



## DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

### **The Seymour B. Stiss Fellowship For graduate students in Social Studies Education**

#### **Seymour B. Stiss Fellowship**

The Seymour B. Stiss Endowment Fund was established in 2001 to encourage the academic preparation and development of social studies educators benefiting College of Education students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign who are pursuing graduate degrees in social studies education. Graduate students and faculty members in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction engage in creating new knowledge, practices, and theories related to the education and learning of children, youth, and adults. Through the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Education and the Curriculum and Teacher Education Division, the Seymour B. Stiss Fellowship awards \$11,500 annually in addition to a tuition-fee waiver. Recipients may be nominated for an additional year of support through the Stiss Fellowship assuming satisfactory progress is being made towards the completion of a degree.

A graduate of Chicago's Roosevelt High School, Mr. Seymour B. Stiss spent three years in Italy during WWII serving in the U.S. Army. His meritorious service earned him the highly acclaimed Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge. Upon his discharge, Mr. Stiss enrolled at the University of Illinois where he earned a B.S. degree (1949) from the Division of Special Services for War Veterans. Mr. Stiss' keen interest in social studies education prompted him to continue at the University of Illinois where he had the opportunity to study under legendary faculty such as Professor Edwin Reeder. Upon earning an M.A. degree (1950) from the College of Education, Mr. Stiss began his 36-year career with the Arlington (Virginia) School District. In addition to teaching English and social studies, Mr. Stiss made a significant impact on the social studies curriculum serving as the District Social Studies Supervisor for 16 years.

#### **Criteria**

Selection criteria for the Seymour B. Stiss Fellowship includes:

- Full-time or newly admitted PhD students in either elementary or secondary education with a specialization in social studies
- Minimum graduate GPA of 3.5

#### **Application Process**

Interested students are required to submit a one-page statement specific to the student's background and interest in the field of social studies education in their application to the graduate programs.

Recipient shall be selected by a selection committee, and will be presented the award at the Student Recognition Brunch each fall.