



NCID Center Fellows

University of Michigan

Application Deadline: Wednesday, April 1, 2009

3338 School of Education Building, 610 East University Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1259

(734) 764-6497 / www.ncid.umich.edu

The Opportunity

The National Center for Institutional Diversity invites nominations for its Center Fellows program, which includes Senior Fellows and Community Practitioners. Ideal candidates will collaborate with a U-M colleague on an innovative project that advances the mission of the Center and bears strong potential to become a national exemplar. Candidates must be nominated by a U-M faculty member. Center Fellows may include external partners who have demonstrated exemplary commitment to the NCID mission as policy experts, leaders within major social institutions, artists, grassroots community organizers, or directors of non-profit organizations.

The Center will offer 2 or 3 Center Fellowships annually, of varying lengths depending on the nature of the proposed activity. During the 2009-2010 cycle, fellowships will begin no earlier than the summer of 2009 and end no later than June 30, 2010.

The Mission of the NCID

The National Center for Institutional Diversity represents a strategic commitment by the University of Michigan to address complex diversity issues within higher education and other major social institutions. NCID aims to prepare people for active engagement in a diverse society and works toward building productive as well as inclusive communities at U-M and beyond.

The Center promotes national exemplars of diversity scholarship, multilevel engagement, and innovation by operating as a catalyst, venture fund, incubator, clearinghouse, publisher, and think tank. Strategic partnerships bridge scholarship with social change through engagement at the campus/institutional, local/state, and national/international levels. Core priorities and activities focus on the challenges and opportunities of diversity in the broadest, richest sense—including racial, ethnic, gender, class, geographic, age, cultural, and diversity of viewpoints.

Inspired by the vision of higher education's critical role in promoting knowledge, justice, and opportunity in a diverse democracy and global economy, the Center's national leadership role focuses on several core practices:

1. Investigating the value of diversity through multiple perspectives;
2. Identifying, evaluating, and promoting exemplary educational, institutional, and community practices for pursuing and benefiting from diversity;
3. Cultivating and moderating public and academic discourses on diversity, providing tools to help sustain connections across differences;
4. Anticipating, preparing, and planning for an increasingly diverse and interconnected world.

NCID Core Priorities

In collaboration with both campus and external partners, NCID core priority areas include diversity issues in the following:

- Scholarship and Multilevel Engagement
- Education and Institutional Transformation
- Expressive Culture, the Arts & Media
- Health Disparities and Human Development
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Urban Revitalization and Community Development
- Business, Organizations, and Sustainable Development
- Politics, Public Policy, and Social Justice

NCID Center Fellow Projects

Each Center Fellow will work on a project that contributes to the mission of the NCID. The leadership role may involve expert consultation on an ongoing project, the initial planning of a new project idea, implementation of a project that is already planned, evaluation of a project that is underway, and/or promotion of a practice that increases its impact.

Nominators are encouraged to propose projects that involve faculty members and students, and strengthen university collaborations with external leaders in major social institutions beyond higher education (business, law, K-12 education, public policy, health, the arts, etc.). Illustrative projects span a range of possibilities, all with a common emphasis on innovative activity with national implications:

Longer-term Projects

- Collaborate with NCID staff or faculty members in writing a proposal
- Support NCID work on an ongoing project or strategic planning for core priorities
- Plan and teach a short course for students, faculty members, and/or the public

Shorter-term Projects

- Participate in a conference or specific project-related assignment
- Undertake a brief sabbatical to reflect upon experience through a publication

Requirements

Each Center Fellow and faculty collaborator team is expected to spend time at the NCID during the funding period, and to share their expertise with the Center's leadership team and other university groups.

Nomination Process

Completed proposals should be submitted to NCID via mail. Nomination forms can be downloaded from www.ncid.umich.edu. Each proposal should include:

- A nomination form and letter of nomination delineating why the Center Fellow should be supported by NCID
- A narrative of no more than 3 pages describing:
 - The nature, purpose, and scope of the proposed project
 - A plan for completion of the proposed project
 - Relevance of the project to the Center's mission and core priority areas

The most competitive proposal narratives will incorporate the following elements into the basic parameters:

- Evidence of the project's strong potential for becoming a national exemplar, with emphasis on its innovation, impact, sustainability, and replicability
- Documentation of plans for supplemental support (i.e., campus unit) and/or potential follow-up sources of funding (proposal development for external funding during NCID Fellowship tenure)
- Strategies for promotion, evaluation, and/or measuring the success of the project
- Knowledge of comparable endeavors, literature, and/or networks to build upon
- Feasibility (reasonable timeline with a team well-equipped for success)

The budget may include up to \$15,000 for a long-term project and up to \$5,000 for a short-term project, including honorarium, per diem, and project costs. Each budget will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis.

Letters of Support

To enact its mission, the NCID forms strategic partnerships with University of Michigan schools, colleges, and units and their external partners. It seeks not to fund Center Fellows in isolation, but to support them in partnership with the home units of the U-M faculty collaborators. Accordingly, faculty nominators are highly encouraged to include letters of support from their home units, campus collaborators, and/or external partners.

Administration of Award

Regular university policies and procedures are applicable to the expenditure of funds, and the recipient is responsible for working with the NCID staff to arrange for good stewardship of the funds. Award amounts are final. Each award stipulates an expiration date, after which any balance remaining is returned to NCID. Faculty may not retain the award if they leave the University of Michigan. An interim report will be required within

one year of the initial award, and a final report will be required upon completion of the project. Any changes in budget items or project period must first be approved by NCID.

Eligibility

Continuing instructional faculty, research scientists, librarians, curators, and archivists from the U-M campuses of Ann Arbor, Flint, and Dearborn may nominate Center Fellows.

Inquiries

Please direct questions to Valerie Johnson: vnjohnso@umich.edu or 764-6497.