

**University of California Human Rights Fellowship
Human Rights Center, U.C. Berkeley**

The Human Rights Center, U.C. Berkeley is pleased to announce the annual competition for student fellowships with human rights organizations. The fellowship is available to students from several U.C. campuses. Registered students at U.C. Berkeley, Hastings College of the Law, U.C. Santa Cruz, U.C. Irvine and U.C. San Diego are eligible. Two fellowships in Social Documentary are available for registered students at U.C. Santa Cruz. The amount of the fellowship stipend will be determined by each U.C. campus. This year, fellows from U.C. Berkeley will receive \$4,000 per fellow.

These awards will enable students to carry out clearly defined fieldwork, domestically or internationally, with human rights organizations related to a student's area of study. The purpose of the fellowship is to provide students with an opportunity to contribute to the work of human rights organizations while also gaining practical experience that may influence the students' areas of research or academic focus. The fellowship program welcomes multi-disciplinary approaches to human rights fieldwork. Students are encouraged to publish the results of their fieldwork. Preference will be given to graduate students and returning students. Prior recipients of Human Rights Center fellowships are not eligible.

The Fellowships

The human rights fellowships are student-initiated, i.e., students must identify the governmental or non-governmental organizations with whom they will work, the human rights issue to be addressed, and the parameters, objectives, goals and expected outcomes of their proposed fieldwork. However, on some occasions, human rights organizations in need of assistance will contact the Human Rights Center, U.C. Berkeley. This information will be posted on our website, hrcberkeley.edu.

The fellowship includes:

- an orientation to prepare fellows for their summer fieldwork (early May)
- a stipend to support their fieldwork
- an informal get together upon the fellows' return from the field (late September)
- a formal conference held during the fall semester (early November)
- a formal report due at the end of the year

All events will take place at U.C. Berkeley. Travel stipends will be available for fellows traveling from other campuses.

The Application Procedure

A complete application includes:

- 1) A completed application cover sheet
- 2) A *curriculum vitae*/resume, indicating all experience (academic studies, fieldwork, volunteer/paid work) relevant to the fellowship
- 3) Statement of Purpose (2–5 pages maximum, doubled-spaced, 12-point font), describing your interest in the award. This section of the application should address the following questions:
 - What human rights issue will be addressed?
 - Why is this a critical issue?
 - How do you propose to address this issue (methodology)?
 - Why are you interested in addressing this issue? Do you have a particular interest/expertise/experience?
 - What are the objectives/goals/expected outcomes of your proposed fieldwork?
 - How will these outcomes be measured or evaluated?
 - How will the fellowship build on your current academic interests?
 - What role will the fellowship play in your long-term career plans?
 - How will your fieldwork contribute to the sponsoring organization's ongoing mission/goals in the local area?
- 4) Two letters of recommendation from faculty members who are in a position to affirm the value of the fellowship in the context of your academic work and interests. Letters may be sent under separate cover or via e-mail at the address below.
- 5) Letter of support from the sponsoring governmental or non-governmental organization detailing the mission/goals of the organization and how your proposed fieldwork will contribute to its ongoing work.

Items 1 – 3 (the completed cover sheet, CV, and personal statements) must be submitted in hard copy. Items 4 and 5 (letters) can be submitted electronically.

This information can also be found online at hrcberkeley.edu.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

For more information and application submission:

U.C. Berkeley Students

Rachel Shigekane, Director of Programs
Human Rights Center
460 Stephens Hall #2300
University of California
Berkeley, CA 94720-2300
(510) 642-0965 (Tel)

(510) 643-3830 (Fax)
rshig@berkeley.edu

**UC Berkeley students, please note that items 1 – 3 (completed cover sheet, CV and personal statements) must be submitted in hard copy. Please submit the original and 3 copies of each. Items 4 and 5 (letters) may be submitted electronically.

Hastings College of the Law Students

Naomi Roht-Arriaza
Professor of Law
UC Hastings College of the Law
200 McAllister St.
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 565-4629
rohtarri@uchastings.edu

U.C. Santa Cruz Students

Renee Tajima-Pena
Associate Professor
Social Documentation Program
Community Studies Dept.
231 Oakes College
Santa Cruz, CA 95064
(831)459-2826
rtajima@ucsc.edu

**** The UCSC fellowship is limited to social documentary projects.** U.C. Santa Cruz students, please see the addendum for additional information required of documentary fellowship applicants. The addendum is attached to fellowship applications available through U.C. Santa Cruz or contact Professor Tajima-Pena for more information.

U.C. San Diego Students

Gershon Shafir
Professor of Sociology
Director, Institute on International, Comparative and Area Studies (IICAS)
University of California, San Diego
Eleanor Roosevelt College Administrative Building #112
La Jolla, CA 92093-0539
(858) 822-5295
gshafir@ucsd.edu

U.C. Irvine Students

Alison Brysk
Professor
Department of Politics
University of California Irvine
3151 Social Science Plaza
Irvine, CA 92697-5100
(949) 824-1582
abrysk@uci.edu

Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects

If you intend to use the fellowship grant to conduct research that you will include in your thesis or dissertation, you should consider whether approval from the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects (CPHS) is necessary. For more information, please speak with your faculty advisor or visit your campus' CPHS's website.

