

Call for Proposals: Human Security Research Fellowships

The Center for Unconventional Security Affairs (CUSA) is pleased to announce a call for proposals for two research fellowships: (1) The Heather Mills Graduate Fellowship in Human Security, and (2) The Coalition Advocating Human Security Fellowships in Human Security. These fellowships are intended to support research on human security issues, including topics such as human rights, sustainable development, development of alternative energy sources and pro-poor technologies, medical and public health interventions, environmental change, peace building and conflict resolution. We especially encourage applications in fields of medicine, the natural sciences, engineering, and information technology whose work has applicability to reducing human insecurity. **Application Deadline: Monday, February 1, 2010 by 5:00 pm.**

The Heather Mills Graduate Fellowship

The Heather Mills Graduate Fellowship in Human Security was established in 2004 in honor of the significant contributions to human security issues made by Heather Mills an internationally renowned activist who has campaigned for over a decade to raise funds and awareness to rid the world of Landmines. Heather is a United Nations Goodwill ambassador whose work earned her a 1996 Nobel Peace Prize nomination. This fellowship will allow graduate students to undertake original research on pressing human security issues.



Crystal Murphy Morgan, winner of the 2009 Heather Mills Graduate Fellowship in Human Security, with CUSA Director Richard Matthew and 2009 Human Security Award winners Mark Johnson and Whitney Burditt.

Coalition Advocating Human Security Fellowship

In 2005, CUSA formed a partnership with members of the Orange County community to create the Coalition Advocating Human Security (CAHS) to raise awareness about human insecurity and support research and education on threats to human security and strategies to protect and empower the most vulnerable individuals and communities in our world. In 2005, CAHS created two graduate fellowships to provide support to UCI graduate students researching human security issues.

What is Human Security?

The concept of human security received its most familiar definition by the United Nations Development Program. "Security has for too long been interpreted narrowly: as security of territory... or as protection of national interests... or as global security from the threat of nuclear holocaust.... Forgotten were the legitimate concerns of ordinary people who sought security in their daily lives." UNDP suggests "human security" as a concept that can recover the earlier on-the-ground focus of the state's security practices. Human security can be said to have two main aspects. It means, first, safety from such chronic threats as hunger, disease and repression. And second, it means protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life.

Application Process

Application for these fellowships is open to all UCI graduate students (including full time masters and doctoral students, medical students, and postdoctoral scholars). While all UCI graduate students are eligible for these fellowships, preference will be given to students who will have advanced to candidacy prior to using fellowship funds. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that they are eligible to receive fellowship funds. Preference in funding will be given to students and postdoctoral scholars who have not received funding in previous years. Awards typically range from \$2,500 to \$5,000.

Applications should include a Curriculum Vitae, a letter of support by a faculty advisor and a Research Proposal of no more than three single spaced pages that details how the applicant will undertake original research on a pressing human security challenge. This proposal should include a description of the research activity and methods, and provide a simple budget detailing how the fellowship funds will be used to support the project.

Applications should be sent to Richard Matthew, Director of the Center for Unconventional Security Affairs, at cusa@uci.edu no later than **5:00 pm on Monday, February 1, 2010**. The fellows will be chosen by a committee of CUSA Affiliates and external reviewers and announced during Spring Quarter 2010. Fellowship funds will be available for use during Summer 2010.

About the Center for Unconventional Security Affairs

The Center for Unconventional Security Affairs (CUSA) was established in 2003 at the University of California, Irvine as the innovative hub of a global research network that studies and develops solutions to unconventional security challenges through practical research on sustainability and global change. CUSA undertakes interdisciplinary research to understand and develop solutions to challenges such as the human dimensions of climate change; the links between environment, conflict, and peace; global terrorist networks; and transnational threats to health and food security. CUSA's education programs prepare the next generation of leaders and researchers and our public service activities enhance awareness, preparedness and response to help policymakers and community address emerging security challenges that impact our families, communities, and our nation. More information about CUSA, the fellowships, and past winners is available at: <http://www.cusa.uci.edu/programs/fellowships.html>