

2021 Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grant Application

Application Deadline - 5 pm, Monday, February 15th, 2021.

Please direct inquiries about applications to Sarah Wolter (swolter2@gustavus.edu).

Guidelines

Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grants are available to support faculty members in their professional scholarly and creative work. Course improvement projects will not be considered (expenses for such projects should be covered by departmental budgets or other sources.) All proposals should be aimed toward the production of some tangible result, e.g., the publication of an article, chapter, or book; or an exhibit of works of arts. Private, personal creativity projects will not be considered.

*Grants will be awarded for up to \$1500 in project costs. Grants also include stipends: \$700 for continuing instructors/assistant professors; \$600 for associate professors; \$500 for professors. Faculty may choose to allocate part of all of their stipends to project costs.

*Applications will be accepted for stipends and project costs, as well as for stipends only.

*Joint applications are accepted but the maximum allowable project costs and stipend remain fixed.

*A faculty member cannot receive both the Research, Scholarship, and Creativity grant and the Presidential Faculty/Student Collaboration grant in the same year.

*RSC grants are awarded through a competitive process but a large number are funded each year.

*Monies may also be used as matching funds for outside support awarded to the faculty member.

*Grant recipients need to get IRB approval if their research involves human subjects and IACUC approval for animal research.

*Applicants whose previous grant reports are past due will not be eligible to apply.

*Priority will be given to quality proposals submitted by candidates who have not been funded through a Research, Scholarship, and Creativity grant in the past two years.

*Awards are made in the spring for the following academic year; project expenses must be incurred and reimbursed during that fiscal year (June 1st - May 31st).

For examples of previously funded applications, see <https://gustavus.edu/kendallcenter/grant-opportunities/grant-examples.php>.

Criteria for Selection

To distinguish among proposals that meet all criteria identified in the application, the committee looks for evidence of exceptional merit, compelling project design, and feasibility of project. Priority will be given to quality proposals submitted by candidates who have not been funded through a Research, Scholarship & Creativity grant in the past two years and to applicants who are not requesting funding for extensions or continuations of projects previously funded by a Research, Scholarship & Creativity grant.

I. Personal Data

First Name *

Loramy

Last Name *

Gerstbauer

Gustavus E-mail *

mgerstba@gac.edu

Campus Phone Number *

507 933 7421

Rank/Status *

- Full Professor
- Associate Professor
- Assistant Professor
- Continuing Instructor
- Visiting Faculty

Department(s)/Program(s) *

Political Science/Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies

Administrative Assistant *

Janine Genelin

II. Information on Previous Grants & Permission to Share Proposal

Have you previously received an RSC grant? *

- Yes
- No

If you replied "yes" to the previous question, briefly describe your previous RSC grant project(s) and outcome(s).

The last RSC grant I received was used for a trip to Washington D.C. in Fall 2014 (my sabbatical year) to interview NGOs and former and current U.S. government personnel (ambassadors, for example) related to the path of reconciliation between the U.S. government and Nicaragua and the U.S. and Vietnam. The outcome was completion of a book project, *U.S. Foreign Policy and the Politics of Apology* (Routledge, 2017).

Is your current proposed RSC project an extension or continuation of a project previously funded by an RSC grant? If so, please explain.

No.

If successful, my proposal can be used as an example to assist future faculty applications. This decision will not in any way influence the evaluation of my application. Click "Yes" to give permission. *

Yes

No

III. Project Information

Please compose your answers offline and copy/paste into the appropriate text boxes. While answers inputted into this form should be available if you close the form and return in the same browser, we cannot guarantee that this function will work.

A. Purpose: What are the intellectual, conceptual, or artistic issues you will address in the course of the grant period? How does your work fit into the larger field of study? *

My Focus for this project: I am interested in the role of U.S. based peace groups in working for post-conflict accountability (or justice). For this project, my focus is the Iraq war that began in 2003 in relation to local peace organizations in Minnesota.

Central question: What is the role of civil society groups and peace groups in post conflict accountability and reconciliation after the violence of war is over?

The Larger field:

For about a decade my research has focused on the politics of reconciliation and transitional justice – how communities and nation-states move beyond periods of war and gross human rights violations, even genocide, to restore justice. Within that field, I have been in a minority of scholars focused on inter-state cases, and in particular U.S. foreign policy. In 2017 I published *US Foreign Policy and the Politics of Apology* (Routledge). Since then, my research has narrowed in on the role of non-state actors, especially peace and other civil society groups, and their work to pressure states (in this case, the U.S.) for post conflict accountability.

