

Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion Travel Scholarships for Doctoral Students

The Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion

The Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion (CCSR) is a consortium of academic societies in Canada in several fields of religious studies: Canadian Society for the Study of Religion, Canadian Society of Biblical Studies, Canadian Society of Patristic Studies, Canadian Theological Society, Société québécoise pour l'étude de la religion, and Société canadienne de théologie.

The primary purpose of the CCSR is to support the publication of scholarly research in religious studies. Since its inception in 1970, the Corporation has published the journal *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses*. It also publishes books.

The CCSR Doctoral Travel Scholarships

The CCSR established a doctoral scholarships program to mark the 40th anniversary of its incorporation and to support the training of new generations of researchers in religious studies. The purpose of the scholarships is to enable advanced doctoral students to travel to conduct research that will contribute to their doctoral project (e.g., travel to archives, libraries, research centres, locations for field work).

For the 2016 competition the CCSR has allocated a total amount of \$7,500 CAN to be disbursed to the successful applicants. Individual applications are accepted for travel expenses up to \$5,000 CAN. Applications for lesser amounts are also encouraged.

The scholarships are open to Canadian citizens studying in Canada or abroad, permanent residents of Canada studying in Canada or abroad, or students on a study permit studying in Canada. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral program and be studying an aspect of religious studies or theology, must have successfully completed their comprehensive or major/minor field examinations, and must have a thesis proposal that has been approved by their department or doctoral committee. Recipients of the scholarship must be or become a member of one of the constituent societies of the CCSR.

To apply for the scholarship, applicants should submit a dossier consisting of the following items:

- A description of the proposed travel explaining its importance and contribution to the doctoral thesis and stating the amount of support requested from the CCSR, as well as listing the amounts requested or obtained from other sources. The CCSR will value efforts for joint financing ;
- A summary of the doctoral thesis project (no more than two single-spaced pages);
- Transcripts of the applicant's master's and doctoral programs;
- A *curriculum vitae*;
- An attestation that the applicant has successfully completed the comprehensive or

major/minor field examinations and that the applicant's thesis proposal has been accepted by the department or committee;

- A detailed budget for the proposed travel (including air transport, ground transport, accommodation, per diem for meals and incidental expenses);
- A letter of support from the applicant's doctoral supervisor (enclosed in a sealed envelope with the supervisor's signature over the seal).

Applicants should send their dossier to:

Prof. Adela Sandness/ President CCSR
St. Francis Xavier University
Box 5000
Antigonish, Nova Scotia
B2G 2W5

The deadline for applications for the 2016 competition is **December 15, 2016**.

The Adjudication Procedure

The applications will be reviewed and ranked by a committee of the Board of the CCSR, consisting of the President, the Secretary, and the Member-at-Large. In the event that one of these members is unable to serve on the committee, the Vice-President or the Treasurer may also serve. The committee will rank the applications on the basis of:

- Academic dossier (*curriculum vitae*, papers, publications, aptitude for research, professional development), including transcripts: 30%;
- Thesis project summary: 25%;
- Statement of proposed travel (justification of its relevance to the applicant's research at this stage, anticipated academic outcomes, budget): 25%;
- Supervisor letter: 20% ;

The committee will submit to the Board of the CCSR for consideration at its annual meeting in January the names of the highest ranking applicants (accompanied by the statement of travel, the summary of the thesis project, and the budget for these applicants) and will make a recommendation as to which applicants should receive a scholarship and the amounts they are to receive. The Board will make the final decision as to the recipients and the amounts of the scholarships.

The results of the competition will be announced by March 1, 2017.

Scholarship recipients must complete their travel by the end of 2017. Funds will be paid out upon submission of travel expense claims in accordance with the financial policies and procedures of the CCSR.