It is that time of the year again when Microsoft Research in Redmond is accepting student nominees from your prestigious universities for the academic year 2010-2011 for both our Latin American PhD Graduate Fellowship Program and Latin American Internship Program. As it was the case for last year, the program continues to be open for any university in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

The goals of these two programs are as follows:
- Provide an opportunity for talented students from universities in Latin America and the Caribbean to work with Researchers at Microsoft Research in the Redmond Lab.
- Increase interaction between MSR Researchers in Redmond and faculty/students at Latin American and Caribbean universities.
- Provide internship opportunities and expose Latin American and Caribbean students to an industrial research setting and Microsoft.
- Identify potential candidates for future research opportunities at Microsoft.

We hope you agree this is a valuable opportunity for the best and brightest of your students.

For more information visit: http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/collaboration/global/latam/latam-awards.aspx. This site will be updated with current information about the program on the day that the application tool opens (Tuesday, August 17th, 2010)

**Eligibility Criteria:**
- Preference will be given to students nominated by their universities. However, students may also apply directly. Applications can be made online either for an internship, fellowship, or both.
- Up to three (3) applicants per department for a total of nine (9) applicants per university will be accepted. Nominees may come from any of the following departments: Computer Science, Computer Engineering, and Electrical Engineering (if your department is within the scope of these areas, but is titled differently, you are eligible).
- You most probably may need to run an internal selection process before sending us the final three candidates from your department.
- Nominees should demonstrate outstanding academic achievement, high research potential, and interests relevant to information technology.
- Nominees are expected to demonstrate proficiency in English as we are unable to offer English as second language training during their visit to Redmond.
- The opening date for application submissions is Tuesday August 17th, 2010. A nomination by the university department or an application submitted directly by the student must be completed in the application system by Tuesday, October 12th, 2010. The application must clearly establish that the student is pursuing an internship, a fellowship, or both. The online tool will not be available until Tuesday August 17th, 2010. More information about how to access the online tool will be given at http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/collaboration/global/latam/latam-awards.aspx.
- The application must include a curriculum vitae or resume (Word Docs, Text Files, and PDF). The documents may be uploaded separately by the student via the online application.
- Our online application will request three email addresses for letters of recommendation. We will automatically solicit reference letters to add to the nominee's application.
Fellowship applicants must be enrolled in a Ph.D. and include a thesis proposal with their application. Internship applicants can be pursuing either a masters or a PhD degree.

Any department chairs wishing to nominate students formally should contact us via email at latamint@microsoft.com. Please send an e-mail including the following information:

University:
Department:
University contact name and e-mail:

Applicant:
Applicant's e-mail:
Nominated for Microsoft Research Fellowship, Internship, or both?
Applicant currently pursuing Masters or PhD?
Area of study (up to two):

Current Schedule:
- Microsoft will begin accepting applications on Tuesday, August 17, 2010.
- Completion date for all applications: Tuesday, October 12, 2010, at 5:00 P.M. Pacific Time.
- Applicants will be notified no later than February 11, 2011.

Additional Program Details:

PhD Graduate Fellowship Program:
- Two (2) fellowships will be awarded to the best and the brightest from the pool of PhD applicants from the participating universities in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- If selected for a fellowship, a student is automatically offered the opportunity to complete one salaried 12-week internship in our Microsoft Research Lab in Redmond, Washington.

Latin American Internship Program:
- Internships can occur at any time during the year (with sufficient notice for visa processing).
- Up to seven (7) internships will be awarded this year.
- Internships are paid and typically last for 12 weeks.
- Assistance with visas, relocation, and housing are provided.
- Primary selection criteria are
  - The inherent merits of the student
  - A research project matching the interests of the nominee
  - Interest from one of our researchers to act as a mentor for the nominee
- We strongly encourage the candidates to identify their preferred research area when submitting their application. For more information on current research areas at MSR please see: http://research.microsoft.com/apps/dp/areas.aspx

Please again remember the following:
- Only three (3) nominees per department and up to nine (9) in total per school, for both programs (Fellowship + Internship).
Either the university department or the student must complete an application via the web tool to be considered. Nominees are not required to apply for both programs.

If you need further assistance or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us via email at latamint@microsoft.com.