

WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE SCHOOLS

2008-09 WAGS/UMI INNOVATION IN TECHNOLOGY AWARD

The Western Association of Graduate Schools (WAGS) and University Microfilms International (UMI) have announced the 2008-2009 WAGS/UMI Innovation in Technology award. This \$1,000 award is intended to recognize the innovative application of technology to scholarship.

Each member institution may submit only one nomination for this award.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

This award may be given **to a master's thesis or to a doctoral dissertation** for the development of an innovative technology and its utilization for the creative solution of a major problem. The university nomination requires a written endorsement of the Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Research.

GUIDELINES FOR PSU PARTICIPATION IN THE 2008-2009 WAGS/UMI INNOVATION IN TECHNOLOGY AWARD

1. To be nominated, the student must have been graduated with his/her master's or doctoral degree in Summer or Fall 2007 or Winter or Spring 2008, with the thesis or dissertation as the culminating activity for the degree. Nomination materials must be submitted to the PSU Office of Graduate Studies and must include the following:
 - a. An original summary prepared by the student (1000-1500 words) describing the research and how it demonstrates innovative or creative use of technology in the conduct of scholarship. This summary should be directed to a general academic audience of non-specialists.
 - b. An original letter from the thesis adviser *plus* an original letter from one additional faculty member. These letters should include information regarding the significance of the technological innovations in the work for the discipline, and for the student's department and institution.

Note: All these materials should be kept on disk by the student and faculty, in case changes are required for WAGS submission.

2. **All nomination materials must be received in the PSU Office of Graduate Studies (6th Floor, Unitus Bldg, SW 4th & Lincoln) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 20, 2008. One nominated thesis or dissertation will be selected by the Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Research for forwarding to the WAGS competition.**
3. Initial screening will be based upon four criteria: originality, creativity, scholarly significance of the use of technology, and overall quality. The technological contribution to the degree program and/or the institution may also be a consideration. WAGS finalists will be asked to provide three complete copies of the thesis or dissertation.
4. The 2008-2009 award from WAGS consists of a certificate of award, \$1,000 to the recipient, and travel expenses for the recipient and his/her adviser to receive the award at the annual meeting of the Association to be hosted by New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, March 6-8, 2009.