University of California Human Rights Center Fellowship
The Human Rights Center is pleased to announce the annual competition for student fellowships in partnership with organizations working for human rights. Registered students at UC Berkeley and the Graduate Theological Union are eligible, with priority given to graduate and returning students. Prior recipients of Human Rights Center fellowships are not eligible. The amount of the fellowship stipend will be $5,000.

These awards will enable students to carry out clearly defined fieldwork, domestically or internationally, with organizations working on human rights issues related to a student’s area of interest. Applicants must plan to spend at least 6-8 weeks full time or its equivalent part-time working with a partner organization to qualify for the fellowship.

The purpose of the fellowship is to provide students with an opportunity to contribute to the organizations’ work while also gaining practical experience that may influence the students’ areas of research, academic focus, or career trajectory. Partnerships with both governmental and non-governmental organizations are acceptable, so long as the affiliation enables the proposed human rights work. Multi-disciplinary approaches to human rights fieldwork are welcomed.

2016 fellowship theme:
In 2015/2016, the Human Rights Center will host a series of events related to incarceration. To continue the discussion into the summer and foster interdisciplinary dialogue around this theme, we will select several fellows whose proposals focus on incarceration.

The majority of the fellowship slots will, as always, be open to as wide a selection of human rights projects you can dream up. We encourage a diversity of disciplines, human rights issues, geography, and student background.

The Fellowships
The human rights fellowships are student-initiated. Applicants must identify the organizations they will work with, the human rights issue to be addressed, and the parameters, objectives, goals, and expected outcomes of their proposed fieldwork. Fundamental changes to accepted proposals (e.g., different human rights topic, new partner organization, alternate location) are not permitted. On some occasions, human rights organizations interested in hosting fellows do contact the Human Rights Center at UC Berkeley. This information will be posted on the fellowship page of the Human Rights Center’s website at https://www.law.berkeley.edu/research/human-rights-center/student-fellowships/

Human Rights Fellowship benefits and expectations:
• Receive a $5,000 stipend to support their work.
• Attend an orientation to prepare for summer fieldwork (April 18)
• Submit an informal mid-term report from the field (July/August)
• Attend an informal gathering upon return from the field (September 19)
• Present at a formal conference held during the fall semester (November 4)
• Submit a final project (publishable op-ed, news piece, or video) at the end (November 4)
Complete all assignments and participate in all fellowship events in person.

If you are selected as a UC Human Rights Fellow, you will be considered for a two-week collaborative residency at Mesa Refuge from August 12–August 25, 2016, in Point Reyes, California. Mesa Refuge is a writers' retreat that is intended to provide a quiet and inspiring space for people writing about ways to create a more just and sustainable world. Please indicate in your application whether you are interested in being considered for this residency and how you would plan to use the time (see below for statement guidelines)
For more information, visit www.mesarefuge.org.

A complete application includes:
1. A completed application cover sheet and signed application checklist.
2. A curriculum vitae/resume, indicating all experience (academic studies, fieldwork, volunteer work, and paid work) relevant to the fellowship.
3. Statement of purpose (2–5 pages, 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 during the fellowship? Does an article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights address the issue and, if not, how do you think the issue relates to human rights?
   • How will you work with your partner organization to address this issue?
   • How will your fieldwork contribute to the partner organization’s ongoing mission/goals?
   • Why are you interested in addressing this issue? Do you have a particular interest/expertise/experience in this area?
   • 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 or study plans?
   • Have you spent time in your proposed geographic area and/or working on your proposed topic? If so, outline your previous experience that specifically pertains to your proposed fellowship work. If not, describe how you will prepare yourself for your proposed fellowship work. Address any issues related to fluency in a language other than English.
4. Two letters of recommendation from persons (at least one UC professor, preferably your advisor if you have one) in a position to affirm the value of the fellowship in the context of your academic work and interests. Letters may be addressed to Fellowship Coordinator Julie Lagarde and sent to humanrightsfellows@gmail.com.
5. A letter of support from the partner organization detailing the mission/goals of the organization and how your proposed fieldwork will contribute to its work. This letter should address the following points:
   • Who will be your main point person at the organization?
   • In which ways will you be supporting the organization?
   • In which ways will the organization be supporting you?
   • What are you expected to accomplish during your fellowship?
   • How will the organization benefit from your accomplishments?
6. Applicants are strongly encouraged to meet with the fellowship coordinator or other HRC staff prior to submission.
7. For the Mesa Refuge (if applicable):
• A description of your project in 500 words or less. This should include answers to the following questions:
  o What do you intend to write (academic paper, long form journalism piece, other)?
  o What is your intended audience?
  o What do you hope to accomplish with your writing?
• A writing sample (2,000 word limit)

