The Harriman Institute of Columbia University invites applications for two postdoctoral fellowships through its 2013-2014 core project, Learning from Transition: From the Local to the Global. The fellowship is open to scholars conducting research related to the theme who have a demonstrated interest in its application to Eurasia. The fellowship will cover a 9-month period, beginning September 1, 2014, and includes a stipend of $43,000.

About the Core Project

The last 25 years of transition in Eurasia witnessed institutional transformation on a historical scale. New institutions aimed to cement the rule of law, pluralistic democracies and market economies in the region, but hindsight suggests that transition was more complicated. This year’s core project, Learning from Transition, led by Katharina Pistor and David Stark, unpacks assumptions about the path of political, social and economic reforms in the region by critically examining the conditions for scalability and portability of institutions. Can insights from the transition experience in our region be brought to bear on policy and institutional design in other settings? When do local solutions work best? When should we favor international solutions? Why are efforts to reform institutions and policies hard to sustain over space and time? How can local level successes be scaled up? How can diverse stakeholders promote collective goals? We aim to develop insights about these issues especially with reference to expectations, strategies, and preliminary outcomes in other parts of the world that have embarked on similarly ambitious reforms, including East Asia, the Middle East, and Africa.

Requirements

Harriman Institute Core Project fellows will pursue individual research and writing, and participate in the planning of Core Project events with the project director and other Harriman faculty. Each fellow is required to participate in all activities of the Core Project. Fellows are also required to give a brownbag seminar about their research, and to post a related Working Paper to the Harriman Institute website.

Eligibility

We encourage applications from all disciplines.

Fellowships are open to scholars who have received (or will have received) a Ph.D. in a relevant discipline from July 31, 2011 to August 1, 2014 and do not hold a tenure-track position. Recipients must have completed all Ph.D. requirements and have filed the dissertation by August 1, 2014.
Application Process

The following are required from all applicants:

1) A letter of interest, including an individual research plan for the fellowship period
2) A Curriculum Vitae
3) A brief writing sample, such as a journal article or a dissertation chapter.
4) Two letters of recommendation submitted by the recommender to bs18@columbia.edu by January 15 2014.

All application materials (including letters of reference) must be received by the Institute on or before January 15, 2014. All evaluations made in connection with applications received are confidential.

Please send the completed application materials to Harriman Institute c/o Barbara Singleton, in a PDF file to bs18@columbia.edu.

For questions, please contact Ms. Singleton at 212-854-6219

For more information, please visit: www.harriman.columbia.edu.