FRQNT Graduate Scholarships
Funding Workshop

What Professors are looking for

Prof. Noémie-Manuelle Dorval Courchesne
Department of Chemical Engineering
My experience

• Evaluation for doctoral scholarship applications in the field of energy during Winter 2018, 2019 & 2020
• Evaluated and ranked 25-30 applications / year
• Attended a phone call with 2 other committee members and an FRQNT representative
• Approved final ranking
• ~15 hours total / year
The process

1. 3 evaluators across Quebec read all 25-30 applications
2. Each evaluator provides a score in the 4 categories for each candidate
3. FRQNT normalizes and averages scores, calculates final score
4. Phone meeting to clear up any discrepancies or questions
5. Final ranking is decided after the meeting

- Top ~6-7 candidates would be considered for a scholarship
- Each year, ~12 candidates reached the 70% excellence threshold
FRQNT’s guidelines

• General criteria
  – The weight of sub-criteria is to our discretion
• List of documents to consider (application form, CCV, etc.)
• Each criterion is independent from the others
• If an item is missing, no points can be given for this item

• Interpretation of guidelines varies slightly from professor to professor
What my committee and I looked for

• **Academic excellence** (*Excellence du dossier universitaire*) /30
  – Cumulative GPA, evolution of GPA
  – Diversity/difficulty of chosen courses/program
  – Awards related to academic achievements

• **Research potential** (*Aptitude à la recherche et expérience pertinente en recherche*) /30
  – Research experiences and interests
  – Research achievements (publications, oral/poster presentations…)
  – Awards related to research achievements
What my committee and I looked for

• “Scientific quality” (Qualité et intérêt scientifique et s’il y a lieu, portée socio-économique du projet de recherche) /20
  – Clarity of proposal
  – Relevance and importance of proposed research
  – Match between proposed project and supervisor

• Leadership and communication (Implication sociale, leadership, et habiletés de communication) /20
  – Any leadership/communication experience (volunteer work, internship experiences, organization of events…)
  – Quality of presentation of your application
General Advice

• **Give us information to evaluate!** If you leave sections blank, we cannot give you any points.

• **Include all of your experiences**, but do not exaggerate your accomplishments (e.g. repetitive mentions of a scholarship).

• **Organize your proposal well.** We do not have a lot of time to read your applications. It is much easier to understand and extract key points from a well-structured proposal (titles/sub-titles/underlined or bolded important sentences or keywords).
Help with Writing

**Graphos**
- Fellowship Writing Workshops

**McGill Writing Centre**
- **Tutorial Service:** Can book up to 7 hours/semester. Appointments fill quickly so book in advance!

**SKILLSETS**
- **Would You Fund It? Fellowship Consultation Session**  
  Sept 16, 19, 25, or Nov 25 (Various times, Redpath Library)
Questions?