

**THE 2025 DOCTORAL PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE  
JAMES R. WEBB ARES FOUNDATION**  
Jeremy Gabe, University of San Diego, [jgabe@sandiego.edu](mailto:jgabe@sandiego.edu)

Following another stimulating doctoral program in Orlando last year, The James R. Webb ARES Foundation will continue to support doctoral students to attend the 2025 ARES Annual Meeting in Orlando. In addition, the Foundation will continue to sponsor two manuscript prize awards exclusively available to Doctoral Program participants. These awards honor the service of Steve Kapplin and Elaine Worzala, whose leadership was essential to the current success of the ARES Doctoral Program. The Steve Kapplin Prize will award \$1,500 to the best paper presented by a North American student. The Elaine Worzala Prize will award \$1,500 to the best paper presented by an international student.

Doctoral students toward the end of their dissertation are invited to submit their dissertation research for consideration. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so preference is given to students in their final year. Students selected to participate in the Doctoral Program will receive:

1. Complimentary registration for the entire 2025 ARES Annual Meeting
2. A travel stipend to help with the expenses of attending the meeting in-person:
  - a. Up to \$1,500 in travel cost reimbursements for students attending a North American institution, **or**
  - b. Up to \$500 in travel cost reimbursements for students attending an international institution.
3. Eligibility for one of two \$1,500 doctoral manuscript prizes

Stipend amounts are based on the location of the student's institution, not the nationality of the student. In addition, the Foundation will host a lunch for the students, ARES officers and board members, Session Chairs/Mentors and Foundation officers on Friday.

At the conference, selected doctoral candidates will be required to present in one Doctoral Seminar session during the Annual Meeting and support their colleagues. At the assigned Doctoral Seminar session, candidates are expected to present their dissertation research and results. They are welcome to submit other papers to the regular program tracks but the work presented during the Doctoral Seminar sessions should be original work from their dissertations.

Students will also be required to attend a panel session for the students from senior ARES leaders and members. These panels feature a diverse mix of influential academics and practitioners. In 2024, Amanda Ross (University of Alabama), Albert Saiz (MIT), David Ling (University of Florida), and Phil Laney (Blended Teaching) answered doctoral students' questions about job markets, publication strategies, early career expectations, and much more.

Students must arrive for the beginning of the ARES Annual Meeting on Thursday morning (April 10) but they are encouraged to come as early as possible to get the full benefit of participating in the meetings. The Critical Issues panel on Wednesday afternoon is beneficial for networking and gaining real world practical knowledge about the current research needs of the real estate professional community and the Wednesday evening reception is open to all. In order to qualify for the travel stipend, students **MUST** make arrangements to stay through the close of

sessions at or around Noon on Saturday, April 12, 2025, present their research in the Seminar sessions, support their colleagues, and attend the above-mentioned advice panel. Travel stipends are awarded to students that successfully complete the participation expectations described above.

To apply for this opportunity, use the ARES 2025 Annual Meeting submission on the ARES website, <https://www.conftool.org/ares2025/index.php?page=submissions>. **Select the “Doctoral Seminar” track and submit a detailed abstract of your PhD research & findings. You must indicate your planned dissertation completion target (month and year) in the “Remark/Message from the Authors to the Program Committee and Chairs” section of the application.** Applications must be completed no later than December 15, 2024 so we can let students know of their acceptance to the program no later than January 1, 2024.

**International students who require a VISA for entry into the United States are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.** Because VISA interviews can take months to schedule, the conference chair will do her best to evaluate international student applications before the December 15 submission deadline. Students are individually responsible for securing permission to enter the United States for the purpose of attending the ARES Annual Meeting. Accepted international students are provided with an invitation letter from the ARES Program Chair stating the student has been accepted to present at the 2025 ARES Annual Meeting along with the dates of the meeting. You can request this letter by selecting “Yes” to the VISA letter option when submitting your application.

Decisions for acceptance of completed applications will be based on the relevance of the students’ research and where a student is in the dissertation process. As stated earlier, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so preference is given to students in the final year of their dissertation. Students who have not attended an ARES annual meeting and completed their dissertation within a year of the conference are also welcome to apply.

At the time of application, there is no option for students to present research online. The 2025 ARES Doctoral Seminar is planned as an in-person only event.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [jgabe@sandiego.edu](mailto:jgabe@sandiego.edu). We hope you will encourage your doctoral students to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity and I look forward to meeting everyone in Arizona!