



PRESIDIO
GRADUATE SCHOOL

Presidio Receives Funding for Research and Scholarships

Presidio Graduate School has recently received several foundation grants to support a variety of new initiatives and student scholarships.

The [Lydia B. Stokes Foundation](#), a national foundation focused on innovative approaches to community development and business investment, has provided a \$7,500 grant for a new initiative to support Presidio faculty in further refining our renowned sustainability curriculum. The Curriculum Innovation Initiative will allow Presidio to evolve our curriculum to stay ahead of the curve while building closer ties between our MBA and MPA programs. Our aim is to put greater emphasis on developing course content at the intersection of private markets and public policy and explore more deeply the emergence of the new “Fourth Sector” and “For-Benefit” organizational models.

The Marin County-based [Fred Gellert Family Foundation](#) awarded Presidio \$20,000 to support a new research project exploring alternatives to the GDP. A host of alternative models exist that challenge the GDP as best-practice in measuring economic and social performance. With Gellert support, Presidio faculty will create new course content for our curriculum emphasizing these alternative models, building on a strong base in ecological economics, full cost accounting and life-cycle assessment. We will also convene a day-long symposium featuring leading thinkers in new measures of national economic performance.

As part of the award, the Gellert Family Foundation is also providing tuition support to top Presidio students, to be named the Huey D. Johnson Scholarship given by the Fred Gellert Family Foundation. The scholarship honors the legendary California environmentalist Huey Johnson. Founder and President of the Resource Renewal Institute, Huey served as president of The Nature Conservancy and, from 1976 until 1982, was Secretary of Resources for the State of California. During his tenure he established conservation programs that doubled salmon populations, strengthened forestry regulations, preserved millions of acres of California wilderness, and protected more than 1,200 miles of wild rivers. Huey has received numerous awards including the President's Award for Sustainable Development in 1996 and the [Sasakawa Prize](#), awarded by the United Nations in 2001 to honor Huey's outstanding contributions to the environment.

Finally, the [Dean Witter Foundation](#) of San Francisco approved a \$25,000 grant to support Presidio's accreditation efforts over the coming year. The Witter foundation specializes in environmental education and conservation in and around the Bay Area. The grant will allow us to accelerate the accreditation process with key consulting support and other resources.