Overall, transitional justice is concerned with the right mix of policies and instruments, such as truth commissions, criminal trials, reparations, amnesty, lustration, etc. to deal with past atrocities as a state or states “transition” to a new order that upholds the rule of law and human rights. However, increasingly the term “transitional justice” is not just about transitions (to democracy) but also applies to actions of mature democracies such as Canada or the United States (Forsythe 2011a). Philpott defines transitional justice under a big umbrella of “the sum total of activities that states and citizens undertake to redress past political injustices in order to restore political orders both shortly after peace agreements or regime transitions have taken place as well as long into the future” (2010, 114, note 1). This definition works well for my purpose, which is to examine what determines the activities the U.S. has undertaken to redress past political injustices with enemy nations, in order to restore political order both immediately after the peace and well into the future. I’m particularly interested in factors that might encourage the U.S. to account for past wrongs, and in this particular project I focus on the role of domestic peace and civil society groups.

In sum, I am examining the role of domestic pressure groups in democracies in advocating for post conflict accountability of their government on foreign policy issues.

Iraq Case (in brief)

After 9/11, victims and other civilians who advocated a criminal justice as opposed to military response to the terrorist attacks, organized under the “Not in My Name banner” or “September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows”. While the initial military response to the war on terror was generally supported by the U.S. public, there were large public protests leading up to the Iraq war, the largest anti-war protests since the Vietnam War.

In April 2013, an independent non-partisan review panel determined that “it is indisputable that the United States engaged in the practice of torture” and that high level officials were responsible (Indisputable Torture 2013). The prisoner abuse is the most well-established and egregious wrongdoing of the U.S. in the war on Iraq and war on terror. The existence of secret prisons and abuses was made public since at least 2004-2005. However, the U.S. Congress and world reacted most profoundly to the abuses after the release in December 2014 of the Senate Intelligence Committee’s report on the CIA’s detention and interrogation program, known as the Torture Report. While Obama came to office with a clear pledge to stop all torture, he did not seek out accountability for those involved in abuses under the Bush administration.

The call to prosecute more actors in the Bush administration came largely from nongovernmental sources with some specialized legal expertise, such as Amnesty International, the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), the Center for Victims of Torture, the Bill of Rights Defense Committee, and many others. Victims of abuse in Iraq and elsewhere have brought cases against various government and civilian officials for violations of international law and their Constitutional rights (Magarrell & Peterson 2010, 33-34). In October 2015 the American Civil Liberties Union filed a suit on behalf of torture victims against two psychologists, James Mitchell and Bruce Jessen, who were contracted to design the torture methods used (Ackerman 2015). In the related case of Afghanistan, the ICC (International Criminal Court) recently began an investigation into the US conduct in that theater, resulting in the Trump administration sanctioning the court.

Given the large protest movement at the outset of the Iraq war, why has there been so little public protest in the U.S. regarding the prisoner abuse and lack of accountability for those crimes?

B. Feasibility: What qualifications do you bring to this project? What have you done/will you do to prepare for this project? What is the time period for your proposed work (summer, summer and academic year, academic year only)? Please explain how the work's scope is appropriate for the planned time frame. *

I will be on sabbatical in Spring 2022, the proposed time period for this project. In Spring 2021, I am presenting a paper at the International Studies Association, on the role of US domestic peace groups related to accountability in the Iraq case. As detailed in Part C, the grant funds will be used to visit local peace organizations in Minnesota to conduct interviews.

Most of my research projects have used interviews combined with document analysis, and several of my past research projects, including my dissertation, have examined the role of non-governmental organizations. Since I am interested in strategies and choices of these organizations over a period of time (for example, from protest before the Iraq war began to the time period after abuses in the war were revealed, such as torture and Abu Ghraib), interviews of key players as well as internal documents (often available only at organizational headquarters) are crucial. I have learned that face to face interviews in organizational headquarters provide a much richer context than phone interviews. I will need to understand organizational decisionmaking, the opportunities faced by organizations, and processes of organizational (or movement) change.

In Fall 2014, I conducted interviews in Washington, D.C. with US governmental and nongovernmental groups related to the Vietnam War and Nicaragua policy in the 1980s. One semester (during a sabbatical) is feasible time to conduct this research.

