

# THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*Advisers to the Nation on Science, Engineering, and Medicine*

Assessment of Research-Doctorate Programs

500 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
Phone: 202 334 2700 Fax:  
202 334 2725

October 24, 2006

Dear [FName LName],

The National Research Council (NRC) is currently conducting the **2006 Assessment of Research Doctorate Programs**. You have been nominated by the [PROGRAM NAME] program to complete the Assessment's Student questionnaire on behalf of [INSTITUTION NAME]. This questionnaire asks about your background and experiences with the [PROGRAM NAME] program. In appreciation for your participation, we will send you \$15 for completing the questionnaire.

This assessment, the first in 10 years, collects data on doctoral programs nationwide and will provide data that are helpful to students, faculty, and education policy administrators. By participating in this study, you will: 1) bring a student perspective to the study, 2) contribute to a statistical description of the advanced doctoral students in your field, and 3) help the NRC identify the multiple dimensions of successful graduate programs.

To complete the questionnaire, go to: [https://www.nrc-assessment.com/NRC\\_Student/login.aspx](https://www.nrc-assessment.com/NRC_Student/login.aspx)

Your login information is:      Username: [USERNAME]  
   Password: [PASSWORD]

You can return to this website as many times as you would like while completing the questionnaire. Once you have completed the questionnaire, click on the "Ready to Submit Survey" button on the last page. This will tell us that you have completed the questionnaire and will trigger the \$15 payment.

To preserve confidentiality, do not share this password with anyone. All information you provide is confidential and will be used for research purposes only by the NRC, its contractors, and collaborating researchers. Your responses will not be shared with the faculty or administrators of your doctoral program or [INSTITUTION NAME]. Your responses will only be released as aggregated data for the purpose of analysis and report writing. No data will be released that will permit the identification of any individual or individual characteristics.

As a graduate student, this is an important opportunity for you to be heard on issues related to graduate education, both in your program and in general. If you have any questions about the survey or experience technical difficulties, please email us at [NRCAssessment@mathematica-mpr.com](mailto:NRCAssessment@mathematica-mpr.com). Please include your name and the name of your institution so that we can promptly respond to your questions.

Thank you again for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Charlotte V. Kuh, Ph.D.  
Study Director