BU Pardee School’s Policy & Security Initiative

Launches Call for Proposals for
2018-19 Student Research Seed Grants

The new Policy & Security Initiative (PSI) at Boston University’s Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies is pleased to announce a call for student grant proposals. Student seed grants (up to $500 per grant) are available for undergraduate and graduate students writing theses and/or conducting relevant scholarly research that use history and/or IR theory to evaluate prevailing assumptions, practices, or approaches in the foreign policy/international security policy sphere.

PSI is open to proposals covering a range of methods and thematic issues. We are especially interested in projects that address the impact of domestic actors on U.S. foreign policy; survey the costs, risks, and impacts of foreign aid and alliance commitments; assess the use of history in grand strategy debates; bring new history to light that can explicitly inform grand strategy discussions; and evaluate the consequences of growing geopolitical competition on U.S. grand strategy given domestic and fiscal considerations. All proposals that employ history and/or theory to evaluate assumptions, practices, or approaches in the U.S. foreign policy/international security policy space will be considered.

Grants can be used for travel (academic justification required) and research expenses, and should be especially useful for students interested in conducting archival and other forms of primary source research. Recipients will be asked to acknowledge PSI’s support in any published work and to compose a short (1000-1200 word) policy brief explaining what aspects of international security/foreign policy merit revision in light of the research conducted funded by PSI.

To apply, please submit a 400-500 word proposal along with a budget to Professors William Grimes (wgrimes@bu.edu), Jayita Sarkar (jsarkar@bu.edu), and Joshua Shifrinson (jris@bu.edu). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis between Sep. 15 and Oct. 31, 2018.