FIU participated in the Survey of Earned Doctorates, which is an annual census of individuals who receive research doctoral degrees from accredited US academic institutions. The survey is sponsored by six federal agencies: the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, US Department of Agriculture, and US Department of Education. The widely cited NSF publication, Doctorate Recipients from US Universities, is based on data from this survey. NSF has recently released the publication for 2010 research doctorate recipients.

I will provide a detailed comparison of our data with the national averages in an upcoming blog, but for now, one key parameter is worth noting. Excluding those who chose to accept postdoctoral fellowships/traineeships, and among those who found definite employment, 68% of our 2010 research doctorate recipients found employment in academia. The corresponding average percentage for all doctoral/research universities in the US is 54%, and it is 55% for those categorized as “High Research Institutions.”

The report is very extensive and it explores important trends in doctoral education organized into several themes. An interactive version of the printed report is available on the Web at www.nsf.gov/statistics/sed/.

Thank You,

Summer 2012 Commencement Ceremonies

The Summer 2012 Commencement Ceremonies will be held on Monday, August 13, 2012 and Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena on the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. For complete information regarding the ceremonies, please visit commencement.fiu.edu/ceremony/schedule/.

Doctoral students participating in the ceremonies should pick up their passes in the UGS offices, PC 230, anytime from Monday, August 6, 2012 through Friday, August 10, 2012. All faculty members planning to escort their students during the ceremonies must confirm attendance with the UGS coordinator, Ariadna Figueredo (afiguere@fiu.edu) if they have not done so already.

Fall 2012 Graduate Orientation

Fall 2012 Graduate Orientation will be held on Thursday, August 16, 2012, from 2:30pm - 4:30pm and from 5:30pm - 7:30pm in GL 100 at MMC. Graduate students are encouraged to attend one of the in-person orientations, but do have the option of completing the online orientation if they cannot attend. Students should RSVP at gradschool.fiu.edu/Fall2012_orientation.html.

Financial Aid Opportunities for Latin American and Caribbean Students

The Rowe Fund, a student loan program of the Organization of American States (OAS), helps citizens from Latin American and Caribbean OAS member countries finance a portion of their studies or research at accredited universities in the United States by awarding interest-free loans. Prospective applicants must be accepted to, or currently studying at, an accredited U.S. university and demonstrate good academic records in addition to full-time enrollment. Applications are received and reviewed on a year-round basis. The maximum loan amount per student is $15,000. For eligibility requirements and application forms, visit www.oas.org/en/rowefund. Please send any questions to rowefund@oas.org.

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