



October 1, 2007

To: Deans, Directors, and Department Heads  
All full-time tenured, tenure-track and clinical faculty at the rank of  
assistant professor and above

From: David C. Perry  
Director and Professor  
Great Cities Institute

Re: Great Cities Institute Faculty Scholar Competition, 2008-2009  
A Request for Proposals

I am pleased to announce the Great Cities Institute Faculty Scholar Competition for 2008-2009. This will be the thirteenth annual competition and with it we seek to bring the broadest range of scholars to GCI for up to a year of engaged, interdisciplinary and innovative study of cities and their conditions. Over the years we have been host to over one hundred scholars from over thirty disciplines and we hope that 2008-2009 will be no exception as we set out to recognize even more disciplinary approaches to urban understanding. If you have any questions concerning the Faculty Scholar Competition, please contact me or Marilyn Ruiz, Assistant to the Director, at [marilyn@uic.edu](mailto:marilyn@uic.edu) or at 312-996-8874. I look forward to hearing from you and to receiving a proposal.

#### **DEADLINE AND COPIES REQUIRED**

An ORIGINAL and TWELVE (12) copies of the completed application should be submitted by 4:00 p.m., FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2008 to Marilyn Ruiz, Great Cities Institute, Suite 400, CUPPA Hall (412 South Peoria Street), MC 107. Decisions are expected to be made by the middle of March, 2008. Faculty Scholar appointments for academic year 2008-2009 begin in the Fall semester 2008 and continue through the Spring semester 2009. Application forms may be obtained by accessing the Great Cities Institute website at [www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci](http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci).

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

All full-time tenured, tenure-track, and clinical faculty at the rank of assistant professor and above are eligible to apply for this award.

## GREAT CITIES INSTITUTE FACULTY SCHOLAR COMPETITION 2008-2009



### Introduction

These guidelines set forth criteria and procedures for application and acceptance as a Faculty Scholar in the Great Cities Institute (GCI). The Institute focuses on a particular kind of urban study: *engaged research* that will advance our understanding of cities and has relevance to urban issues in Chicago and in urban settings throughout the world. Ideally, engaged research will meet the highest levels of three distinct criteria: (i) partnership (ii) interdisciplinarity and (iii) impact. When preparing research proposals for GCI, therefore, three questions should be kept in mind:

- (i) How and in what ways is the proposed course of study built on partnerships between traditional (academic) and non-traditional sites of knowledge?
- (ii) Is the work interdisciplinary, either in its production or in the way it will be used or read?
- (iii) What will the impact of the research be on (a) the construction and advance of new knowledge and teaching of students and (b) on the great cities of the world, of which Chicago is one?

The Great Cities Institute is a unit within the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs but plays a campus-wide role. Since its inception in 1995, the Institute has appointed 102 Scholars from 34 different departments and several research institutes at UIC. Currently, the Institute has openings for up to 6 new, full year, Faculty Scholars. Terms for appointment are for one full academic year beginning Fall, 2008.

### Eligible Applicants

All full-time tenured, tenure-track, and clinical faculty at the rank of assistant professor and above are eligible to apply for this award.

## **Work at the Institute**

Institute Scholars are expected to pursue their research and participate in the development of the Institute. They will be released from formal teaching and administrative obligations during their appointment at the Institute. The Institute will provide Faculty Scholars with research and administrative support, including seminar and meeting facilities and, when possible, partial research assistantships and office space.

During their time in residence, scholars are expected to:

- Implement their own research/demonstration/policy projects and publications,
- Develop and submit grant proposals, including ones that involve other scholars,
- Actively participate in the development of the Great Cities Institute,
- Participate in the Honors College course-“Great Cities: UIC’s Metropolitan Commitment”,
- Participate in the Great Cities Institute Lecture Series,
- Contribute at least one paper to the Institute’s Working Paper Series.

## **Topics**

The Institute will support meritorious projects on topics covering the broadest range of engaged research on the urban. For example, recent scholars have successfully carried out work in areas including the following:

- Housing and economic development policy,
- Community development,
- K-12 education,
- Urban governance,
- University-community partnerships,
- Issues of Individual and community health,
- Citizenship, political participation and culture,
- Digital divide,
- Immigration and the city,
- Metropolitan growth, collaboration and regionalism,
- Workforce development,
- Urban finance,
- International urban research collaborations,
- Domestic violence,
- Societal violence and prevention,
- Urban environmental issues,
- Global economic restructuring,
- Community-based art
- Healthy cities.

