



# UC/ACCORD

ALL CAMPUS CONSORTIUM ON RESEARCH FOR DIVERSITY

*A multi-campus research center  
harnessing UC's research capacity  
to increase the quality and equity of California's  
diverse public schools, colleges and universities.*



**RFP** 2012

## Call for Proposals

2012/2013

Dissertation Fellowship and Faculty Grant Competition

SUBMISSIONS OPEN:

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

DEADLINE:

5 p.m. Tuesday, April 17, 2012

*Research to Make a Difference*



## **UC/ACCORD Call for Proposals – 2012**

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## UC/ACCORD CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**SUBMISSIONS OPEN: MARCH 7, 2012**

**DEADLINE: 5 P.M., APRIL 17, 2011**

UC/ACCORD All Campus Consortium on Research for Diversity announces a call for proposals in two categories—**Dissertation** and **Faculty Seed Grant Competition**. UC/ACCORD was established to engage University of California scholars in research that will support and inform Californians' efforts to replace prevailing patterns of schooling inequality and disparities in access to higher education with equitable conditions and outcomes for children from all sectors of our diverse state. UC/ACCORD is interested in increasing the number of graduate students and faculty within the UC system who are working in areas that inform its goals.

While UC/ACCORD will consider all research proposals that are consistent with the goal of making a college education possible for all of California's students and increasing diversity within its institutions of higher education, this call focuses on three research areas.

**1) Critical transitions** in the lives of underrepresented students. There are critical transitions in the lives of all students as they move from family to school; elementary to middle school to high school to college; and from school to work. These transitions are especially critical in the lives of low-income and underrepresented students. Research is needed to describe these transitions and to test interventions that can facilitate smoother movement from one stage to another such that students' chances of gaining access to higher education are enhanced.

**2) Critical conditions** for enhancing college opportunities for underrepresented students. UC/ACCORD has identified several conditions that promote college-going among all youth, but that are especially important to develop within the schools and communities of underrepresented students. While we believe that these conditions are key to creating opportunity for students, we do not yet know how to produce these conditions across all schools and communities. Research that describes

and analyzes conditions and resources, and tests interventions is necessary to further our goal of making college possible for every student. These conditions are:

- Safe School Environments
- A College-Going School Culture
- A Rigorous Academic Curriculum
- Access to Qualified Teachers
- Intensive Academic and Social Supports
- Opportunities to Develop a Multi-Cultural College-Going Identity
- Family-Neighborhood School Supports

**3) Critical issues** related to making higher education accessible to all Californians. The last few years have seen cutbacks in outreach and higher education funding throughout California and an increased concern about the capacity of California's higher education system to accommodate all the students who seek admission to its four-year colleges and universities. Moreover, to adhere to the California Master Plan of Higher Education's mandate to educate the top 12.5 percent of California's high school graduates, UC admissions criteria have been further narrowed. And, while higher education policies have sought to shift more students to the community colleges, these institutions have not been funded at levels that allow them to adequately serve the students they are expected to educate. Given California's demographics and its heavy reliance on the community college system, especially by low-income students and students of color, these occurrences are virtually certain to exacerbate an already highly inequitable distribution of opportunity in the state. Therefore, UC/ACCORD encourages proposals for research that focus on recent policies, demographic and fiscal circumstances, and other factors affecting the critical problem of equitable access to college in California and equitable distribution of opportunity within the post-secondary system of California Community Colleges, and California State University and University of California systems.

UC/ACCORD is also interested in the larger policy issues that affect these transitions and conditions. For example, the environment around college access is being shaped, in large part, by the impact of the new regime of test-based accountability on underrepresented students (e.g., the California High School Exit Exam, increasing emphasis on Advanced Placement courses). It is also being constrained by an era of limited resources. Scholars interested in investigating the impact of these and other relevant policy trends and issues are encouraged to propose work in this area.

Because access to college is affected by factors far beyond schools, UC/ACCORD encourages proposals from scholars in disciplines and professional schools outside education, as well from scholars within the education departments and schools.

UC/ACCORD is offering the following opportunities to join the UC/ACCORD research community, fundable as early as **July 1, 2012**.

## GENERAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications will only be accepted online. Applicants must fill out the **cover page** and **title sheet** at <http://www.ucaccord.net>

All other documents should be uploaded according to the directions on the website and labeled as defined below within the guidelines for the specific fellowship. **Online submissions will open Wednesday, March 7 and close at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17. Keep in mind that the AERA conference is from April 12 to April 18 so please plan accordingly.** All applicants can review past Dissertation Fellowships and Faculty Seed Grant projects, as well as successful proposals that UC/ACCORD has funded at [www.ucaccord.org](http://www.ucaccord.org)

Please be sure to have the Department fiscal officer's name and contact information ready to complete the online application form.

**PROPOSAL CHECKLIST** (please refer to the application procedures in the following pages for specific fellowship guidelines):

**All applicants:**

- Title Page
- Proposed Project Description
- Methods
- Curriculum Vitae

**Faculty Seed Grant** applicants must also include:

- Proposed Budget

**Please note that all applicants selected as finalists are required to interview with the UC/ACCORD Executive Board on either Monday, June 18 or Tuesday, June 19. Applicants will be notified if they are finalists by June 1. Please also keep in mind all UC/ACCORD fellows are required to complete and submit a deliverable outlining the practical and/or policy implications of their respective research projects by the end of their UC/ACCORD fellowship appointment. For more information, please visit [www.ucaccord.org](http://www.ucaccord.org)**



## **ONE-YEAR DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS**

**AWARDS:** Awards will be made in the amount of \$20,000 for the period of support. The specific intent of the award is to allow dissertation students the time to complete their research and write their dissertations. Please note that graduate program tuition and fees are not included in this award package.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Applicants must be currently enrolled as doctoral students at one of the University of California campuses. Applicants must be advanced to candidacy by June 18, 2012. Dissertation topics must be in areas that support the goals and mission of UC/ACCORD. Individuals who have received funding from UC/ACCORD in previous years are not eligible for the current funding cycle.

