

Newsletter 07-08/2003

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GRANT ADMINISTRATION/ AUGUST 15 NSF DEADLINE

If you are planning on submitting an application to NSF for the August 15th deadline, please contact Kristin Murphy (km632@columbia.edu) as soon as possible, if you have not done so already, so that she can ensure that all proposals receive the appropriate assistance and review.

Please visit the Research Development Office's new website for information on grant development and administration services at ISERP, including grant seeking support, proposal submission, grant administration and human subjects assistance. On the site you will also find useful tools for proposal development including a budget worksheet and tips on NSF Fastlane submissions. If you have any questions or comments, please send them to Kristin Murphy (km632@columbia.edu).

http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/services/services/research_development.html

Also, please note that all new human subjects protocols must now be submitted through RASCAL, Columbia's on-line grants processing system. To arrange RASCAL training sessions for departments or individuals, call the RASCAL Help Line at (212)870-3480. For more information about RASCAL, please visit <https://www.rascal.columbia.edu>.

NEW GRANTS

Rodolfo de la Garza

Remittances: Tools for family maintenance or economic development: The Mexican and Colombian Cases

The Tomas Rivera Policy Institute

In conjunction with the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, Rodolfo de la Garza, will conduct a survey to gauge the remittance behavior of U.S. Latino immigrants. The sample will include Mexican, Guatemalan, Colombian, Salvadoran, and Dominican immigrants from regions such as New York, Los Angeles, Houston and Dallas. The study will also incorporate site visits to specific communities in Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Colombia and the Dominican Republic to determine the extent to which remittances are being used for developmental projects and to assess the success of such efforts.

Robert Shapiro (PI), Jason Dempsey (Co-PI)

Military Partisanship and Latino Attitudes Towards Military Service

The Tomas Rivera Policy Institute

Robert Shapiro and Jason Dempsey will study the social and political attitudes, along with participatory and professional experiences of Latinos in the United States Armed Forces. Specifically, the project will involve the collection and analysis of data from a survey of enlisted personnel and officers of the United States Army.

Sudhir Venkatesh

The Robert Taylor Relocation Study

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

In continuation of a study begun in 2001, Sudhir Venkatesh will follow a sample of 400 individuals who had to relocate from Chicago's Robert Taylor Homes public housing development. Through ethnographic observation, interviews, network analysis, and social surveys, Venkatesh explores how families fared during the period of building closure and how the social relations in the buildings affected their ability to leave and then enter private-market housing.

Sudhir Venkatesh

Public Housing Transformation in Chicago

The Rockefeller Foundation

As part of his ongoing research of the transformation of Chicago public housing, Sudhir Venkatesh will present the perspectives of participating households and key community stakeholders in a feature-length film to be released in Fall 2003. The visual documentary, entitled "Dislocation," examines the last six months of one Chicago public housing community.

Duncan Watts (PI), Peter Dodds (Co-PI)
The Structure and Function of Social Networks
James S. McDonnell Foundation

Duncan Watts and Peter Dodds will conduct a three-part investigation of the structure and function of large-scale social networks. Using theoretical, observational, and experimental models, the research will draw on analytical techniques from physics, mathematics, sociology, and computer science. Through this multidisciplinary approach, the project will propose realistic models of social networks, from which predictions and policy recommendations can be made on pressing social issues such as the spread of social influences and infectious diseases, and the structure and distribution of social capital.

Elke Weber
Attitude Scale
Canadian Public Works and Government Services

Elke Weber's research will delineate specific individual and situational differences that influence risky behaviors in a military setting, their impact on the nature and quality of military decisions, and the impact of such decisions on the people who make them. In particular, she will conduct a series of studies to examine the role of risk attitudes in decision-making, coping, and cooperative behaviors, as measured by a Risk-Attitude Scale (Weber et al. 2002).

SEED GRANTS

ISERP's Seed Grant program supports the initial stages of new social science research projects, with a special emphasis on innovative, interdisciplinary, and collaborative research.

The next deadline for new Seed Grant proposals is October 15, 2003. For more details, please visit: http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/initiatives/seed_grants/grant_program.html

NEW STAFF

This June, ISERP welcomed Research Coordinator, Elyse Cowgill. A 2001 Columbia graduate, Elyse works with the Health and Society Scholars Program at Columbia University, assisting with the research and preparation of grant proposals.

VISITING RESEARCHERS

This month, ISERP welcomes:

Ray-May Hsung, a Professor of Sociology at Tunghai University in Taiwan, will conduct research on social networks and organizational innovation for a project sponsored by the National Science Council in Taiwan. Hsung has also received funding to study topics including the job market in higher education, knowledge-based economy, and human resource management.

Mattias Smangs, a Ph.D. student in Sociology at Stockholm University, has received funding to study abroad from the Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education (STINT). Smangs' most recent research includes studies of Swedish business groups and networks at the end of the 20th Century.

Yuko Takubo is a lecturer at the College of Environment and Disaster Research at Fuji Tokoha

University in Japan. She has been awarded a Fulbright grant for her proposed project: "The Impact and Outcome of Contentious Politics at the Local, National and International Level, With Special Reference to the Environment and Globalization."

HEALTH & SOCIETY SCHOLARS PROGRAM - SEED GRANTS/MICROGRANTS

To promote new population health research at Columbia, the Health and Society Scholar's Program sponsors two internal grant competitions. The Seed Grant and Microgrant Programs are intended to support projects with innovative approaches in population health, which provide opportunities for Scholar training and investigation, and build connections between public health and the social sciences. All H&SS affiliate faculty and Scholars are eligible to apply.

For more details about applying, please visit: <http://www.chssp.columbia.edu/content.asp?cid=9>