



USC URBAN INITIATIVE

Dissertation Research Grants Competition

Urban Initiative

Jack H. Knott
Dean
School of Policy,
Planning and
Development

Joseph Aoun
Dean
USC College

Geoffrey Cowan
Dean
Annenberg School for
Communication

Gerald C. Davison
Dean
School of Architecture

Marilyn Flynn
Dean
School of Social Work

**Karen Symms
Gallagher**
Dean
Rossier School of
Education

Yash Gupta
Dean
Marshall School of
Business

Howard Gillman
Assoc. Vice Provost

Martin L. Levine
Vice Provost

Harold C. Slavkin
Dean
School of Dentistry

Pete Vanderveen
Dean
School of Pharmacy

**Carolyn Webb de
Macias**
Vice President
External Relations

Urban and Global Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Dissertation Grants

The **USC Urban Initiative** administers a program of dissertation fellowships for students working toward a Ph.D. at USC who are planning a career in university teaching and research. Although the application deadline is March 1, 2006, applications will be accepted as early as January 10, 2006. USC academic units will be notified of the outcome of their students' applications by the Urban Deans' Council as soon as possible but no earlier than April 4th.

Eight awards are available to students who have successfully passed their qualifying exam and are pursuing a dissertation that brings applied interdisciplinary urban research to bear on difficult questions to inform problem formulation, analysis and policy recommendations (see the Urban Initiative values at www.usc.edu/urban).

Eligibility

Consideration for a fellowship administered through the Urban Initiative is contingent upon: (1) enrollment in a university Ph.D. program, (2) successful completion of the qualifying examination prior to application, and (3) nomination by both the department and the school dean.

Amount of the Award

The Urban and Global Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Dissertation Fellowships will provide students with a research account of up to \$10,000 over the 2006 summer, 2006 fall and 2007 spring semesters.

Eligible and Ineligible Expenses

Funds may be used only for research expenses. Funds may not be used for personal expenses unless so designated for the duration of research-related travel.

Application Process

Deadline: March 1, 2006

A complete fellowship application includes the items listed below and must be sent directly to the USC academic department in which the student is enrolled:

1. a completed and signed USC Graduate School Fellowship Application form (excluding questions 17 and 18).
2. the date applicant passed the qualifying examination
3. a two-page description of (1) how the fellowship will assist in timely completion of the dissertation research and analysis and (2) a statement of the interdisciplinary nature of the dissertation research and its relation to urban and global problems, so as to inform problem formulation, analysis and policy recommendations. Responses may not exceed a total of two pages and must be printed in 12 point font or larger with one inch margins. Applications that do not follow these guidelines will not be considered.
4. projected date of dissertation completion and the percent of the student's time being spent on dissertation research.

5. three academic letters of recommendation (photocopies of letters already on file are acceptable), preferably from more than one school or department so to reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the research.
6. a detailed line-item budget with justification. The budget and justification must be printed in 12 point font or larger with one inch margins and may not exceed one page in length.

Please note that copies of documents (letters of recommendation) obtained from an applicant's admission file or from the academic unit are acceptable for the fellowship application. It is the applicant's responsibility to request such documents from the academic unit and receive assurance of their inclusion in his or her fellowship application. Take care to address application documents as instructed, because items sent to the wrong address will be delayed and may miss important deadlines. Incomplete files will not be considered for fellowships. Inquiries about the status of an application should be directed to the academic department assembling the application file. The appropriate academic department will be notified of the outcome of the student's application by the Urban Deans' Council as soon as possible and no later than March 1.

All applications require nomination by both the department and the school dean. **It is each school's or department's responsibility to submit the application on behalf of the applicant to the Urban Initiative by the March 1, 2006 deadline.**

Departments or Schools can direct questions to:

Richard Parks, Program Manager
(213) 740-8181
richard@usc.edu

Madeleine Stoner, Faculty Chair
(213) 740-0290
mstoner@usc.edu

Completed application files should be delivered to the USC Urban Initiative, WPH 604, MC 4036 by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, 2006.