Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa fellows meeting in Ghana

The Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa program of the Social Science Research Council, launched in 2011, responds to an emerging dilemma within higher education in the global South caused by the extraordinary emphasis on increasing undergraduate enrollment without proportionate investment in faculty development. The program currently operates to strengthen tertiary education in Africa through a series of institutional and individual interventions, creating a pipeline for the development of faculty and research communities working on peace, security, and development topics.

The Social Science Research Council offers three types of fellowships to support the completion of doctoral degrees and to promote next generation social science research in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda. The fellowships support dissertation research on peace, security, and development topics.

The doctoral dissertation completion fellowship supports a one-year leave from teaching responsibilities and a stipend up to US$15,000 to permit the completion of a dissertation that advances research on peace, security, and development topics.

Candidates must be citizens of and reside in Africa south of the Sahara, a master’s degree, be enrolled in a PhD program at an accredited university in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, or Uganda, and be in the final year of writing and have completed at least one dissertation chapter.

Proposal development fellowships are intended to support doctoral students working on developing a doctoral dissertation research proposal as well as students who recently completed a master’s degree and seek to enroll in a PhD program. The doctoral dissertation proposal fellowship supports short-term research costs of up to US$3,000 to develop a doctoral dissertation proposal. Candidates must be citizens and residents of Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, or Uganda, hold a master’s degree, be either enrolled in a PhD program, or intend to enroll in a PhD program. As of May 2015, the program prioritizes applicants holding a faculty position or demonstrating a durable commitment to higher education, but does not restrict eligibility to such individuals. The program seeks to promote diversity and encourages women to apply.

The doctoral dissertation research fellowship supports 6-12 months of dissertation research costs of up to US$15,000 on a topic related to peace, security, and development. Candidates must be citizens of and reside in Africa south of the Sahara, a master’s degree, be enrolled in a PhD program at an accredited university in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, or Uganda, and have an approved dissertation research proposal. As of May 2015, the program prioritizes applicants holding a faculty position or demonstrating a durable commitment to higher education, but does not restrict eligibility to such individuals. The program seeks to promote diversity and encourages women to apply.

For an application (deadline November 17, 2017) and more details, visit the Next Generation Social Sciences site at http://nextgen.ssrc.org/.