C. Project Design: Please describe your project design and activities, including location, staff, schedule and itineraries, and desired outcomes. *

I will make contacts with Iraq war protest groups and individuals involved in them here in Minnesota (such as the Iraq Peace Action Coalition, now known as the Minnesota Peace Action Coalition). The Minnesota activist community is a new line of research for me, although I interviewed several local Vietnam era veteran/peace activists for previous research on an article. Making local connections will be a good way to sustain my research beyond my sabbatical time, when travel is more cumbersome. Additional organizations will likely include The Nonviolent Peaceforce, the Center for Victims of Torture, and the Center for Human Rights at the University of Minnesota. Based on my past research on local level activism, I expect that my first interviews will open up new leads, especially since the Iraq Peace Action Coalition was a coalition actor, and several of the organizations involved have died out or morphed into new names and purposes.

As noted in Part B, in person interviews and visits to organizational headquarters are ideal. These will take place in Spring 2022

Expected Outcomes and Value of the Project

I plan to complete an article related to this project which could be published in a Peace Studies journal such as Peace and Change or in an international political science journal such as International Studies Review. I am also excited to make more contacts in the Minnesota peace community, as I believe that will lead to future research possibilities and/or opportunities for my teaching and service work. For the academic community, I have noted that my project is very much an understudied area within the broader transitional justice field, in its focus on inter-state relations, the United States, and domestic peace groups.

D. How will restrictions due to Covid-19 potentially affect your project? [This is not a criteria for selection of the RSC.]

not anticipated

IV. Budget

Download the RSC budget form here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nSVRzWgV_q4sVXuMU0sVPYumer61BEOU/view?usp=sharing. Then upload the completed RSC budget form by clicking "Add File" below. *

 2021 RSC_Budge...

Provide a rationale/justification for your budget. *

PART II: LOCAL RESEARCH TRIPS (primarily Twin Cities)

Budget prepared based on an estimated 4 trips to the Twin Cities area for research interviews.

\$322 .575 x 140 miles roundtrip

\$60 Parking (\$15 daily rate or allowing for multiple sites in one trip)

\$80 Lunch/food for partial day

\$50 On-site books/material purchases

\$512 TOTAL

PLUS 500 stipend (full professor rate)

1,012

Twin Cities visits will include: Minnesota Peace Action Coalition, previously known as the Iraq Peace Action Coalition. Additional organizations will likely include: The Nonviolent Peaceforce, the Center for Victims of Torture, and the Center for Human Rights at the University of Minnesota. Based on my past research on local level activism, I expect that my first interviews will open up new leads, especially since the Iraq Peace Action Coalition was a coalition actor, and several of the organizations involved have died out or morphed into new names and purposes.

V. Additional Information

Have you applied for funding from another source to support this project but do not yet know the outcome of that application? *

Yes

No

If you replied "yes" to the previous question, please 1) indicate the funding source(s) and amount requested, 2) explain how the RSC grant funds will be used in addition to the other funding if received, and 3) explain how the RSC grant project would be impacted if external funding is not received.

Have you received funding from another source to support this project? *

Yes

No

If you replied "yes" to the previous question, please 1) indicate the funding source(s) and amount requested, and 2) explain how the RSC grant funds will be used in addition to the other funding received.

Not technically. I received Ryerse Sabbatical funds, but this will cover trips to New York for research. I did not get the full amount requested. I requested \$2960 and received \$2000. I had requested \$2448 for the NY trip and \$512 for the local research trip.

If you apply for and receive funding for both the Research, Scholarship, and Creativity grant and the Presidential Faculty-Student Collaboration grant, which will you accept? Grant guidelines specify recipients can only accept funding for one of the grants in a year.

Research, Scholarship, and Creativity grant

Presidential grant

If there are any additional materials that you think would be helpful to the committee in deciding upon your application, please upload them here.

If there are any additional materials that you think would be helpful to the committee in deciding upon your application (e.g. links to Google Drive files), please include URLs here.

VI. Area of Focus

One approved RSC grant will also be selected for the Area of Focus award. This designation carries with it an additional \$500. An RSC grant can connect to the Area of Focus in many ways, depending on the individual proposals. The Area of Focus for the 2021-2022 grant period is "Innovation and Technology."

Would you like your proposal to be considered for the Area of Focus award? *

Yes, consider my application for this designation.

No, do not consider my application.

If you answered "yes" above, please provide a short description of how your project engages this year's area of focus, "Innovation and Technology."

Applicant's E-Signature

Signature *

Loramy Gerstbauer