The William C. Powers Graduate Fellowship Program was created in 2009 from a generous gift facilitated by Dr. Steven Ungerleider. Among the most prestigious awarded by the Graduate School, the Powers Fellowships provide financial packages totaling $36,000 over a twelve-month period, and are awarded to some of the most academically competitive scholars on campus.

And support for the Powers Fellows program continues to grow. 1910 Society Members Dr. Gerald McGlamery, and his brother, Mr. George McGlamery, have jointly pledged fifty thousand dollars to establish the McGlamery Graduate Fellowship, to provide direct support to future Powers Fellows as they work to address the challenges of our time.

Both Gerry and George earned graduate degrees from the Cockrell School of Engineering, after receiving their undergraduate degrees at Auburn University. Their experiences as graduate students at UT Austin helped prepare them to be competitive leaders in their field. The brothers believe in the importance of giving back, a virtue they credit to their father.

“In a time when resources for higher education are dwindling, support for top-tier graduate fellowships is more important than ever,” said interim Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, Judith Langlois. “Gifts like the McGlamery endowment are essential to recruit and fund highly competitive graduate students.”

The Graduate School worked closely with Dr. Ungerleider to produce a video that highlights some of the Powers Fellows’ important and impressive work. “Through the vision of Dr. Ungerleider we were able to capture the real spirit of the Powers Fellowship program on film,” said Assistant Dean John Dalton. “I’m proud to showcase these wonderful young scholars and hope the film gives our friends and alumni a good understanding of why supporting graduate education is so important.”

Watch the video www.utexas.edu/ogs/powersfellows/

For information regarding the 1910 Society contact John Dalton at jdalton@austin.utexas.edu or (512) 232-3626.
Welcome Dean Langlois
Dr. Rodríguez returns to the LBJ School of Public Affairs

In January Victoria Rodríguez stepped down from her administrative duties as Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies and returned to the LBJ School of Public Affairs as a full-time faculty member, where she will continue her research in the area of women in politics and public policy.

Dean Rodríguez provided steady leadership for the Graduate School over the last nine years, worked to build strong partnerships with the academic deans, raised funds to support graduate student fellowship stipends, and founded The 1910 Society in celebration of the Graduate School’s 100th anniversary. She will be greatly missed in her role as Graduate Dean.

The future of the Graduate School is in strong hands with the appointment of Judy Langlois as the interim Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate Studies. An experienced administrator, Dr. Langlois has twice served as interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and most recently as Vice Provost. Her responsibilities have included academic governance issues, including new dean searches and six-year dean reviews. Her portfolio as Vice Provost has also included academic personnel matters, including equity, gender and faculty policies and management of the faculty grievance process.

Dr. Langlois received her Ph.D. from Louisiana State University, and her current research focuses on children’s social development, with particular emphasis on the origins of social stereotypes.

A search for the permanent position of Graduate Dean will take place in fall 2012. Please join us in wishing Dean Rodríguez the best of luck on her return to her academic roots, and welcome Vice Provost Langlois to her newest position.

Recent Awards

H. W. Brands: Alumnus Award
Brands, an alumnus of the Department of History at The University of Texas at Austin and Dickson Allen Anderson Centennial Professor of History and Government, is the Graduate School’s Outstanding Graduate Alumnus for 2012. Read www.utexas.edu/ogs/awards/news/prof-winners2012.html

William Liechty: Granof Award
Liechty, a Cockrell School of Engineering doctoral candidate, won the $10,000 Michael H. Granof Outstanding Graduate Student Award. Liechty, a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, is completing his dissertation, which involves the development of dual-responsive nanoscale hydrogels for the oral delivery of small interfering RNA. According to his dissertation advisor, Professor Nicholas Peppas, his dissertation project is one of major importance to the biomaterials world. Read www.utexas.edu/ogs/awards/news/student-winners2012.html

1910 Society

RECENT MEMBERS
Dr. Gloria Eldridge
Dr. Jan Kehoe
Mr. Robert Wolfkill

SPECIAL THANKS FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT
Mr. James Brady
Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas and Linda Classen
Mr. George McGlamery
Mr. Gerald McGlamery, Jr.
Drs. Ronald and Jacqueline Angel
Mr. and Mrs. Jay and Jan Gilden
Dr. Steven Ungerleider

Fellowships
FOR 2012-2013 ACADEMIC YEAR
As of the end of June 2012, the Graduate School has awarded over 600 fellowships to graduate students for the 2012-2013 academic year, and additional reports are still coming in. Within that group, 14 are Harrington fellowships and 33 Powers—both among our most prestigious awards which only top students are nominated for. Harrington stipends are $36K, and Powers’ are $25K, plus both include tuition and health insurance. These awards are made possible in great part thanks to your generosity.
Eleanor Owicki is a Powers Fellow who has committed her doctoral studies to observing cultural and political conflict through the medium of performance. She is a Performance as Public Practice student in the Theatre and Dance Department of the College of Fine Arts.

Her research focuses on performance in Belfast, Northern Ireland, where violence raged between Catholics and Protestants from the 1960s to the 1990s. The Good Friday Agreement, signed in 1998, has set a path for peace in the state. “It’s a segregated society in a lot of ways, and that breeds tension. Also, many people are still traumatized by the violence,” said Eleanor. “It’s an issue of ‘what do we do with all of this history, how do we move forward? Do we not talk about it, or do we address the issues in a systematic way?’ This struggle has prompted Eleanor to utilize performance and performance history to explore the problems facing the society.

“I’m arguing that if you look at theater you get a better idea of what the issues are and how they might be worked out. You can also see the value of people coming together, even if it’s just for an evening,” Eleanor is looking at nine different plays, and examining what happens on stage during the performance itself, paying attention to the artists’ interpretation of the conflict and the state’s future.

Eleanor is excited for the opportunities that the Powers Fellowship gives her research project. “The Powers Fellowship gives me the funds to do primary research, and the flexibility to get the most out of it. I’ll be going to Belfast for the fifth time in October during an arts festival. It is such a luxury to have full attention on my dissertation. I don’t have to worry about lesson plans, I feel like it’s really letting me go deeper into my research.”

Watch Eleanor’s video interview at www.utexas.edu/ogs/powersfellows/