Research Funding Update

September 2003

Opportunities

**Social Science/Labor**

**Bureau of Labor Statistics Senior Research Fellows Program**

*Source:* American Statistical Association/NSF  
*Deadline:* December 10, 2003

The American Statistical Association and the NSF supports this program, the objective of which is to bridge the gap between academic scholars and government social science research. Research fellows are provided the unique opportunity to address some of the complex methodological problems and analytic issues relevant to BLS programs. Fellows will conduct research in residence at BLS, use BLS data and facilities, and interact with BLS staff. Proposals will be evaluated on the applicability of the research to BLS programs, the value of the proposed research to science, and the quality of the applicant’s research record. Proposals are sought in two broad areas: 1) Statistical methodology and computing: sampling frames, time-in-sample effects, non-sampling errors, time use, computer-assisted interviewing, statistical quality control, cont-error modeling, item imputation, expert systems for data access and use, information dissemination, estimation, statistical graphics and data visualization, time series methods statistical methods for data analysis, and statistical disclosure limitation methodology; and 2) economic measurement and research: measurement of labor force growth, productivity research, price measurement, and analysis of labor markets. Fellows must conduct their research in residence at the BLS in Washington, D.C. For further information, go to [www.amstat.org](http://www.amstat.org).

**Social Science**

**Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowships for Minorities**

*Source:* National Research Council  
*Deadline:* December 17, 2003

To foster diversity on the nation’s college and university faculties and campuses, the Postdoctoral Fellowships for Minorities Program identifies outstanding researchers and scholars who are members of minority groups whose under-representation in the professoriate and in formal programs of postdoctoral study and research in the United States has been long-standing. The program enables fellows to engage in a year of postdoctoral research and scholarship in an environment free from the interference of their normal professional duties. Approximately 24 fellowships will be awarded to current or potential college or university faculty members and researchers in a national competition administered by the National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academies on behalf of the Ford Foundation. Major disciplines eligible for support include the life sciences, physical sciences, mathematics, engineering sciences, behavioral and social sciences, education, and the humanities. For further information, go to [www7.nationalacademies.org/fellowships/](http://www7.nationalacademies.org/fellowships/).

**Research Grants Available for Several Areas of Interest**

*Source:* PricewaterhouseCoopers Endowment for the Business of Government  
*Deadline:* November 3, 2003
Overview:
Individuals receiving grants will be responsible for producing a 30-40 page research report in one of the areas described below. The research paper must be completed no later than six months after award of grant. Grantees select the start and end dates of their research project. The report will be published and disseminated by the IBM Endowment.

Amount of Grant:
$15,000 for each grant.

Areas of Interest:

- **E-Government**: The Endowment is seeking proposals that examine the implementation of e-government in the following areas: (1) Government to Business (G2B); (2) Government to Citizen (G2C); (3) Government to Employees (G2E), and (4) Government to Government (G2G). The Endowment is especially interested in innovative approaches to providing information to enable citizens to make their own choices, complete service transactions electronically, hold government more accountable for results, and allow feedback and involvement.

- **Financial Management**: The Endowment is seeking proposals that examine specific financial management issues, (e.g. cost accounting and management, financial and resource analysis, financial risk management and modeling, internal controls, operational and systems risk management, financial auditing, contract management, reconciliation, and overpayment recovery). The Endowment is especially interested in full costs and budgeting approaches for support services and capital assets, retirement and other employee benefits, and other non-direct costs associated with delivering program services.

- **Human Capital**: The Endowment is seeking proposals that examine human capital issues related to public service. Human capital consists of the knowledge, skills, abilities, attitudes and experience required to accomplish an organization’s mission. It also includes an organization’s ability to recruit and retain employees as well as to undertake workforce planning and analysis.

- **Managing for Results**: The Endowment is seeking proposals which examine how organizations align their processes – such as budgeting, workforce, business processes – around their strategic goals. This area also focuses on how organizations use performance and results information to make policy, management, and resource allocation decisions. The Endowment is especially interested in how different organizations work collaboratively to achieve common outcomes and is also interested in case studies of the use of balanced scorecards, including the measurement of customer service.

- **New Ways to Manage**: The Endowment is seeking proposals that examine specific instances of new ways of delivering public programs and services to the public, including contracting out, competition, outsourcing, privatization, and public-private partnerships. The Endowment is also interested in innovations in the way public organizations are managed.

