Enhance your academic and professional skillsets

The EDGE Dissertation Working Group (DWG) is a small diversity-focused group of 6 – 8 advanced doctoral candidates from underrepresented backgrounds. Participants should be post-quals and can be approaching the data collection phase through the post-data collection stage. The group will use multiple writing strategies concentrating on moving each individual student’s writing process forward towards completion of their chosen piece of the dissertation. The EDGE DWG also serves additional purposes such as (1) to provide a safe, comfortable space for students of color and students from underrepresented backgrounds, and (2) to build community with small groups of students of color with distinct academic trajectories and personal experiences.

The EDGE DWG will be moderated by Dr. Jungmiwha Bullock, an accomplished scholar of color with a connection to the USC campus community who is also experienced and well-qualified to work with advanced doctoral candidates. Dr. Bullock is well aware of and sensitive towards issues of underrepresentation in the academy and issues of racial disparities in societal contexts. Participants will develop the following areas:

- Conceptualization of dissertation-related ideas
- Communicating the interpretation of the existing data & analysis
- Hands on experience with writing and editing of the dissertation
- Participants will become eligible to receive up to a $1000 supplemental research/conference travel award

Participants will receive personalized attention and feedback from the moderators as well as support and input from their colleagues in the small group format.

It is important to note that this writing group will NOT supersede the feedback and direction of your dissertation chair and committee. This group is also not a forum to decide on types of data collection strategies or analysis methods.
PROGRAM DATES & STRUCTURE

EDGE DWG: For advanced doctoral candidates from the social sciences & related interdisciplinary studies, sessions will take place approximately every two weeks on Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. on the University Park Campus. The EDGE DWG meeting dates are: 1/30, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/27, & 4/10.

ELIGIBILITY

The program is open to all USC advanced doctoral candidates who are post-quals and approaching the data collection phase through the post-data collection stage. Selected candidates are expected to participate in all scheduled sessions. Candidates that have not participated in USC Graduate School-sponsored scholarly/professional development institutes are highly encouraged to apply.

TO APPLY

Step One: Complete the online application: http://bit.ly/19dyhOj. Please note that the online application deadline is Wednesday, January 23rd, 2014 at 11:59 p.m.

Step Two: Submit the following supplementary materials: (1) Brief Statement of support from faculty advisor (one paragraph to no more than one page); & (2) Brief Statement from department chair endorsing participation (one to two sentences).

*** If formatting issues occur with the online application, you may submit an additional set of supplementary materials via email (edgesbe@usc.edu) , including: (1) Essay describing your writing process, writing hurdles, and how you will benefit, as an advanced doctoral candidate and future scholar from the Academic Professional Development Program Dissertation Writing Group (no more than three pages); (2) Writing Goal Statement—list your short-term & long-term goals that you would like to accomplish as a member of the DWG Cohort; (3) Dissertation Abstract; (4) Writing Sample that illustrates your aforementioned dissertation topic and writing style; (5) CV/Résumé.

Recommendation statements can be included with the supplementary application materials or submitted separately to the APD program by advisors and chairs.

Note: If necessary, statements of support from faculty and department chairs can be submitted after the due date. Please do not let these items holdup the submission of your online application and supplementary materials.

Submit the supplementary application materials via email (edgesbe@usc.edu) or return to the USC Graduate School, Diversity & Academic Professional Development, GFS 315T, Los Angeles, CA 90089. You may also fax your materials to (213) 740-9048.

DUE DATE

Wednesday, January 23rd, 2014 at 11:59 p.m. Acceptance notifications will begin being sent by Thursday, January 24th, 2014.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON GRADUATE PROFESSIONALIZATION

Website: http://www.usc.edu/schools/GraduateSchool/ Email: edgesbe@usc.edu Telephone: (213) 740-3429

For questions, contact the USC Graduate School, Diversity Outreach & Academic Professional Development: David H. Herman, Ph.D. Candidate & Program Advisor/Coordinator; Dr. Jesse S. Watson, Associate Director; Dr. Richard Andalon, Associate Dean & Director Sessions will be facilitated by Dr. Jungmiwha (Jummy) Bullock, Diversity Professional Consultant & Scholar