2013-14 Graduate Fellowships for Social Science and Humanities Students

The Center for Nanotechnology in Society at the University of California, Santa Barbara (CNS-UCSB) announces fellowship opportunities for outstanding graduate students pursuing research in the social sciences and humanities.

About CNS

CNS-UCSB is a NSF-funded collaborative interdisciplinary research center established at UCSB in 2006. The Center serves as a national research and education center, a network hub among researchers and educators concerned with societal issues concerning nanotechnologies, and a resource base for studying these issues in the US and abroad.

CNS is dedicated to understanding the relationship between technological innovation and social change and to advancing an integrative role for the social sciences and humanities in promoting the development of equitable and sustainable technological innovation around the world. The critical organizing frame for CNS-UCSB is that of socially and environmentally sustainable innovation, in which we integrate historical, global economic, and social and psychological factors in formative analysis of the nano-enterprise in relation to these goals. Research in the current award has been organized into three interdisciplinary research groups (IRGs), described below.

CNS-UCSB Interdisciplinary Research Groups (IRGs) and Faculty Leaders

IRG1: Origins, Institutions, and Communities: Patrick McCray, History

IRG1 produces and integrates a diverse range of historical sources and research tools in order to understand specific facets of the nano-enterprise’s history.

IRG2: Globalization and Nanotechnology: Rich Appelbaum, Sociology and Global & International Studies

[NOT ACCEPTING FELLOWS FOR 2013-14]

IRG2 addresses global industrial policy and development of nanotechnology, with a particular focus on China, Japan, India and Latin America; and pathways to the use of nanotechnologies to spur equitable development.

IRG3: Nanotechnology Risk Perception and Social Response: Barbara Herr Harthorn, Anthropology, Feminist Studies, and Sociology

IRG3 conducts social research on new (nano)technology risk and benefit perceptions in the US and abroad by multiple stakeholders in the nano-enterprise and public deliberation as a mode of participation in science and technology.

The 2013-14 fellowship opportunities for Social Science and Humanities students are in IRGs 1 & 3

Graduate Research Fellows are integrated into CNS-UCSB research and other activities involving faculty, researchers, postdocs, and other students from social science, humanities, and science and engineering disciplines. CNS-UCSB faculty researchers currently work in the departments of Anthropology, Chican@ Studies, Communication, English, Feminist Studies, Global and International Studies, History, Media Arts & Technology, Music, Political Science, Sociology, and the Bren School.
Program Details

The CNS-UCSB Graduate Fellowship program will run for a 12-month period (renewable based upon performance, budget, and research needs) beginning September 22, 2013 at the start of Fall Quarter. The social science fellowship will provide funding up to $35,500 annually. This amount is intended to cover the cost of in-state tuition and fees at UCSB for the 2013-2014 academic year (approximately $13,000) and provide a stipend of approximately $22,500 intended to cover 12-months of housing and living expenses. The amount will be adjusted to account for any tuition/fee increases. Additional support is provided for Fellows to travel to academic conferences and other venues for dissemination of CNS research and to network with other science and society researchers.

Each successful applicant will work primarily in one of the three CNS Interdisciplinary Research Groups (IRGs), with a specific faculty mentor, but will interact with faculty and students in other groups. Required skills and experience vary by IRG and assignments, but no prior knowledge of nanotechnology is required. Visit the CNS website for more information about current research: http://www.cns.ucsb.edu/research

Fellows are expected to participate in a regular CNS-wide seminar each quarter, as well as professional development and public engagement activities. In the summer, Fellows mentor undergraduate community college interns during an 8-week CNS internship program, and receive additional support of $1000. CNS research and programs are conducted throughout the year.

Student Eligibility

This program is open to any social science or humanities PhD student (U.S. citizen or permanent resident) who is currently enrolled and in good standing in a relevant graduate program at UCSB. Terminal masters students are not eligible.

- During the fellowship, the Fellow may not have any additional on campus employment (e.g., TA-ship, GSR, etc.)
- Fellows must be in residence at UCSB for the duration of the fellowship in order to fully participate in the full round of CNS activities
- Fellows must have interest in and ability to work productively in a collaborative, interdisciplinary environment

Application Process

The application deadline is Wed, June 12, 2013. Award announcements will be made by no later than June 21, 2013.

To apply for the 2013-14 Graduate Research Fellowships for Social Science and Humanities Students opportunity, complete the application found on the CNS-UCSB website: http://www.cns.ucsb.edu/education/fellowships_ssh

As detailed in the application document, a complete application requires the following:

1. Application Cover Sheet
2. Statement of Interest relevant to CNS-UCSB
3. Curriculum Vitae
4. Unofficial transcript
5. Recommendation from your current academic advisor (must be sent from advisor’s email address)

Questions about the CNS-UCSB Graduate Fellowship program?

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