The Center for the Human Rights of Children

Faculty Fellowship Proposal 2016-17

Application Information

The Center for the Human Rights of Children (CHRC) is pleased to announce a call for proposals for 2016-17 Faculty Fellows. Loyola faculty members are invited to apply for a maximum of three Faculty Fellowships of $5,000 (pre-tax) each that supports the CHRC’s mission. Read more about the CHRC here: www.LUC.edu/chrc

Background

Recognizing that children require special protections, the Center for the Human Rights of Children pursues an agenda of interdisciplinary research, education, and service to address critical and complex issues affecting children and youth, both locally and globally. The Center applies a human rights approach to the problems affecting children, reaffirming the principle of the indivisibility of human rights and the importance of promoting the economic, social, cultural, civil, and political rights of children. Moreover, it does so with respect for the rights and responsibilities of parents, teachers, and other caregivers entrusted with raising children.

The Center has identified the following three categories of local-global contemporary children’s rights issues where we can be most effective in advancing our goals. These singular issues are also often interrelated, and represent areas that build on current Center expertise, programming, and resources:

1. **Child trafficking and exploitation**: human trafficking and exploitation represents one of the most serious assaults on human rights. The crime of compelled labor or services and/or commercial sexual exploitation violates the dignity of body, mind, and spirit. Current efforts to understand and combat human trafficking and exploitation, however, often address survivors as one homogenous group, without recognizing the special needs of children.

2. **The impact of environmental toxins on children’s health**: environmental pollutants and their impacts affect millions of children each year. The costs to the individual of these toxins can be school absenteeism, learning difficulties, academic failures, lack of employment, lifelong health problems, socialization problems, and criminal records. There is a critical need to raise awareness of the linkages between environmental factors and the well-being of children through a human rights framework.

3. **Vulnerable youth navigating systems alone**: currently, there is a humanitarian crisis of unaccompanied children migrating alone to the United States, fleeing violence, abuse, conflict, neglect, and poverty. Relatedly, the effects of climate change, disease, and political conflict have created increasingly larger populations of displaced and orphan children and youth. Such children are often navigating systems and transitioning into adulthood without the proper resources or support, facing immense challenges and risks.
These three categories also represent issues driven by systemic failures. Poverty, violence and displacement from the home - both in the US and internationally - are contributing factors to a rising number of children who are exploited and trafficked. We also know there is an intimate association between the physical world in which children live and the quality of their lives. Their housing, the water that they drink, the air that they breathe, and the quality of their schools and neighborhoods each have an impact on children's health, happiness and long-term development.

**Fellowships**

To promote research, scholarship, and programming to support children’s rights, the Center for the Human Rights of Children is pleased to sponsor three Faculty Fellowships for 2016-2017. The fellowships are designed to support projects addressing 1) Child trafficking and exploitation, 2) The impact of environmental toxins on children's health, or 3) Vulnerable youth navigating systems alone. Projects can fall under the following categories of work products: 1) Applied Research and Scholarship, 2) Education and Outreach, or 3) Advocacy.

Examples of work products include publication in scholarly journals, white papers, a series of policy briefs, education or outreach programs, translational or applied research to support advocacy efforts, an advocacy campaign, or augmentation or enhancement of an existing project that meets the criteria above.

Interdisciplinary projects are encouraged, but not required.

**Faculty Fellow Meetings**

Fellows will meet twice during the year with the Center for the Human Rights of Children staff to share progress on their research. At the end of the semester, or the first part of the following semester, CHRC Faculty Fellows may be asked to formally present their projects and reflect on their relevancy to the Center and to Loyola’s social justice mission.

**Eligibility**

Those who apply must be full-time faculty (non-tenure or tenure track) at Loyola University Chicago's Lake Shore, Water Tower, or Maywood campuses. Endowed professors and other faculty on a 12-month appointment are eligible to apply, but fellowship funding cannot be used for a supplemental stipend. This includes deans, directors, associate deans, and associate directors.

**Deadline:** The deadline to apply is March 15, 2016

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Application Guidelines

How to Apply: Submit a 3-5 page project proposal, detailed 1-2 page budget, department chair/dean approval, and CV to chrc@luc.edu by March 15th, 2016.

A. Project Proposal (3-5 pages)

A project narrative should describe the scope of activity, including the objective(s) of the project, the significance of the project, the methodology or approach to be used, the expected outcomes, and the contribution that a successful project will make to the strategic goals of the Center for the Human Rights of Children. Recommended sections are:

- Objectives
- Methods
- How the proposal supports the mission of the CHRC
- How the proposal advances one of the CHRC’s priority issues/categories;
- New outcomes and work-products developed under the following categories:
  - Applied research and scholarship,
  - Outreach and Education, and/or
  - Advocacy
- Social justice impact – describe the impact of your project as it relates to the CHRC and LUC’s mission. This can include the impact of your project among relevant stakeholders, the community, other scholars/researchers, children, students, practitioners, advocates, policy makers, and/or others.
- Timeline of activities over twelve months

B. Budget

As an attachment to the application, a 1-2 page project budget must be provided. Funding will be $5,000 (pre-tax) for each fellowship recipient for a twelve month period. Applicants will be notified of the award in June 2016, with disbursements of funds in July 2016.

Allowable Expenses

Funds may be requested for such items as payment to research assistants (i.e., students – undergraduate must be full-time at Loyola University Chicago), supplies, equipment/instruments, software, and travel necessary to conduct research. Computers are not supported by these funds because of the university computer replacement (UCR) policy.

C. Current Curriculum Vitae

As an attachment to the application cover sheet, the current curriculum vitae of the faculty researcher(s) must be provided.
D. Signature of Applicant(s) and Department Chair
   All applications must include an approval of the Dean or Department Chair.

E. Compliance Issues
   Applicants are reminded that all projects involving human subjects, bio-hazardous materials, radiation, or the use of live vertebrate animals require approval by the appropriate compliance committee before funds are awarded and the research can begin. Please review the Office of Research Services homepage: www.luc.edu/ors/index.shtml for more details. You will be required to provide a copy of your approval notification or protocol number for approved projects.

F. Review
   Applications will be reviewed by an interdisciplinary Advisory Committee designated by the CHRC.

Questions?

Please contact:
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