

## **CALL FOR RESEARCH CIRCLE PROPOSALS**

### **Research Circles—up to two awards annually**

The International Institute, with generous support from the Division of International Studies and Global Studies, announces a competition for Research Circles in International Studies. Individuals and groups are invited to submit proposals indicating their interest in the Research Circle initiative.

Research Circles bring together scholars from several disciplines working on broad thematic issues of contemporary and historical concern with special emphasis on topics that encourage trans-area studies and collaboration among International Institute member programs. These initiatives may take various forms and include a combination of activities, including: lectures, thematic workshops, conferences, film series, graduate seminars, research publications, and visiting scholars. Proposals indicating potential for future extramural grants will be given priority. Please note that the Research Circle competition is not intended to provide institutional funding for existing or proposed centers.

Research Circles will be funded for three years. The maximum total grant per proposal will be \$64,000 with an approximate division of up to \$16,000 in the first year, up to \$32,000 in the second year and up to \$16,000 in the third year. Global Studies will serve as the administrator of the Research Circles unless a specific request is made otherwise.

Please note that applicants can apply as the leader or co-leader of one Research Circle. It is unlikely that the committee will fund two circles that involve similar participants. Applicants to the Research Circle competition may apply for one International Institute Seminar Series as well.

### **How will proposals be evaluated and selected?**

A four-member faculty review committee will review and recommend to the director the most promising proposals. Three members will be nominated by the International Institute Strategic Planning Committee and approved by the International Institute Academic Planning Council. The Associate Dean of the Division International Studies will serve as the fourth member of the committee. Faculty serving in leadership roles in Research Circle applications may not serve on the committee. In evaluating pre-proposals and final submissions, the faculty review committee will consider such factors:

- The importance and originality of the topic and expected outcome of the project
- The interdisciplinary makeup of the initiative leaders and efforts to cross disciplinary boundaries
- The extent to which the initiative has the potential to attract extramural support
- The extent to which the initiative will support or enhance graduate student training
- The potential to link UW faculty and students to counterparts elsewhere, particularly overseas
- The degree to which proposals reflect an interest in involving both junior and senior faculty, as well as graduate students
- Coherence of the proposed activities and overall academic excellence of the proposal

A two-part application process will take place. Pre-proposals will be due on December 4, 2009. Decisions as to this phase of the competition will be announced by January 15, 2010. Applicants selected by the committee to continue will be invited to submit full length proposals by February 26, 2010. Research Circle activities may start after July 1, 2010. Annual activities must be completed by June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year of the award.

### **What should be included in the pre-proposal?**

Please include the following information in no more than 1200 words:

- A cover sheet with name of faculty leader or co-leaders of project; departmental affiliation; contact information; project title; Institute program affiliation(s)
- Names and qualifications of at least two initiative faculty leaders
- Theme to be explored and its significance
- Possible activities of project and expected outcome in terms of publications, courses, curriculum initiative, external grant, etc.
- Names of participants on campus
- Names of partners at other institutions in the U.S. and overseas
- Information on other possible sources of funding, intramural and extramural
- Indication that support for the Research Circle was received from at least two sponsoring Institute programs.

### **What should be included in the full proposal?**

Those selected to submit a full proposal should expand the pre-proposal requirements and include a full budget in no more than 3000 words.

- Preliminary budget (see financial guidelines)
  - Year 1: Preparation: build goals, strategy, and create group identity
  - Year 2: Performance: events, lectures, and/or conferences
  - Year 3: Follow-up: grant proposal, publication support

### **Where should the proposal be submitted?**

Please submit pre-proposals electronically to Associate Dean Guido Podesta's Project Assistant at [academicspa@international.wisc.edu](mailto:academicspa@international.wisc.edu) no later than 4 pm on December 4, 2009. Full length proposals are due by 4 pm on February 26, 2010. **If you do not receive confirmation of receipt within 48 hours, please call 265-8168.**