**EVALUATION AND SELECTION:** Proposals for Dissertation Fellowships will be reviewed by both outside reviewers and members of the UC/ACCORD Executive Board. Criteria will include (1) the potential contribution of the dissertation work to further the understanding of issues relevant to the goals and mission of UC/ACCORD; (2) the strength and appropriateness of the methods for the proposed work; (3) the strength of recommendations from two faculty recommenders; (4) evidence that the doctoral student is well prepared to undertake the research (e.g., background, experience, related work, grasp of the relevant literature).

**APPLICATION PROCEDURES:** All applications must include:

### **(1) Proposal**

- Title Page
  - Name
  - Title of Research
  - Abstract (no more than 150 words)
  - Proposed Methods (Mixed, Qualitative, or Quantitative)
  - Award Type (Dissertation Fellowship)
  - UC Campus
  - Department
- Project Description and Alignment with UC/ACCORD Goals and Mission
- Selected Relevant Literature
- Theoretical Framework
- Research Questions

- Methods
- Proposed Plan for Deliverable (e.g., policy brief, research brief, curriculum design, program development)
- Outline of Dissertation (e.g., chapter titles and subtitles)
- Timeline of Dissertation Completion

\*\*\*Project Description should be no longer than **six single-spaced pages in 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins. Please note that the six-page maximum does not include the title page or references.** Failure to adhere to these formatting guidelines will impact your final score negatively.

**(3) Curriculum Vitae**

(4) Two **Letters of Recommendation**: one from student’s dissertation advisor and one from any faculty familiar with student’s work. The letters should be submitted electronically in PDF format to [accordproposal@gseis.ucla.edu](mailto:accordproposal@gseis.ucla.edu)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Please fill out the online application form and upload all files to <http://www.ucaccord.net> by **5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17**. Please be sure to have Department fiscal officer’s name and contact information ready to complete the online application form.

**Files should be titled and uploaded as follows:**

SECTION: **Proposal**

TITLE: First Initial Last Name-DissProposal.pdf  
e.g., JBruin-DissProposal.pdf

SECTION: **Curriculum Vitae**

TITLE: First Initial Last Name-DissCV.pdf  
e.g., JBruin-DissCV.pdf



## **FACULTY RESEARCH SEED GRANTS**

**AWARDS:** Grants in amounts up to \$10,000 will be awarded to UC faculty who wish to develop a proposal or pilot for a longer-term study likely to lead to substantial advances in theory, policy or practice, and whose initial grant proposal can be aided by such funding. As examples, seed grants might be used to develop proposals for studies that a) generate fundamental knowledge about some of the root causes of disparities in college access; b) examine whether, how, and why various outreach strategies have particular effects on underrepresented students; c) investigate how outreach strategies may be mediated by the social, political, racial, economic and educational contexts in which they reside; d) design and test approaches to support students admitted to UC under current and proposed admissions policies; or e) study the impact of ethnic student organizations on increasing the number of underrepresented students on college campuses as well as on college student retention.

**ELIGIBILITY:** All UC senate faculty at the assistant or associate level. Individuals who have received funding from UC/ACCORD in previous years are not eligible for the current funding cycle.

**EVALUATION AND SELECTION:** All proposals will be reviewed by both outside reviewers and members of the UC/ACCORD Executive Board. Criteria will include: (1) alignment of the proposed work with the goals and mission of UC/ACCORD; (2) appropriate background and experience of the proposer(s); and (3) evidence of the viability of the proposed work to yield a successful, fully developed and relevant research proposal to further the aims of UC/ACCORD.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE:** All applications must include:

- (1) **Title Page**, which includes:
  - Title Page
    - Name
    - Title of Research
    - Abstract (no more than 150 words)
    - Proposed Methods (Mixed, Qualitative, or Quantitative)
    - Award Type (Faculty Seed Grant)
    - UC Campus
    - Department



- Proposed Project Description and Alignment with UC/ACCORD Goals and Mission
- Selected Relevant Literature
- Research Goals and/or Research Questions
- Methods
- Evidence of Candidate's Past Research in Related Areas
- Proposed Plan for Deliverable (e.g., policy brief, research brief, curriculum design, program development, grant submission)
- Proposed Budget for Project

\*\*\*Narrative Description of the proposed project should be no longer than **six single-spaced pages** in **12-point Times New Roman font** with **1-inch margins**. **Please note that the six-page maximum does not include references.** Failure to adhere to these formatting guidelines will impact your final score negatively.

### (3) Curriculum Vitae

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Please fill out the online application form and upload all files to <http://www.ucaccord.net> by **5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17**. Please be sure to have Department fiscal officer's name and contact information to complete the online application form.

#### **Files should be titled and uploaded as follows:**

##### **SECTION: Proposal**

TITLE: First Initial Last Name-SeedApp.pdf  
e.g., DMustang-SeedApp.pdf

##### **SECTION: Curriculum Vitae**

TITLE: First Initial Last Name-SeedCV.pdf  
e.g., DMustang-SeedCV.pdf

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*Research to Make a Difference*

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ALL CAMPUS CONSORTIUM ON RESEARCH FOR DIVERSITY

UC Berkeley  
UC Davis  
UC Irvine  
UC Los Angeles  
UC Merced



UC Riverside  
UC San Diego  
UC San Francisco  
UC Santa Barbara  
UC Santa Cruz

**Daniel Solorzano**  
*Director*

*A multi-campus research center  
harnessing UC's research capacity  
to increase the quality and equity of California's  
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