Call for Undergraduate Research Proposals on Language Science and/or Language Variation

INNOVATION GROUP FOR THE STUDY OF LANGUAGE VARIATION

The Buckeye Language Network’s Innovation Group has received funding from the College of Arts and Sciences to support the Study of Language Variation. The SoLV is also supported by resources from the Departments of Speech and Hearing Science, Linguistics, Psychology and the School of Teaching and Learning. The goal of SoLV is to encourage, support and facilitate research on language variation at Ohio State, including encouraging and promoting undergraduate research across disciplinary areas.

BLN/SoLV announces an undergraduate research award. All OSU undergraduates conducting research with a BLN-affiliated faculty member are eligible, and students can apply for up to $1250. Detailed instructions are below.

Overview of the SoLV project:

Variation in both the form and use of language is a constant, significant and universal aspect of human culture and human communication. Language variation has many natural sources including the differences between human languages, geographical variation within a language (regional dialects), variation associated with socio-economic factors (social dialects) and language change (not only across centuries, but across generations of speakers). Another important source occurs as a function of speech-language disorders across the lifespan. These would include developmental disorders in children, organic disorders (e.g., Down syndrome, autism, dementia) and acquired disorders (e.g., aphasia resulting from stroke and closed head trauma). Focus areas will include (but are not limited to) the improvement of language-learning environments in early childhood schools and care-centers; the improvement of both assessment and remediation of language disorders; an increase in knowledge about and appreciation of both regional and social dialect variation; a development of a better understanding of the language problems of the elderly and the acquisition of English as a second-language; development and application of language-related technology.

For more information, see http://www.sphs.osu.edu/Faculty/Fox/SoLV_Proposal.pdf
BUCKEYE LANGUAGE NETWORK (BLN)  
Innovation Group on the Study of Language Variation (SoLV)  
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

Submission Deadline  
Monday, Nov 19th, 2012 (before 5:00 pm)

Where to Submit  
Please submit all of your materials electronically to bln@osu.edu

Eligibility Criteria  
You must be working with a faculty supervisor who is a member of the BLN. If your research involves human subjects, you will be required to provide a IRB protocol number for your research.

Enrollment Conditions  
You generally must be enrolled as a full-time student during the quarters/semesters in which you receive funding. You do not need to be enrolled over summer term to receive funding then.

Method of Selection  
Applications, proposals, and letters of recommendation are reviewed by a BLN/SoLV Evaluation Committee. The number of awards given out will be determined by the amount of funds available and the quality of the applications. Applicants will be notified of the results of the competition by early July.

Presentation of Research  
Students who receive funding are expected to present funding related research at the annual BLN symposium.

Amount of Award  
Students may apply for any amount of money up to a maximum of $1250.

Allowable Uses of Award Money  
Students may use award money to support any aspect of their research project. These include providing a stipend for the student applicant, funding travel to conferences to present the research, and research equipment or expenses (including paying participants).

Other Funding  
If you have applied for or received any other funding for this project, you are still eligible for this funding. However, you must provide additional information about your other funding in the application.

Funding Conditions  
By federal law, no student can be awarded aid in an amount which exceeds the estimated cost of education as established by the Office of Student Financial Aid. Therefore, for example, if you are already receiving a complete financial aid package, the research award will substitute for some portion of that aid with no net increase of funds to you. An exception to this rule is allowable only for items legitimately listed on the budget, the amount of which can be awarded to you regardless of other aid. Applicants should list all expenses associated with the project, since such costs represent a financial commitment to the research, and it is that commitment which justifies additional assistance to students currently receiving other scholarships and/or loans. (Lost income and tuition/fees are not expenses that can be included in the budget.)

In countries under a current Department of State Travel Warning, undergraduate students cannot use awards for study abroad programs and/or individual international projects outside of venues approved by Ohio State.
APPLICATION
BLN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOV 19, 2012 (before 5:00 p.m.)

Please fill out the following form and return it along with your project proposal to BLN@OSU.EDU no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, Nov 19th, 2012

1. Name ______________________________ ______________________________
2. OSU ID __________________________ Telephone __________________________
3. OSU e-mail ______________________________ ______________________________
4. Major ______________________________ ______________________________ ______________________________
5. Advisor ______________________________ Department ______________________________
6. Have you applied for or received any other funding to support this project? Yes ____No _____
   If yes, please provide the following information:
   a) Have you received/been awarded other funding?   Yes ____No _____
   b) What type of funding have you received/applied for? __________________________
   c) When (what quarter) did you apply for/receive the other funding? _______________
   d) How much funding did you receive/apply for? __________________________
   e) How is the other funding being used? Why is additional funding necessary for this project?
      _______________________________________________________________________
      _______________________________________________________________________
      _______________________________________________________________________
      _______________________________________________________________________

7. Please ask the faculty member who will supervise your project to email the Advisor Recommendation to bln@osu.edu by Monday, Nov 19th, 2012 (before 5:00 p.m.).

8. THE FUNDING PROPOSAL
   The proposal should be no longer than 500 words and should include the following items:
   • Describe how you plan to use the funding.
   • Describe your background and qualifications for undertaking the proposed activities.
   • Explain how the proposed activities will enhance your educational experience and your academic program.

Because this research is to be carried out in close cooperation with your project advisor, the proposal should be written in consultation with the BLN faculty member who will serve as the advisor and write the official Advisor Recommendation.
9. THE BUDGET JUSTIFICATION
Students may use award money to support any aspect of their research. These include providing a stipend for the student applicant, funding travel to conferences to present the research, and research equipment or expenses (including paying participants). Please use the following form to justify your funding expenses.

Total amount requested: $______________

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADVISOR RECOMMENDATION
BLN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

Deadline: Monday, Nov 19th, 2012, 5:00pm

• To provide a recommendation in support of your student’s funding proposal, please email your letter to BLN@OSU.EDU by the deadline noted above.

• In your letter, please be sure to clearly indicate the student’s name, and the research for which they are applying for funding. Since each applicant is an academically talented student, your careful assessment of the significance and feasibility of this student’s contributions to this research is very important to the BLN's evaluation of the proposals.

• BE AWARE: All students who receive funding from the BLN/ SoLV will be required to present funding-related research at a BLN symposium. It is expected that the student’s advisor will provide appropriate levels of support and assistance for the student’s presentation.