grants support Northwestern faculty in initiating or expanding connections with international collaborators. This includes all forms of scholarly output and could involve partnerships with other researchers, university programs and units, and non-academic partners. Funding: Maximum of $10k. Only one grant per applicant is accepted annually. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

Virtual International Visitor Grants
Virtual International Visitor Grants support Northwestern faculty across the university interested in hosting international visitors from around the world — international university faculty, leaders from global civil society, government or the private sector — for short virtual residencies. Funding: Max $2k per grant. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

International Classroom Partnering Grants
International Classroom Partnering Grants offer Northwestern faculty opportunities to collaborate with peers at international partner institutions to provide cross-cultural, global opportunities for student learning and engagement using online tools. Funding: Max $3k per grant. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.
**Fulbright U.S. Scholar, Visiting Scholar and Scholar-in-Residence Programs**

**Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program**
The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program offers over 800 awards in more than 135 countries for U.S. citizens to teach, conduct research and carry out professional projects around the world. Northwestern Buffett serves as the University's Fulbright Scholar Liaison, facilitating increased participation in the Fulbright Scholar Program via institutional level support and peer-to-peer engagement. Northwestern Buffett has also launched a pre-application travel award designed to support faculty members in developing or strengthening their Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program applications.

**Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program**
The Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program provides grants to approximately 850 foreign scholars from over 100 countries to conduct post-doctoral research at U.S. institutions. These relationships between Northwestern faculty hosts and visiting scholars are typically organically developed. However, Northwestern Buffett serves as an Administrative Official for the program and offers guidance to faculty who wish to host Fulbright visiting scholars as well as resources and support for the visitors.

**Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program**
The Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program allows institutions to host a scholar from outside of the U.S. for a semester or full academic year to teach courses, assist in curriculum development, guest lecture, develop study abroad and/or exchange partnerships and engage with local communities. This institutionally-driven program accepts a maximum of one application per university in non-consecutive years. Northwestern Buffett will send out a call when the application opens in a given academic year.

Fulbright typically issues its call for applications approximately 15 months before the anticipated start of the grant, with deadlines 11 or 12 months ahead of a grant’s start date. To learn more, visit fulbrightscholars.org.

**Support for Faculty in Hosting Visitors**

**Visiting Scholars**
Northwestern Buffett supports faculty members who wish to host visiting scholars and prioritizes applications from Buffett-affiliated faculty hosts. These research visitors are typically sponsored or employed elsewhere, by another university, a government agency, nongovernmental organization or industry. Faculty hosts may request resources for the visitor such as office space, housing and/or funding.