



ICGC INTERNATIONAL PREDISSERTATION FIELDWORK GRANTS For Current ICGC Scholars

2009 Competition Guidelines

Deadline February 20, 2009

OBJECTIVES: The ICGC Predissertation Fieldwork Grants will provide support in 2009 for approximately ten ICGC Scholars at the University of Minnesota undertaking short-term exploratory field activity **in preparation for dissertation research** related to the goals of the ICGC Program. The awards will enable students to make **preliminary** field research trips, typically between the second and third years of graduate study, to investigate research facilities and fieldwork conditions, check availability of archives and other sources of information, test project ideas and methodologies, make contact with scholars and informants, determine skills needed for field research, improve language competency and adjust their proposed dissertation topic. **Please note that these grants are *not* intended to provide support for the final dissertation field research the candidate will carry out.**

The ICGC Program approaches global studies from an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural perspective. Its focus is on developing societies, particularly in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, and the Middle East, and on minority communities within North America. It emphasizes study and research on four broad dimensions of world society: global governance and transnational norms; environmental sustainability and social justice; war and peace in historical context; and production, performance and representation of identities. This involves examining processes in developing societies affecting:

- *Economic, political, environmental and social change and conflict and their consequences for national and international peace and security*
- *The sustainability of ecosystems, human-environment relationships, and development processes*
- *The capacity of institutions to undergo redesign and reform to cope with tensions caused by political, economic, cultural, environmental and technological change*
- *Popular empowerment and the enhancement of human rights, justice and freedoms*
- *The role of disaffected and disadvantaged sectors experiencing change and conflict*
- *The significance of race, class, ethnicity and gender*
- *Transnational linkages and informal networks*

AWARDS:

Awards will vary. Grants will help with travel, maintenance and research expenses for trips of at least one month or more. Awards will be announced by the end of March. Award winners should see Kate Griep Kulhanek, the ICGC Program accountant, immediately to arrange timely payment of the award. Processing of requests takes at least a month. Applicants are encouraged to apply to other funders for additional support if needed.

ELIGIBILITY:

The competition is restricted to current ICGC Scholars.

The grants are intended to support **exploratory** field research, and are not suitable for students who either have already fully developed their research proposal, or have not yet chosen a topic that they are testing for further development. *The grants are **not** to be used for dissertation research or initial language training.* Proposed topics must relate to the themes of the ICGC Program.

Students must give evidence of prior contact with in-country institutions, scholars or programs, or at least of correspondence initiating such contacts.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

Applications are due **February 20, 2009** at the latest. The following information is required:

- 1) A completed application form.
- 2) A three-page essay describing your proposed research topic; the questions you will try to answer in this trip; the specific activities you expect to conduct; the language skills you will need to do this and your current level of competence; the interdisciplinary connections that will inform your work; how the fieldwork experience will enable you to define and refine your eventual dissertation proposal. Indicate the stage you currently are at in your doctoral program and when you expect to carry out dissertation fieldwork.
- 3) Letter of reference from your advisor concerning your ability to carry out the field program you describe and its potential usefulness (have them address the letters to Selection Committee, ICGC Predissertation Fieldwork Grant Competition, at the ICGC Program office). There is not a specific reference form to be filled out.
- 4) Transcript(s) of your graduate work.

Send the application and supporting materials to the Predissertation Grant Competition, ICGC Program, 560 Heller Hall, Minneapolis campus (if you are making a hand-delivery, go to 537 Heller Hall). Call the ICGC Program (phone numbers 612-624-0832 and 612-626-7487) if you have questions. You may also use our e-mail address: icgc@umn.edu.

Awards will be announced by the end of March.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

The grant-winner will submit a five- to ten-page report on the field trip to the Director of the ICGC Program within a month after return to campus. The report is to describe the activities undertaken, significant discoveries made, and the impact the trip will have on the eventual dissertation research project. The student will attach a brief account of how the grant moneys were spent and a list of other support received.