



CENTER FOR COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT

Community-Based Research Program Student Fellowships

APPLICATION

Deadline: rolling

Award Amount: \$2,500

Overview

The Center for Community Research and Engagement is pleased to announce fellowships for upper level undergraduate and graduate students in the area of community-based research. A stipend of \$2,500 will be awarded to students to develop and conduct community-based research projects. Projects may be undertaken in the summer or during the academic year and must be conducted under the direction of a faculty advisor.

What is Community-Based Research?

Community-based research (CBR) is public scholarship – rigorous research as a form of service to the public good (*Peer Review*, Winter 2006). This type of research involves scholarly engagement in the community that is aggressively linked with learning and service. Community-based research responds to community-defined needs and issues with current knowledge and plans for action. The scholarship of engagement suggests an interactive university, one that collaborates, partners and identifies with the communities in its region. The 'metropolitan university' recognizes its responsibility to the community, contributes to the development and vitality of its environs, and applies scholarly theory and experience to develop creative solutions to community problems.

The Center for Community Research and Engagement (CCRE, formerly Institute for Service Learning) was created in 1997 to support the activities of Seton Hall University, as it implements service learning on campus. The mission of CCRE is to develop partnerships that integrate Seton Hall University faculty, students, and our neighboring communities through applied research, active learning, and action projects, aimed at enhancing both the learning environment and community capacity. Through the development of new programs, particularly the Community-Based Research Fellowships, CCRE is expanding opportunities for faculty and students to connect their scholarly research interests with community engagement. The Fellowship Program aims to build a community of faculty and students committed to service, social justice and scholarship as a tool to meet community needs.

Eligibility

Full-time upper level undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to apply. Students must have a GPA of 3.2 or above. Applicants must undertake a significant project of at least 10 weeks in length.

Criteria

Proposals are encouraged from all full-time students who wish to participate in community-based research. Applications must demonstrate a strong interest in working with a community organization at the local, national or international level and helping to build the capacity of that community to meet community-defined goals.

Proposal narratives should include a clear, complete description of the proposed project, method of inquiry, and expected outcome.

- **Objective(s) or Purpose(s)**: Briefly describe the problem under investigation as identified with a community agency partner. Project ideas should be realistic, effective, and meet a clearly defined community need. Include a clear statement of the research hypothesis and its relevance to the topic under investigation.
- **Methodology**: Provide a description of procedures for conducting the community-based study and include a timeline to achieve the objective(s).
- **Anticipated Results**: Describe the importance and significance of the results of findings that are likely from the research. In addition to the importance of this research for the scholarly discipline or field of study, discuss proposed application/use by community agency partner.
- **Dissemination of Findings**: Outline plans for publication and presentation of results upon completion of the research project. If possible, be specific concerning in which journals your article(s) are likely to appear, the conference at which you plan to present, or other publications or results of the fellowship.

Process

Applications must include the following by **EMAIL**:

1. Complete cover sheet with contact information and brief abstract. The cover sheet must include the name of the faculty advisor. (See attached.)
2. Faculty advisor information sheet. (See attached.)
3. Three-page narrative. The criteria outlined above should be addressed in this section.
4. Letter from the community agency indicating a need for research and a willingness to be a part of the project.
5. Resume.
6. Two letters of recommendation. One may be from the faculty advisor.

All participants must attend a training session with dates to be announced.

Proposal Preparation and Support

Please submit completed applications to:

Saul Petersen, Center for Community Research and Engagement,
Political Science Dept., Jubilee 513 or peterssa@shu.edu

Center for Community Research and Engagement

Student Community-Based Research Fellowship

FACULTY ADVISOR INFORMATION SHEET

Name: _____
Department: _____
Email address: _____ Telephone: _____
Student Applicant Name: _____
Project Title: _____
Semester research will be conducted: _____

I agree to oversee the community-based research study entitled (project title) _____, proposed by (student applicant) _____, during (semester) _____. I agree to provide guidance on the research design and methodology, analysis of results and dissemination of findings. I understand I will receive a \$500 stipend for my role as faculty advisor for this community-based research project.