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**HARCOURT ASSESSMENT AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS
IN PSYCHOMETRICS**

SAN ANTONIO – Leading test publisher Harcourt Assessment, Inc., today announced that it is awarding \$2,500 scholarships to four doctoral students who spent their summer at the company as psychometric fellows.

“All four of the fellows made outstanding contributions during the time they were with us,” said John Olson, Harcourt’s vice president of psychometrics and research services. “To show our appreciation, and to encourage them to continue their studies in psychometrics, we will award each fellow a \$2,500 grant to help defray the cost of their doctoral programs. This is one more way that Harcourt can help cultivate the next generation of psychometricians.”

Psychometrics is the science of measuring cognitive functions, such as learning, and is the foundation of standardized testing and large-scale assessment programs.

This year’s Slawski fellows in psychometrics were:

Ying Cheng, a doctoral student in quantitative studies at the University of Texas-Austin. Her advisor is Dr. Hua-Hua Chang.

Abdullah Ferdous, a doctoral student in quantitative and qualitative methods in education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His advisor is Dr. Barbara Plake.

Sara Monempour, a doctoral student in social research methodology at UCLA. Her advisor is Dr. Jamal Abedi.

Haniza Yon, a doctoral student in measurement and quantitative methods at Michigan State University. Her advisor is Dr. Mark Reckase.

Harcourt launched the summer fellowships in 2000 and in 2002 it named the program in memory of Edward J. Slawski, Jr., who had been director of Harcourt’s psychometrics department until his death.

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Slawski fellows are among the best students enrolled in doctoral programs in the fields of measurement, statistics, research, methodology or related areas. Through the fellowship, they gain practical experience that enhances and reinforces their academic studies. Fellows have direct interaction with professional staff and gain valuable insights into the research, development and validation of large-scale tests.

Based in San Antonio, Harcourt Assessment, Inc., is a leading provider of high-quality assessment instruments and testing programs. Its educational products include the Stanford Achievement Test series and the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test[®]. Under the PsychCorp[™] brand, it also publishes a wide variety of clinical products, such as the Wechsler[®] family of tests, including the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children[®] (WISC-IV[®]), as well as the CELF[®] family of speech and language tests.

Through the development of custom statewide educational testing programs, Harcourt is helping more than 20 states meet the accountability requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

The company is affiliated with the Harcourt book publishing companies, and together they form the global education brand of Reed Elsevier Group plc (NYSE: RUK and ENL) -- a world-leading publisher and information provider operating in the science and medical, legal, education and business-to-business industry sectors.

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