

Dear Colleague:

The Modern Language Association (MLA) has established a grant program to assist graduate student members with expenses incurred in attending the MLA Annual Convention. The MLA's program provides travel grants of \$400 to successful applicants once during their graduate school tenure. Applicants for MLA funds are expected to request matching funds from their institutions. I write to second your graduate student's request for funding and to ask that you honor the request to the fullest extent possible. There are many good reasons to do so.

Graduate students play an important role in sustaining language, literature, and writing programs. Institutions benefit directly from providing their graduate students with professional development opportunities, including support for participation in professional conferences. Graduate students who receive this kind of support bring what they have learned back to their institutions, and their engagement with the wider profession pays further dividends to their home departments and institutions.

I thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions regarding the MLA's grant program, please contact Annie Reiser at awards@mla.org.

Sincerely,



Paula M. Krebs
Executive Director