Deadline for Applications and All Supporting Documents: Thursday, February 26, 2009 at 4:00 PM.

Applicants will be notified by the first week in April.

**Human Rights Fellowship 2009
Application Cover Sheet**

Name _____

Home Address _____

Phone # _____ E-Mail Address _____

Student ID # _____ Date of Birth _____

U. S. Citizen/Resident Y N If not, Visa Status: _____

Student Status Undergrad _____ Grad _____ Year _____

Campus _____

School/Depart./Major _____

Faculty Advisor _____

Faculty Letters of Recommendation will be sent by

1) _____

2) _____

Proposed Departure Date: _____

Proposed Return Date: _____

Sponsoring Organization _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Phone #/Fax#/E-mail Address _____

**Human Rights Fellowship
Frequently Asked Questions**

1. I am almost finished with my statement of purpose but can't turn it in by the date it is due. Can I turn it in late?

No. You must turn in your statement of purpose, resume and cover sheet by the date of the application deadline in hard copy. If you need a special accommodation, please contact your campus fellowship coordinator. UCB: Rachel Shigekane (510) 642-0965, rshig@berkeley.edu; Hastings: Naomi Roht Arriaza, (415) 565-4629, rohtarri@uchastings.edu; UCSC: Renee Tajima-Pena, (831) 459-2826, rtajima@ucsc.edu; UCSD: Gershon Shafir, (858) 822-5295, gshafir@ucsd.edu; and UCI: Alison Brysk, (949) 824-1582, abrysk@uci.edu.

2. My faculty advisor is on leave this semester so it is difficult to reach her. Can I turn in my faculty recommendation letter late?

These issues are handled on a case-by-case basis. If you anticipate any difficulties in communicating with faculty members, please contact your campus fellowship coordinator (see response to question 1).

3. How should letters from faculty members and from sponsoring organizations be addressed?

These letters should be addressed to your campus fellowship coordinator. (see response to question 1).

4. What should the faculty letter of recommendation letter include?

- How does the faculty member know you?
- For how long has he/she known you?
- How did you perform in his/her class?
- What does the faculty member know of your proposed fellowship project?
- How does it relate to your work with the faculty member?
- Given your work with the faculty member, what is his/her opinion of your abilities with regard to your proposed fellowship project?

5. I can't seem to contact the organization with whom I would like to work. Their fax and e-mail are down. Do I need to submit a sponsoring organization letter?

Yes. You must submit a letter of support from the organization with whom you would like to work. If you anticipate difficulties, please speak to your campus fellowship coordinator (see response to question 1).

6. What should the sponsoring organization letter include?

- What is the mission of the organization and what does the organization do in order to achieve the mission?
- What are the goals of your project and how do these goals relate to the overall objectives of the organization?
- How will your project contribute to the organization's mission and to the community it serves?
- Your previous relationship with the organization, if applicable.

7. Can I apply if I am an undergraduate student?

Yes. However, applications from graduate students are given a priority.

8. I am graduating in May; this is my last year as a U.C. student. Can I still apply?

Yes. You can still apply, however, applications from returning, non-graduating students are given a priority. In order to be eligible, you must be able to participate in all of the post-fieldwork activities, including the informal get-together in September and the formal conference in early November. In addition, you must submit a formal paper on your fellowship by the end of December.

9. Can I seek additional funding for my project?

Yes.

10. I'm not 100% sure I know which project I want to do this summer. Would it be possible for me to develop one project proposal in my application and if I get funded, can I change my mind and use the stipend for a different project?

No.

11. Can I submit a proposal for a partnership project with another student?

Yes, you can with the understanding that you and your partner will share one fellowship stipend.

12. I'm not sure what to include in my statement of purpose, can you give me any suggestions?

Yes, sample statements of purpose are available. Please see your campus fellowship representative (see response to question 1).

13. What if I simply cannot complete the application?

Incomplete applications will not be considered and will not be forwarded to the evaluators. To avoid this unfortunate situation, students are encouraged to plan ahead and allow for substantial time to research and contact sponsoring organizations and to obtain letters of recommendation from faculty members.

14. Do I need to seek approval from the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects (CPHS)?

This depends. If you intend to use your fellowship grant to conduct research that you will include in your thesis or dissertation, then you must seek approval from CPHS before you begin to recruit participants (human subjects) and collect data. There are occasions when a student's planned activity will not be considered human subjects research because it will not lead to generalizable knowledge. However, if your findings will contribute to an understanding and further knowledge about your field, you may be conducting human subjects research. We encourage you to contact the Office for the Protection of Human Subjects as early as possible and consult with the staff about your proposed project. Protocol review and approval or receipt of an exemption may take as long as two to three months. For more information, please speak to your faculty advisor or visit your campus' CPHS website.

15. When will the fellowship awards be announced?

We will announce the fellowship awards in early April.