COLMAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FOR PHD STUDENTS

Program Background

In spring 2012, John and Jane Colman established the Colman Family Endowed Fund for Leadership within the College of Engineering, which is managed by the Diversity Program in Engineering (DPE). The purpose of this fund is to expand DPE’s capacity to deliver programs that will develop leadership skills of the recipients of the Cornell Colman and Sloan Fellowships as well as other PhD students in selected fields affiliated with the Cornell Sloan Scholars Program.

In summer 2013, Diversity Programs in Engineering received a new award from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for the Cornell Sloan Scholars Program. DPE has paired funding for the new Sloan award with the Colman gift to launch the

Colman Leadership Program. The graduate fields severed by the Colman Leadership Program are as follows:

- Aerospace Engineering
- Applied & Engineering Physics
- Applied Mathematics
- Biochemistry, Molecular & Cell Biology
- Biological Engineering
- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
- Civil & Environmental Engineering
- Computer Science
- Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- Electrical & Computer Engineering
- Genetics, Genomics & Development
- Geological Sciences
- Immunology & Infectious Disease
- Material Science & Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Natural Resources
- Operations Research & Information Engineering
- Theoretical & Applied Mechanics

The Colman Leadership Program seeks to enroll 25-30 PhD students every January for an intensive three-day program focused on providing participants with skills and knowledge that will support their development as leaders in graduate school and beyond. PhD students with Cornell Colman or Sloan Fellowships will receive priority consideration for enrollment in the program. However, the program has the capacity to serve a broader base of students. Consequently, consideration will be given to applications from PhD students from all backgrounds (domestic and international).
Program Goals

The Colman Leadership Program will introduce a range of practical skills, theory pertaining to leadership, and special topics relevant for application in both academic and professional contexts. With a varied format including readings, interactive group activities, case studies, discussions, student presentations and professionally conducted workshop sessions, program participants will learn about leadership, develop practical skills for negotiation and conflict resolution, and discuss modes of translating collaborative teamwork and the positive, productive employment of the diverse perspectives and backgrounds students bring to the program.

Specifically, program participants will focus on

- self-awareness as a leadership skill
- Extend self-awareness to effective interpersonal dynamics
- Appreciating fundamental group dynamics
- Understanding of how to create teams from groups
- Appreciating diversity in all contexts
- Differentiating between role authority and leadership in an organizational context
- Learning skills of integration and synthesis via an electronic portfolio

2014 Program Schedule

January 13 & 14
8am-7pm
Physical Sciences 401 & 403

January 15
8am-4:15pm
Physical Sciences 401 & 403

4:30pm-6pm
Rowe Room, Statler Hotel

Important Application Dates

Priority Consideration Application Deadline for Cornell Colman & Sloan Fellows: November 8, 2013

Regular Consideration Application Deadline for all Eligible PhD students: November 18, 2013

Decision Notifications: December 6, 2013

*Admitted students that commit to enrolling in the Colman Leadership Program must commit to participating in the full program. The program does not permit late arrivals or early departures on any of the programs dates.

Program Application: http://tiny.cc/colman-leadership-app

Questions? Contact Sara Xayarath Hernandez, Director of Diversity Programs in Engineering at sh267@cornell.edu or Alan Zehnder, Associate Dean for Diversity at engdiversity@cornell.edu.