



Graduate students in ICT attracted to Alberta universities

CALGARY – A 2001 program to attract and fund over 70 of Canada’s most promising graduate students working in information and communications technology is being activated this spring, through a Government of Alberta investment of \$1,250,000 in graduate student scholarships. The program is administered by the Alberta Informatics Circle of Research Excellence (iCORE).

“Graduate students are the lifeblood of energetic research programs, and fuel the inspiration and innovation that are requisite for high achievement in an information society – particularly in computer science, and electrical and computer engineering,” iCORE president Dr Brian Unger said.

The awards are available to NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council) scholarship recipients across Canada, who are the strongest science and engineering students in Canada. The iCORE award is granted to NSERC recipients who are studying in ICT-related areas and choose to attend an Alberta university.

The awards provide a supplement of \$12,000 to \$15,000 per year to students who are receiving between \$17,300 and \$19,000 from NSERC, depending on their year of study.

Last year, 34 graduate student at the University of Alberta, and 24 at the University of Calgary, received the award for the first time. Recipients were studying in diverse areas including engineering, geomatics, physics, math and statistics, computer science, chemistry and biology.

“Many jurisdictions are competing to attract the leaders of tomorrow, and we are especially proud to see that Alberta universities are being recognized as excellent choices for students with the highest aims for a research career,” Lorne Taylor, Minister of Innovation and Science said.

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