Graham Sustainability Scholars Program
2016 Call for Student Applications
Open to Current Second-Year Undergraduate Students

In partnership with U-M Schools and Colleges, the Graham Sustainability Institute educates and empowers the next generation of sustainability leaders by helping students engage across disciplines, appreciate diversity, think systemically, and pursue action-based learning worldwide. The Sustainability Scholars Program is comprised of a cohort of outstanding students from across campus, and provides an opportunity to enhance sustainability leadership, training, and education.

Requirements & Guidelines
The program requires a minimum of nine (9) credits of coursework (see Section 2c for details) as well as participation in co-curricular activities and includes up to $3,000 in funding for field-based experiences.

1. Student Eligibility:
   a. Undergraduate students in all U-M academic units are eligible to apply.
   b. Students must be either in their second-year (having completed 3 full semesters at U-M by January 2016) or, in the case of transfer or non-traditional/junior students, be on track to graduate no earlier than December 2017.
   c. Students must be on the Ann Arbor campus in good standing during Fall 2016. During this term, all Graham Scholars must enroll in UC 327: Interdisciplinary Thinking for Sustainability, which is offered Thursdays from 4-5:30pm.
   d. Students must have a minimum cumulative grade point average above 3.25, including Fall 2015 grades. Exceptional candidates with GPAs between 3.0 and 3.25 may be considered. Anyone with a GPA below 3.0 will not be considered and should not apply.
   e. Students must successfully complete all program elements (including passing grades in all courses) to be eligible to receive funding for field-based experiences, and recognition on their transcripts.

2. Program Summary:
   It is expected that 25-30 applicants will be selected each year. Participation will begin immediately upon selection and will continue until the completion of undergraduate studies.
   a. Academic program requirements consist of completing a minimum of nine (9) credit hours, with the following distribution:
      (NOTE: Academic program requirements are subject to change for the 2016 cohort. Funding will not be affected.)
      i. A one-credit seminar (UC 327) focused on Interdisciplinary Thinking for Sustainability to be taken in the first fall semester following acceptance into the program
      ii. A one-credit seminar (UC 427) focused on Leadership Development for Sustainability to be taken in the second fall semester of program participation
      iii. ENVIRON/RCIDIV 391 – Sustainability and the Campus (4 credits)
      iv. Election of a three-credit (or more) program-approved field-based sustainability course or an acceptable alternative, which may include an appropriate course within or outside of U-M, or an independent study experience. Alternatives to pre-approved courses require approval from the Education Director at the Graham Institute. Scholars can petition to access up to $3,000 for direct expenses for course fees, related direct travel expenses (e.g. food, lodging, plane, ground transportation, lab fees) and/or tuition (for spring or summer courses only). Indirect expenses (e.g., gear/equipment/supplies and anything involving individual preferences not directly attributable to the course/experience) are ineligible for funding. See Graham Institute website for
b. Additional Graham Institute-sponsored activities are offered to foster a sense of identity in and among cohorts, and to further develop leadership skills.

c. Completion of the program will be entered as a supplemental studies program on the academic transcript of students who successfully complete program requirements, and are enrolled in the following schools or colleges: Taubman College of Architecture & Urban Planning, Stamps School of Art & Design, Ross School of Business (Ross), College of Engineering, College of Literature, Science & the Arts (LSA), and Ford School of Public Policy. The Graham Institute will provide documentation of program completion for all students who successfully fulfill the requirements.

i. Per LSA policy, LSA students who complete a Sustainability Minor through the Program in the Environment may not have both the Sustainability Minor and the program listed on their transcripts. However, these students may still fully participate in the program.

ii. Per LSA policy on supplemental studies programs, LSA students who want the program designation to appear on their transcripts may not share any courses used toward the program with any other LSA major or minor. However, LSA students who choose to not have the program designation appear on their transcripts may still participate fully in the program if they fulfill all program requirements.

3. Selection Process:
Applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

i. Academic qualifications;

ii. Previous experience related to sustainability;

iii. Personal statements and letters of recommendation, as reviewed for sustainability leadership potential; and

iv. Desire for diversity and interdisciplinary balance in the cohort.

Application Procedure

• APPLICATION DEADLINE: 11:59 pm, EST January 29, 2016.

• Students must submit their packages on-line: http://graham.umich.edu/application-request/34549

Required Application Materials:

1. A statement of no more than 250 words, describing how this program would complement or enhance your studies and professional goals, and how your acceptance would contribute to the program.

2. A short, critical thinking essay (no more than 250 words) answering the following question: “In what ways does fostering a diverse and inclusive community affect pathways to sustainability?”

3. Transcripts of all undergraduate coursework. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable. This transcript must include your Fall 2015 grades.

4. A brief resume or curriculum vitae describing your: (a) Educational background; (b) Professional experience; (c) Major awards and honors received; (d) Membership in organizations as applicable; and (e) Outreach and volunteer efforts, especially those related to sustainability.

5. We want to know what excites your curiosity about sustainability. Please describe in 250 words or less a project that would answer a sustainability question that intrigues you.

6. Names and contact information for two people. One person must be a U-M faculty member or someone who has taught the applicant at the college level. Contacts will be asked by the Graham Institute to submit confidential recommendation letters. Letters of reference are due by February 5, 2016.

EXPECTED AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT: March 15, 2016

• All applications will be handled confidentially.

• Application Information: Website: www.graham.umich.edu • Email: graham-institute@umich.edu

• Graham Scholar Program Information: Andy Hoffman, Graham Institute Education Director, ajhoff@umich.edu