

UC SANTA BARBARA GRADUATE DIVISION

RESEARCH ACCELERATOR AWARD



"I just cannot say how very thankful I am for being honored with this award and how helpful the award is. I utilized the fellowship to do archival research in Asia and went to present my paper in Philadelphia this summer."

Chia-Chien Chang

Ph.D. Political Sciences Candidate

Alumni Carolyn and Terry Gannon met with their student recipient, Chia-Chien Chang. Carolyn commented, *"The time we spent together was very stimulating and fun. Chia-Chien has a lot of energy, interest in discussion, and embracing others' additional thoughts. It couldn't have been a nicer day."*

Every graduate student reaches a point when they must intensely focus on the research that is the core of their dissertation or thesis. **The Research Accelerator Award was created to assist students with their research expenses so they may advance in their goal to complete their degree.**

Through the Research Accelerator program, the donor makes a gift of \$5,000 and the Graduate Division adds \$3,000 to create a stipend of \$8,000. Students utilize the funding for travel, specialized equipment and software, and to collect and analyze data. For example, a Linguistics graduate student may need to buy recording equipment to capture a spoken language, purchase airline tickets and pay for housing at a research site.



Linguistics graduate student Nate Sims conducting Tibeto-Burman language documentation

After the student completes their research, the donor is invited to meet with them and discuss the results of their research experience. **This is a unique opportunity to become acquainted with a talented scholar** and learn about the life and studies of a current UC Santa Barbara graduate student.