THE SUTL PROGRAM: Lyman Briggs College (LBC) is MSU’s interdisciplinary residential college for the study of the sciences in their societal contexts. Its unique program combines the natural sciences and the history, philosophy, and sociology of science. LBC has long been a leader in STEM and interdisciplinary education innovation. The primary goals of the Lyman Briggs SUTL Fellowship Program are to provide a diverse group of graduate students, committed to undergraduate education, with: (a) experience conducting mentored research on undergraduate teaching and learning; (b) familiarity with contemporary instruction and assessment techniques; and (c) professional and career development opportunities related to undergraduate education. Meeting these goals will result in Fellows who can make meaningful contributions to undergraduate education, as future discipline-based education researchers and/or as practitioners of contemporary scholarly pedagogical methods.

Graduate students selected for this full-year program (12 month) work with a LBC faculty member on a new or existing disciplinary-based education research (DBER), scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL), or action research (AR) project. These projects typically include developing and assessing various curricular interventions, assessing student learning and the factors that affect such learning, evaluating the success of classroom innovations (e.g., inquiry-based labs, interdisciplinary teaching and learning, teaching with case studies), and efforts to increase the retention and success of a diverse STEM population. LBC faculty are involved in a variety of funded education projects (e.g., Avida-ED, Evo-Ed, AAU Gateway Fellows, INQUIRE, Scientific Virtues Project). Each SUTL Fellow works closely with their LBC faculty mentor to contribute to a DBER/SoTL/AR project, and is encouraged and supported to disseminate project results via peer reviewed journals, conferences, and pedagogy-related websites. Please see previous year’s project descriptions here: 2018-2019 SUTL Project Descriptions.

Fellows in the SUTL program participate in bi-weekly activities with other fellowship recipients. These activities include: (1) sharing in-progress SUTL research with other Fellows; (2) meeting faculty members, outside speakers, and other students to discuss topics related to undergraduate education; (3) participating in professional development activities and workshops. Professional development activities will complement those offered by the Certification in College Teaching Program and the CIRTL project and will focus on topics such as active learning and inquiry-based pedagogy, interdisciplinary education, fostering a climate of inclusivity, responsible conduct of education research, formative and summative assessments, and strategies for success on the academic job market. Fellows must complete pre- and post-program assessments. Each SUTL Fellow will receive $5000 to support the time they spend investing in their SUTL project work and Fellows’ meetings.

ASSESSING SUTL: The SUTL program at LBC started in 2016-17, and is now entering its 4th year. The SUTL program aims to positively affect the program’s graduate fellows, faculty mentors, and the undergraduate students who are often the subjects of SUTL research projects. It is now time to conduct research that assesses and describes these impacts. Therefore, we invite applications for a SUTL fellow position focused on conducting research on how the SUTL program has impacted fellows, mentors, and students. The graduate student selected for this 12-month fellowship will join the existing cohort of seven SUTL fellows, and will work with the SUTL Program Director to assess the impact of the program itself. This fellowship is expected to culminate in the dissemination of project results via a paper in a peer reviewed journal.

ELIGIBILITY & DESIRED CHARACTERISTICS: Eligible MSU graduate students must be enrolled full-time in a program leading to a terminal (PhD) degree, ideally focused on some aspect of teaching and learning, either K-12 or higher-ed. Candidates must be in good academic standing, be making progress toward their degree, and have the agreement of their adviser/major professor and department chair. Preference will be given to students who have experience in qualitative methods in education research. Alumni of other education-related fellowship programs may apply (e.g., FAST, JMC UIT, RCAH Fellows). Awards will be made to individuals who have demonstrated high academic achievement, are committed to a career that includes teaching, and show potential for future achievement as teacher-scholars.

Applications must be received by May 24, 2019. The position runs Aug 16, 2019 through August 15, 2020. For further information or questions, please contact Peter White at pwhite@msu.edu.
Lyman Briggs SUTL Fellow Application Requirements

Send a single PDF file that includes:

• 1-page Application Information form (see following pages)

• Current curriculum vitae;

• Essay (maximum 800 words) that includes your reasons for applying. Please include your professional/career goals, how your participation in the SUTL program will help you achieve your goals, and 1-3 topics related to how your background in education research positions you to collaborate on a research project to assess the SUTL program.

• Scanned copy of Administrative Endorsement Form (see following pages) with signatures from the applicant’s graduate advisor and department Chair or graduate program director.

Send application file to the LBC SUTL Fellows Director via email (pwhite@msu.edu).

Lyman Briggs SUTL Fellows Applicant Information Form

Name:

College:

Dept./School:

Start date of doctoral program:

Date of comprehensive/qualifying exams (anticipated if not yet complete):

Campus Address:

Phone:

Email:

List any formal classes, workshops, or seminars you have completed related to teaching and learning (e.g., PLB802, EGR811, Certification for College Teaching workshops or seminars):

List any instructional experiences and indicate your role (e.g., classes you have taught as instructor of record, classes you have been a TA for, guest lecturer):

List any prior experience you may have had with the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), Disciplinary-Based Education Research (DBER), or Action Research (AR).

Name, email address, and phone number of a recommender whom the selection committee and potential faculty mentors may contact.
Lyman Briggs SUTL Fellow Administrative Endorsement Form

Lyman Briggs SUTL Fellows...
- Work with an LBC faculty mentor on a Discipline-Based Education Research (DBER) / Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) / Action Research (AR) project and participate in bi-weekly SUTL Fellow activities over the course of the year. Each fellow will spend an average of 5 hours per week on the research project plus 1 ½ - 2 hours every other week on the SUTL Fellow group meetings/activities.
- Receive $5000 (in three payments during the year) over and above their regular research or teaching stipend, while remaining in good standing in their program.

.......................................................... (name) is a doctoral student in good standing who has my endorsement for his/her participation in the LBC Graduate Fellows Program in Scholarship of Undergraduate Teaching and Learning.

.......................................................... Signature of Graduate Advisor

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.......................................................... Director of Graduate Committee

.......................................................... Name of Graduate Advisor

.......................................................... Name of Department Chair OR

.......................................................... Director of Graduate Committee

.......................................................... Date

.......................................................... Date