## GCI and its Objectives

- The Institute houses the *UIC Neighborhoods Initiative* program, a comprehensive, multidisciplinary program to address urban issues in partnership with groups and organizations in the neighborhoods around the university, specifically, Pilsen and the Near West Side. Proposals that involve partnerships in either community would be of great interest to the Institute (for further information on the *UIC Neighborhoods Initiative*, please contact Dr. Cynthia Barnes-Boyd, Director (312-996-7963 or [cboyd@uic.edu](mailto:cboyd@uic.edu)) or Mr. Atanacio Gonzalez, Associate Director, (312-996-7194 or [nacho@uic.edu](mailto:nacho@uic.edu)).
- The Institute is particularly interested in projects that build on the work of past or current Scholars or have the potential to become lasting areas of specialization for the Institute ([a list of 2007 - 2008 Faculty Scholars and Institute Fellows and researchers can be accessed at the GCI website at http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/about/people/index.htm](http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/about/people/index.htm)).
- The Institute gives priority to projects that (i) are significantly involved with external constituencies (or partners), (ii) have clear implications for the *building of new knowledge about the urban* and have an *impact on Chicago and other great cities in the world*.
- Therefore, the hallmark of the Institute is “*engaged research:*” *that is work that ideally seeks to be at once original, interdisciplinary, high impact research, carried out in partnership with non-traditional, as well as other traditional external sources of knowledge.*

## Schedule, Deadlines

Completed applications are due by 4:00 p.m., Friday, January 18, 2008. Decisions are expected to be made at the middle of March, 2008. Faculty Scholar appointments for academic year 2008-2009 begin in the Fall semester 2008 and continue through the Spring semester 2009.

Completed applications should be delivered to the Great Cities Institute Faculty Scholar Competition, Great Cities Institute, 412 South Peoria, Suite 400. Please submit an original application together with twelve copies.

## Answers to most commonly asked questions

Department heads and deans must sign the application cover sheet. Applicants with appointments in more than one department/college are required to obtain signatures from the heads/deans of each department and college.

Summer salary is not included in the appointment. If you intend to work during the summer, you will need to find another means of support. On the other hand, office space at GCI is generally available during the summer.

For grant applications initiated by the Institute, ICR distribution is negotiated. It is the intention of the Institute to be as liberal as possible in supporting the home units of Scholars as sites of credit for faculty research activities.

Departments will be compensated for the cost of covering courses normally taught by the Institute Scholars at the rate of \$4,000 per course. Therefore, a full-time appointment is generally reimbursed at \$16,000 per academic year. In exceptional circumstances, this rate may be negotiated.

### **Proposal Guidelines**

All full-time tenured, tenure-track, and clinical faculty at the rank of assistant professor and above are eligible to apply for this award. The proposal will be subject to peer review by a committee composed of faculty from throughout UIC, past Faculty Scholars and representatives of GCI, who review and recommend scholars for the coming year.

Submit the original together with twelve copies of:

- 1) the completed and signed cover sheet,
- 2) a 4-6 page summary of the research you expect to accomplish during your tenure as a Scholar that addresses the following:
  - a. Purpose and description of the research,
  - b. Your expertise or background in the proposed area or project,
  - c. Unique contributions of your proposed project to policy or practice,
  - d. External funding potential of the project,
  - e. Your expected contributions to the growth and development of the Institute.
- 3) a current and complete CV, and,
- 4) a bio-sketch of not more than one page.

**Applications are due Friday, January 18, 2008 by 4:00 p.m.** Deliver the original and all copies to the Great Cities Institute, 412 South Peoria, Suite 400.

COVER SHEET

**GREAT CITIES INSTITUTE  
FACULTY SCHOLAR COMPETITION  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2008-2009**



Title of Research Project:

---

---

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ UIN#: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ MC \_\_\_\_\_ College: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:**

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Head (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Head (Signature): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Head Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Dean (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dean (Signature): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dean Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicants with appointments in more than one department/college are required to obtain signatures from the heads/deans of each department and college. This form may be reproduced for additional signatures. Departments will be reimbursed for faculty replacements at a rate of \$4,000 per course.**

**Questions regarding the application procedure may be directed to Marilyn Ruiz, Assistant to the Director at [marilyn@uic.edu](mailto:marilyn@uic.edu) or at 312/996-8874.**