

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT (ISCE)

Senior Fellowship Program

2012-2015

The ISCE Senior Fellowship Program is designed to support faculty who are pursuing an innovative research agenda that has strong potential for significant future funding from government agencies, corporations, industrial consortia, or foundations. The program provides an opportunity for faculty to prepare to lead a project by developing new expertise in a research area or further developing an existing area of research. This mechanism does not support preliminary research studies per se; rather, buy-out funds for one semester (two courses) will be provided to facilitate research development and training activities.

Eligibility

This program is open to tenured faculty members at Virginia Tech. Priority will be given to applicants in the colleges represented by the ISCE stakeholders (Liberal Arts and Human Sciences [LAHS], College of Science [COS], Pamplin College of Business [PCB], Architecture and Urban Studies [CAUS]), as well as core members of ISCE supported/associated centers.

Funding Availability

Two or three fellowships will be available during each academic year through 2015 (contingent upon funding). Fellowship awards include funds for course buy-outs in the amount required by the applicant's department to secure teaching replacements. In addition, up to \$5,000 can be requested for development activities such as registration/travel to trainings or workshops to enhance research skills (not conference attendance), student assistant time, outside consultants, and the like. Office space for one fellow can be made available at the new Virginia Tech Research Center in Arlington during the fellowship semester. The Research Center is located a short distance from many of the leading science and research agencies of the federal government and provides ready access to many other resources in the Washington, DC area.

Application Guidelines

Applications must include: (a) signed cover sheet, including documentation from the department head/chair regarding internal buy-out policy (attached); (b) brief biosketch (2-3 pages) emphasizing the applicant's most recent five years of research/scholarly activity, as well as a listing of internal/external awards pending or secured during the last five years; and (c) proposal narrative of up to four pages addressing:

1. Specific goals for the fellowship
2. Activities for the fellowship
 - a. Description of area of interest and relevant prior work, and how an ISCE senior fellow experience could transform your research or scholarship
 - b. Specific work plan for the award period, including milestones and timeline
 - c. Detailed description of how the fellowship fits into overall career goals and plans, including identification of potential collaborators (describe skills/content area if specific person or persons have yet to be identified), and how this work will culminate in an external grant proposal
3. Funding needs (itemized budget with justification)

Fellowship proposals from two individuals requesting to work together during the fellowship time will be considered. Please submit separate proposals, highlighting both individual and collaborative activities and mark "joint application" on the cover sheet.

Submission Requirements and Deadline

Applications are currently being accepted for Spring 2012 and Fall 2012.

Applications are to be prepared using 1-inch margins and Arial 11 font. Submit 1 paper copy and an e-copy of the complete application and signed coversheet to Ms. Carlene Arthur at ISCE (237 Wallace Hall [0426]; carthur@vt.edu). **Applications for Spring 2012 are due by Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.** For Fall 2012, applications will be due by Wednesday, February 15, 2012 by 5:00 p.m.

Notification of Award/Availability of Funds

Proposals will be judged in terms of scholarly merit, clarity of goals and activities, and the potential for integrating existing areas of research or defining and elucidating new areas for interdisciplinary research within the realm of ISCE's broad focal area of social and individual transformation (see www.isce.vt.edu).

If selected as a finalist, applicants may be asked to meet with a review committee for a brief interview about the proposed activities and anticipated outcomes of the fellowship.

Notification of finalists for Spring 2012 will be made by late October. Notification of finalists for Fall 2012 will be made in late February. Funds will be dispersed at the beginning of the Fellowship semester and must be expended during that period.

Expectations

Faculty members selected for an ISCE Senior Fellowship are expected to devote significant time to the approved activity plan during that semester. Senior fellows will remain in residence at the University and receive their current salary. Recipients of fellowships should acknowledge ISCE's support on any research and scholarly presentations and publications that result from their time as a Senior Fellow of the Institute. Fellows are required to meet with the ISCE director (or her designee) periodically during the fellowship semester and provide a brief report within 30 days of the end of the fellowship semester, highlighting progress made and the plan and timeline for submission of an external grant proposal.

Questions

Please contact:

Karen A. Roberto, Director
Institute for Society, Culture and Environment
540-231-7657 or kroberto@vt.edu

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT Senior Fellowship Application Cover Sheet (please print or type)		Leave blank-for internal use only
Name:	Campus Address:	
Rank/Title:	Email Address:	
College:	Telephone Number:	
Department:	Fax Number:	
One sentence description of the goal of the fellowship:		
Support requested for: <input type="checkbox"/> Spring 2012 <input type="checkbox"/> Fall 2012	Total Amount Requested:	
	Joint Proposal: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Name of co-applicant:	
Signature of Principal Investigator		Date
When relying on internal funds, the cost of release time to allow faculty members in my department to pursue research/scholarly activities ranges from: \$ to \$ per course. The department is willing to accept funds within this range should the applicant receive the fellowship.		
Name of Department Head/Chair (print)	Signature	Date