The Marie Tharp Fellowship

Application Deadline: 03/31/2010

The Earth Institute / Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University invites applications for the Marie Tharp Fellowship for Women.

Eligibility: This award is open to junior and mid-career women scientists in the earth sciences. Faculty and scientists at Columbia University are not eligible. Applicants should have obtained their Ph.D. at the time of application.

Details: This is a 3 month fellowship providing up to $30,000 for research carried out at Columbia University. Two awards are available for 2010-2011. For more details please see attached information / overview.

Application Procedure: Applications deadline: March 31, 2010. For application information please see attached information / overview.

About Marie Tharp: Marie Tharp was a pioneer of modern oceanography. She came to Columbia in 1948 to the Lamont Geological Observatory (now Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory) where she began work on mapping the ocean floor. Years later, satellite images proved her maps to be accurate. Her work is still a foundation for research and education in the ocean sciences.

About this Award: This fellowship is part of a greater EI/LDEO effort at promoting the recruitment, retention, and advancement of women scientists at Columbia University.

Contact: Kuheli Dutt at kuheli.dutt@columbia.edu
Marie Tharp Fellowship for Women

Overview and Application Information: 2010-2011

****Extended Deadline: March 31, 2010****

Overview: The Earth Institute and Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University invite applications for the Marie Tharp Fellowship for Women. The purpose of the award is to provide an opportunity for women earth scientists to conduct research at Columbia University for a period of three months. Fellows will have an opportunity to work with faculty, research staff, post docs, and graduate students during their fellowship. Marie Tharp Fellows will be appointed Adjunct Research Scientists at Columbia. Each fellow is expected to participate in EI/LDEO activities and make a scientific presentation during her residence. This award was started during the $4.2 million National Science Foundation ADVANCE award, given to the Earth Institute at Columbia University over the period 2004-2009. The goal of this program is to promote the recruitment, retention, and advancement of women and minorities in the sciences, and to cultivate an environment that attracts, fosters, and promotes women leaders in science.

Background: The fellowship is named after Marie Tharp, who was the first to map details of the ocean floor on a global scale. She published the pivotal interpretation of mid-ocean ridges that was crucial to the eventual acceptance of the theories of plate tectonics and continental drift. Tharp based her work on data from sonar readings obtained by Maurice Ewing and his team. Piecing together data from the late 1940s and early 1950s, she and colleague Bruce Heezen discovered a 40,000-mile underwater ridge girdling the globe and established the foundation for the conclusion that the sea floor spreads from central ridges and that the continents are in motion with respect to one another—a revolutionary geological theory at the time. Years later, satellite images proved Tharp’s maps to be accurate. Tharp came to Columbia in 1948. She then moved to the Lamont Geological Observatory (now the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory), where she began work on mapping the ocean floor. Her map of the ocean floor is still a foundation for research and education in the ocean sciences.

Who Is Eligible to Apply for a Marie Tharp Fellowship? The competition is open to junior and mid-career women scientists in the earth sciences. Since the purpose of the Marie Tharp Fellowship is to bring promising women scientists to Columbia, faculty (full-time and adjunct) and researchers at Columbia are not eligible to apply. Applicants must hold a Ph.D.

What Does the Fellowship Entail? The duration of the Marie Tharp Fellowship is for three months over the period September 2010 through August 2011. Fellows are encouraged to visit for three consecutive months, but they may choose to take their fellowship in two separate visits. The fellowship must be taken in residence at one of the
earth science units of the Earth Institute (see end for complete list of eligible units) and will provide up to $30,000 for support of the fellow during the three-month period.

**Budget:** Fellows can use this award to pay salary, research expenses and travel, up to a total of $30,000 over a three-month period. The following maximum limits are proposed for each type of expense: Salary $27,000 (including fringe); Research Expenses $25,000; Travel: $5,000. In case of compelling reasons, the fellow may submit a written request to the LDEO Directorate to waive one or more of these limits.

**Application Procedure.** Each applicant must submit a three-page proposal describing how she would use her time and with whom at Columbia she would like to work. It is strongly recommended that applicants contact their Columbia collaborators prior to submission. The proposal must be accompanied by a *curriculum vitae*, a proposed budget, and two letters of reference. To prepare the budget please use the guidelines given above. All application materials must be submitted by March 15, 2010 via email to Dr. Kuheli Dutt at Kuheli.Dutt@columbia.edu. All materials must be submitted as a single combined PDF document. Incomplete applications will not be considered. References may be either included in the combined document or directly emailed to Kuheli.Dutt@columbia.edu

**Selection Criteria.** All proposals will be reviewed by a committee of scientists and administrators at EI and LDEO. The criteria for selection will be based on scientific excellence and potential contribution to LDEO / EI research activities. The following specific points will be considered:

- Quality of scholarly record as evidenced by publications and reference letters;
- Feasibility and quality of the proposed research as evidenced by the research proposal and reference letters;
- Relevance of the proposed research to the LDEO/EI Research activities as evidenced by the research proposal.

*Marie Tharp Fellows will be notified of their appointment by April 30, 2010.*

**For further information, please see**
http://www.earth.columbia.edu/advance/mt_fellowship.html
http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/ldeo/dir/academic-affairs-diversity/Funding_Opportunities.html

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Eligible Research Units at the Earth Institute

- Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO)
- Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN)
- International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)
- Center for Rivers and Estuaries
- Center for Climate Systems Research (CCSR)
- Center for Environmental Research and Conservation (CERC)
- The Earth Engineering Center (EEC)
- Lenfest Center for Sustainable Energy (LCSE)
- The Center on Globalization and Sustainable Development (CGSD)
- The Center for Sustainable Urban Development (CSUD)
- The Center for Hazards and Risk Research (CHRR)
- The Columbia Water Center
- The Black Rock Forest Consortium
- Center for Research on Environmental Decisions (CRED)
- Cooperative Institute for Climate Applications and Research (CICAR)
- Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS)