WARA Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Competition
2013

The WARA Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, for 2 to 3 months research in West Africa during the summer of 2013, is for the purpose of: 1) preparing a doctoral research proposal; or 2) carrying out research related to the completion of another terminal degree program (e.g., MFA or MPH). This competition is open to U.S. citizens who are currently enrolled in graduate programs at institutions of higher education in the United States. It is advisable that applicants be conversant in an African language spoken where they will be conducting research. Priority will be given to applicants who are at the pre-dissertation stage, that is, who will be returning to their institution to complete course work and exams, before beginning their fieldwork.

Each fellowship will provide round trip travel to a West African country (not to exceed $2,500) and a stipend of up to $3,500. The West African Research Center (WARC) in Dakar, Senegal may assist with academic contacts and affiliations and recommendations for lodging in the country chosen by the fellow.

This cycle we will be introducing an online application process. Hard copy applications will no longer be considered. The items required in the online application, which will be available through the WARA website after November 1, 2012, include:

- an abstract of the proposed research project;
- a statement describing the concept, methodology and significance of the proposed research project to the applicant's academic field, and how this research contributes to the mission of WARA. This should be presented in a language understandable to non-specialist readers;
- a CV;
- an itemized budget (including estimated costs for housing, food, travel, equipment, printing/photocopying, and institutional affiliation fees) and an optional bibliography;
- three letters of reference from your advisor or faculty who know your work (these will be submitted online by the referee).

Applications must be submitted online no later than February 1, 2013. Late applications will not be considered.

An excellent resource for preparing applications can be found on the SSRC website at http://www.ssrc.org/workspace/images.crm/new_publication_3/%7B7a9eb4f4-815f-de11-bd80-001cc477ec70-%7D.pdf

Upon completion of their fellowships, grantees are required to submit a detailed report of their work and findings. This report will subsequently be published in the biannual WARA newsletter.

Please direct inquiries to

West African Research Association
Boston University African Studies Center
232 Bay State Road
Boston MA 02215
Tel: 617-353-8902
Email: wara@bu.edu

Funding for WARA’s Fellowship Program is provided by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the US Department of State through a grant from the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.