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GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AWARDS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Dr. Mark MacGuigan, announced today that an agreement has been signed with the World University Service of Canada (W.U.S.C.) to administer for the Department of External Affairs the Government of Canada Awards Programme.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, the Department of External Affairs offers approximately 150 annual awards (graduate scholarships and post-doctoral fellowships) to nationals of eighteen countries. The countries concerned are Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Finland, France (scholarships only), Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

Responsibility for administration of the Awards Programme since its inception in 1964, rested with the Canada Council and, in recent years, with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (S.S.H.R.C.). In December 1979 the S.S.H.R.C. informed the Department of External Affairs of its decision to give up the administration of the programme. Proposals to replace the S.S.H.R.C. were received from three Canadian non-profit organizations. On the basis of the evaluation of the proposals by the Department of External Affairs and its Advisory Committee on Academic Relations, the proposals from W.U.S.C. have been accepted.

The Awards are offered to graduates of high academic standing and are tenable only in Canada. Proposed programmes of study and research must bear on a Canadian subject or be in a field where Canada has special experience or in which Canadian expertise is widely recognized. Included in the programme are all areas of the arts and humanities, the social, physical and biological sciences and engineering.