- **Transforming Organizations**: The Endowment is seeking proposals that examine how specific public sector organizations have been transformed by new values, changed cultures, and enhanced performance. This area also includes studies of outstanding public sector leaders.

Eligibility:
Individuals working in:
Universities
Non-profit organizations
Journalism

Application Process:
Interested individuals should submit:

- A three-page description of the proposed research
- A resume, including a list of publications

Submit hard copy applications to:
Mark A. Abramson
Executive Director
The IBM Center for the Business of Government
1616 North Fort Myer Drive
Arlington, VA 22209
Voice: (703) 741-1077
Fax: (703) 741-1076
Email: endowment@businessofgovernment.org

Transatlantic Cooperation in the Humanities, Social Sciences, Law, and Economics
Source: The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
Deadline: October 31, 2003

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation supports transatlantic research cooperation among German, American and/or Canadian scholars (Ph.D. required) in the humanities, social sciences, economics, and law by means of the TransCoop Programme. Joint research initiatives can receive up to EUR 45,000 (currently about US$ 43,000) each over a three-year period. Prerequisite is that the amount granted by TransCoop is matched by funds from US and/or Canadian sources. Funds can be used to finance short-term research visits, special conferences and workshops, material and equipment, printing costs, and research assistance.

Application Process:

Applications for the TransCoop Programme 2004 should be submitted to the AvH jointly by at least one German and one and/or Canadian scientist. The application forms can be downloaded from http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/en/programme/stip_aus/transcoop_d_us_01_01.htm.

The complete application material (including the required forms) may be obtained from the AvH or may be downloaded from its website (www.humboldt-foundation.de). The partners in the planned research cooperation must, at the very least, have completed their doctoral degrees and subsequently conducted acknowledged research work.

The following documents must be submitted:

- Completed application form
- Time and expenses schedule indicating when and for what purpose funds will be required (form)
• One confidential reference letter (form) for each partner addressing the applicant’s scholarly qualifications (if a group of scholars applies, the reference letter should evaluate the head of the group). The references must be sent directly to the AvH and be available by October 31, 2003.
• A detailed research plan (max. 15 pages) including a comprehensive and detailed budget plan
• A publication list from each partner covering the last five years
• Proof of matching funds, if already available

**Review Process:**

The research partnerships to receive support in 2004 will be chosen by the Selection Committee on the basis of the following criteria:

• Originality of the proposed research work
• Scholarly qualifications of the applicants
• Potential to strengthen transatlantic cooperation

The decisions are made exclusively on the basis of the scholarly qualifications demonstrated in the application. In the case of a positive decision, the joint research work can commence in May 2004 at the earliest.

**Contact:**

Christine May
Phone +49 (0) 228-833-137
Email: transcoop.select@avh.de

Or

The Liaison Office of the AvH in Washington, D.C.
Phone: (202) 783-1907
Email: avh@bellatlantic.net

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**Global and U.S. Japan Policy Issues**

**Center for Global Partnership Intellectual Exchange Program**

*Source*: Japan Foundation

*Deadline*: December 1, 2003

The foundation supports projects that adopt concrete approaches to issues of pressing worldwide concern that require action on the global level. Fields of particular interest include projects focusing on global approaches to problem-solving and those that create new opportunities for international dialogue within the U.S.-Japan policy community, thus laying the foundation for mutual understanding of shared issues. The program targets projects in the fields of international economic relations, international security, sustainable development, civil society, and health care and aging. The following types of projects in one or more of the above fields are eligible for grants: A) projects that adopt concrete approaches to issues of pressing worldwide concern; B) projects that address problems associated with industrial societies and that contribute to mutual understand and cooperation among those societies; and E) projects that seek to propose constructive approaches to bilateral U.S.-Japan issues or that employ comparative research to
further US-Japan mutual understanding (including examination of the historical, social or systemic issues of both countries that are pertinent to contemporary relations). For further information go to www.cgp.org/

Information Technology
Information Technology Workforce Program
Source: National Science Foundation
Deadline: January 24, 2004]

Since its inception in 2000, the program has supported basic research studies on the under-representation of women and minorities in the IT workforce. Now the program is being expanded to support implementation/intervention projects that are based on research findings and designed to increase the representation of women and under-represented minorities in IT. For further information, see NSF 03-609 available at www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf03609.