



## ***Call for Working Group Proposals***

The *Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice* requests proposals from faculty to fund working groups that will meet over the course of one or two semesters, with the possibility of renewing, in order to focus on a question or questions relating to the theory and practice of human rights. The award will consist of a sum of up to \$2,000 per working group.

The goals of the working group program include: identifying and generating sustained attention to critical issues on the leading edge of human rights scholarship; fostering ongoing interaction and intellectual cooperation among affiliated faculty; and encouraging the development of a unique brand of human rights scholarship that is multidisciplinary, critical, theoretically innovative, and empirically and practically informed.

To this end, the working group program will provide logistic support for the sustained study and discussion of specific questions or themes, support the efforts of affiliated faculty to interact with and bring to campus recognized leaders in the field, and encourage students to enter the world of scholarship and research. In the process, we hope the program will add to the Rapoport Center's diversity of intellectual offerings to the general public.

A working group proposal letter should:

- Describe the thematic focus and substantive goals of the proposed Working Group, explain the nature of the activities that it will undertake and set out a schedule.
- Provide a budget for the amount of financial support requested. Possible budget items might include but are not limited to: funds for photocopying reading materials, light meals to accompany meetings, travel expenses and modest honoraria for up to two visiting speakers, funds for exhibition fees of any material to be presented to the group, or research assistance for drafting proposals to seek external funding.
- Identify participants, including: the chair(s) of the group (please include their CVs), two or more affiliated faculty participants, and at least five participants in all from among the University of Texas faculty, law students, graduate students or visitors who would like to participate in the proposed Working Group; the proposal should identify students who have expressed an interest in the

working group, or describe the ways in which the working group will solicit student participation, including by offering course credit for participation;

- Include a plan to share the group's products with the wider University of Texas community (e.g., publicly announcing meetings, agenda, speakers, etc.; making a reading list available on the Rapoport Center web page; establishing a university-based listserv and inviting affiliated faculty to subscribe).

The Rapoport Center will give special consideration to working groups that include prominent and substantive roles for student participants, fit with the Center's overarching academic approach in Human Rights Research, and appear likely to contribute to the ongoing human rights conversation among affiliated faculty or on the UT campus. The Center will also favor groups that appear most likely to lead to concrete academic results (publications, conferences, research projects or outside funding).

All funded working groups must schedule any visiting speakers or conferences through the Rapoport Center's Director. Regardless of approval for funding, scheduling visitors will be contingent on availability of dates in the Center's speaker series. The Center will help to publicize working group meetings through its web-based calendar.

Selected working groups must submit a one-page report three months after their selection, and if funded for two semesters, another at the end of their term. The report should include a brief description of what was accomplished to date, and an account of student participation.

**Stipulations:**

- Multi-year proposals are welcome although funding will be awarded for up to two semesters at a time;
- Funds cannot be used for faculty salaries, fellowships, scholarships, stipends, preparation of manuscripts, travel expenses for attending symposiums (unless associated with conducting research), tuition;
- Proposals may be submitted at any time and will be evaluated by the Grants Committee on a rolling basis;
- Proposals must be submitted electronically to William Chandler at [wchandler@law.utexas.edu](mailto:wchandler@law.utexas.edu).