Application Information for Membership

The University of Michigan Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society recognizes outstanding scholarly achievement and promotes excellence and diversity in doctoral education and the professoriate. The Bouchet Graduate Honor Society seeks to develop a network of scholars who exemplify academic and personal excellence, and serve as examples of scholarship, leadership, character, service, and advocacy in the academy.

The Society is named for Edward Alexander Bouchet (1852‐1918), who was the first African American to earn a doctorate from an American university. He earned a Ph.D. in physics at Yale University in 1876. Bouchet was the sixth person in the western hemisphere to earn a doctorate in physics. The Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society was inaugurated on Thursday, September 15, 2005 by Yale University and Howard University. The University of Michigan chapter joins chapters at several other universities that seek to recognize Dr. Bouchet’s pioneering contributions to doctoral education.

Types of Membership

- Doctoral Student is an individual in excellent academic standing, has completed all course work, and successfully advanced to candidacy at the host institution.
- Postdoctoral Member is an individual who has earned a Ph.D. from a research institution and is currently holding a postdoctoral fellowship or equivalent position within the host chapter institution.
- Alumni Member is an individual who holds a Ph.D. from the host chapter institution and has been nominated after graduation to be an Alumni Member of the Society.
- Faculty Member is an individual who has been awarded a Ph.D. and is currently holding a faculty position within the host institution.
- Lifetime or Honorary Member is an individual who is deemed by the Society as having contributed significantly to promoting the Society’s mission.

Application Criteria for Doctoral Students

- A personal statement (2 ‐ 3 pages) that explains how the individual embodies the characteristics of Dr. Bouchet (scholarship, leadership, character, service, and advocacy) and the mission of the U‐M Bouchet Graduate Honor Society. The statement should also describe the applicant’s anticipated contribution to the Society;
- An unofficial copy of the applicant’s transcript from the University of Michigan;
- A current curriculum vita;
- One letter of recommendation to the U‐M Bouchet Graduate Honor Society from either the applicant’s dissertation advisor or a graduate faculty member knowledgeable about the applicant’s research.

Application Criteria for Postdoctoral Fellows

- A personal statement (2 to 3 pages) that explains how the individual embodies the characteristics of Dr. Bouchet (scholarship, leadership, character, service, and advocacy) and the mission of the U‐M Bouchet Graduate Honor Society. The statement should also describe the applicant’s anticipated contribution to the Society;
  - A current curriculum vita
  - One letter from a current faculty mentor at the University of Michigan or the Chair of the Dissertation Committee.

The application deadline for membership is November 30, 2010.