

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN RACE AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

OVERVIEW

The Center on Research and Social Problems in the School of Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh is accepting applications for Postdoctoral Fellows for the September 2013 – August 2014 academic year, with the possibility of renewal for one additional year.

The Fellowship is designed to support early career scholars in their development of high impact research that advances the understanding of the influence of race, color, and ethnicity on the quality of life for all Americans. Fellowships are designed to foster the academic careers of scholars who have recently received their Ph.D. degrees by permitting them to pursue their research while gaining mentored experience in the Center for Race and Social Problems.

The Center focuses on race-related social problems in the following seven areas:

- Economic Disparities
- Educational Disparities
- Health
- Interracial Group Relations
- Mental Health
- Youth, Families, and the Elderly
- Criminal Justice

Each fellow will work closely with a University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work scholar working in their area of interest. Fellows may be mentored in any of the focus areas. Co-mentors from related disciplines across the University of Pittsburgh who contribute to the Center may also be involved. Fellows will be required to teach one course per year or to serve as a teaching assistant.

Options for targeted coursework to enhance the Fellow's research agenda and skills can be included in an individualized program. Fellows will be encouraged to take part in Center's and the School's lecture series, and the many relevant cross-departmental colloquia presented at the University of Pittsburgh.

ELIGIBILITY

We invite applications from qualified candidates in social work, public health, sociology, psychology or other related social science discipline, who have received their PhD from outside the University of Pittsburgh (preferred). Applicants for the 2013-2014 Fellowships must have completed a Ph.D. no earlier than January 1, 2011. Candidates who do not yet hold a Ph.D. but expect to by June 30, 2013 should supply a letter from their home institution corroborating such a schedule.

CONDITIONS

Accepted fellows must be in residence full-time at the University of Pittsburgh for the duration of the award period, and must participate in the School's activities. Fellows may not hold other fellowship awards at the same time. In addition to working on their research project, fellows are expected to teach a course for the School during the fall and spring terms and to give a lecture from which a working paper may be produced.

The University of Pittsburgh is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educator. Women, minorities, and international candidates are especially encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications must be submitted online. Candidates should submit a cover letter, CV, a personal statement, and a writing sample. Personal statements must be 2000 words or less, and should outline the candidate's completed research (including dissertation), work in progress, plans for publication and professional goals. Depending on the candidate's interests, the personal statement may also outline goals for training and teaching to be pursued during the fellowship. Training and teaching interests, if included, should be part of a clear plan for academic development.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Application Deadline: February 15, 2013
Decisions will be made by: April 30, 2013.

Please send three confidential letters of reference to:

Catherine Greeno, Associate Dean for Research
University of Pittsburgh
School of Social Work
2117 Cathedral of Learning
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
412-624-5292
kgreeno@pitt.edu

STIPEND AND TUITION SCHOLARSHIP

The stipend for the twelve-month period is \$45,000. An additional \$5,000 will be provided for research, relocation, travel, and other related expenses. Health insurance coverage will be available during the 12-month appointment period.

CONTACT US

Catherine Greeno

Associate Professor, School of Social Work
Associate Dean for Research
412-624-5292
kgreeno@pitt.edu

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

The University is committed to ensuring that all postdoctoral appointees have access to a comprehensive health care plan for themselves and their families. PDAs and PDSs who receive full-time or fractional appointments are eligible to participate in the University's health insurance plan for faculty and staff. The University will provide individual coverage at an assigned cost to the individual. Family coverage (for spouses and dependent children) is available by paying the supplemental premium per University guidelines. To enroll in the individual or family plan, the PDA/PDS must complete an enrollment form. PDA/PDSs who participate in the University health insurance plan may elect to purchase optional dental and vision coverage. As non-employees, the value of the Postdoctoral Scholars' University contribution to health insurance is subject to IRS reporting as imputed income.

ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, COMPUTING AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The University photo I.D. card issued to all PDA/PDSs guarantees access to the University libraries and recreational facilities on the same basis as faculty members and staff. They will also receive e-mail accounts and access to the University's computing and network services. In accordance with the University's current contract with Port Authority Transit of Allegheny County, the University I.D. card can also be used to access PAT bus services in a manner comparable to faculty, staff and students. Vacation/Personal Days/Sick Days/University Holidays and University Holiday Recess A PDA/PDS on a 12-month contract receives 20 compensated days annually that can be used for vacation, personal days, brief sick day periods, and University-wide holidays and the Holidays recess. Other than sick days, University holidays and the Holiday recess, these compensated days must be taken at times that are approved by the faculty mentor. More protracted illnesses are covered by the medical leave provision outlined in the next section.

LEAVES UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (FML)

The University provides for family and medical leaves in accordance with the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). A government notice that fully explains employee rights and responsibilities under the FMLA is included in Appendix B to these Guidelines. In brief, PDA/PDSs who have worked for the University for at least 12 months and for a minimum of 1,250 hours in the preceding 12 months are eligible for a total of 12 weeks per year of unpaid leave for the following reasons: incapacity due to pregnancy, prenatal medical care or child birth, to provide care following the birth or adoption of a child, to care for an immediate family member who has a serious health condition, incapacity due to a serious health condition, and/or to address qualifying exigencies due to an immediate family member's active military duty or call to active duty status. Eligible PDA/PDSs are also entitled to up to 26 weeks of unpaid leave to care for an injured covered service member during a single 12 month period. PDA/PDSs are subject to the same FMLA policy and procedure as regular University staff (see Policy 07-07-02, Leave Under the Family and Medical Leave Act for Staff; and Procedure 07-07-02. Additional information on the FMLA is also available online at the United States Department of Labor webpage. Certain funding agencies may provide paid sick days for PDSs on an annual basis.

RETIREMENT PLAN PARTICIPATION

Effective July 1, 2005, newly appointed Postdoctoral Associates will not be eligible for the University's 401(a) matching contribution plan but continue to have the option of placing pre-tax contributions in the University's 403(b) tax-deferred savings plan with either TIAA-CREF or Vanguard. A new option, known as the Roth after-tax 403(b) option, is available effective October 1, 2008, to members of the University community whose appointments allow them to elect pre-federal tax deferred contributions to TIAA CREF and/or Vanguard. The tax implications of choosing one of these options should be explored with a personal tax advisor or investment counselor.

FAMILY TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS

Postdoctoral Associates and Postdoctoral Scholars and their families are eligible to participate in the University's tuition scholarship program. As is the case for faculty and staff, the value of tuition scholarships is subject to IRS reporting as imputed income. (Information on this program is available online.)