Some additional information:
• This information and a set of FAQs can also be found online at: https://www.law.berkeley.edu/research/human-rights-center/student-fellowships/
  Be sure to read the FAQs before sending questions to jlagarde@berkeley.edu
• Recommendation letters (for Berkeley applicants only) may be sent by email directly to: humanrightsfellows@gmail.com.
• The deadline for applications and all supporting documents is Tuesday, February 23, 2016, 4 pm P.S.T.
• Applicants must submit their complete application in PDF format by the deadline to humanrightsfellows@gmail.com. The letters of recommendation must be sent by the deadline directly by the recommenders to humanrightsfellows@gmail.com. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
• Applicants will be notified by mid-March 2016.

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’s CPHS website. IRB review can be a very lengthy process. We encourage applicants to start the process as soon as possible.
Name___________________________________________________________

Home address____________________________________________________

Gender ____________________

Phone #_____________________ Skype ID _____________________________

Email 1:_____________________ Email 2: _____________________________

Student ID #_________________ Date of Birth________________________

How did you hear about the fellowship? ______________________________

Have you applied for this fellowship before? __________________________

Are you receiving other funding for this project? ______________________

Name and amount of funding: ________________________________________

Are you applying for the Mesa Refuge Collaborative Residency? Y/N

Student Status: Undergrad____ Grad____ Year____ Campus_______________

School/Depart./Major_______________________________________________

Faculty Advisor___________________________________________________

Letters of recommendation will be sent by:

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

Proposed start-date (MM/DD) _____________

Proposed end-date (MM/DD) _______________

Percentage of time each week you will be working with the organization ____________

Partner organization ________________________________________________

Contact person’s name and title _________________________________________

Address________________________________________________________________

Phone # / Email Address_______________________________________________
Please read, initial and sign below and turn in with your completed application.

Application Materials
I have included the following in my application (initial in box):

☐ Cover sheet
☐ Resume/CV
☐ Statement of purpose
☐ Letter of support from partner organization
☐ First recommendation letter (faculty)
☐ Second recommendation letter (faculty or work colleague)

Fellowship Requirements
☐ I understand that fundamental changes to accepted proposals (e.g., different human rights topic, new partner organization, alternate location) are not permitted.
☐ I agree to:
  • Attend an orientation to prepare for summer fieldwork (April 18, 2016)*
  • Submit an informal mid-term report from the field (July/August 2016)
  • Attend an informal get together upon return from the field (September 19, 2016)*
  • Present at a formal conference held during the fall semester (November 4, 2016)*
  • Submit a final project (publishable op-ed, news piece, or video) (on or before November 4, 2016)

* Attendance is required at these events in person.
☐ I understand that fellows are expected to complete all assignments on time and participate in all fellowship events in person. Events will take place at UC Berkeley.
☐ I certify that I will spend at least 6-8 weeks working with my partner organization.
☐ I certify that, if my project requires travel, I am able to travel alone and this project is not dependent upon a travel partner.

Signature________________________________________________________
Printed Name___________________________________________________
Date___________________________________________________________