



WEST AFRICAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

WARA Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Competition 2011

Applications are invited from graduate students for WARA Pre-Doctoral Fellowships, for research in West Africa during the summer of 2011. Awardees will conduct research for a 2 to 3 month period in order to 1) prepare a doctoral research proposal; or 2) carry out research related to the completion of another terminal degree program (e.g. MFA or MPH). Funded through the bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. State Department, 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, exams, etc. 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.

A complete application must include the following (one original and three copies of all materials—4 sets total, except for letters of reference):

- A WARA grant application cover sheet (downloadable from the WARA website)
- A 50-80 word abstract of the proposed research project
- An essay (6 double-spaced pages maximum) 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 one-page bibliography relevant to the proposal may also be attached
- An itemized budget including costs for
 - Housing
 - Food
 - Travel
 - fees
 - Equipment
 - Printing/photocopying
 - Institutional affiliation
- Name and email address of faculty who will help facilitate your research
- Three (3) letters of reference by professors (to be included in the application packet in envelopes sealed and signed by the referee). Letters of reference sent separately will not be considered.
- Curriculum vitae
- Both undergraduate and graduate transcripts (copies of official ones are acceptable)

Complete applications will consist of one original and three copies of all materials (4 sets total) except letters of reference. Letters should be included in the application packet in envelopes sealed and signed by the referee. Letters of reference sent separately will not be considered. An excellent source of suggestions for preparing your application can be found on the SSRC website at http://fellowships.ssrc.org/art_of_writing_proposals/

ALL MATERIALS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 15, 2011.

Please direct inquiries and submit applications to:

WARA - African Studies Center
Boston University
270 Bay State Road
Boston MA 02215

Tel: 617-353-8902
Fax: 617-353-4975
Email: wara@bu.edu