

**SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL  
DISSERTATION PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

and

**CENTER ON MIGRATION, POLICY AND SOCIETY**

**University of Oxford**

**Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

***CONFERENCE and WORKSHOP AGENDAS***

on

**Development and Migration**

*Research Directors:* Josh DeWind ([dewind@ssrc.org](mailto:dewind@ssrc.org)) and Ronald Skeldon ([r.skeldon@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:r.skeldon@sussex.ac.uk))

This is the agenda for the conference and the first of two workshops, which are designed to help fellows of the DPDF Program prepare cogent and fundable dissertation research proposals. The goals are 1) to map the research field with respect to contributing theories, literatures, methods, sources, and knowledge of diverse disciplines and consider how the fellows' research can benefit from and contribute to the field; and 2) to help prepare fellows for their pre-dissertation summer research. The second workshop will focus on the mechanics and methods of writing a dissertation research proposal.

"Development and Migration" has been proposed as an interdisciplinary field of study within which to focus on the impact that processes of social and economic development have on the origins, patterns, and outcomes of both internal and international migration. The approach is to examine the "big" processes at work in the fellows' dissertation research topics.

**FELLOWS ASSIGNMENTS:**

All reading and writing assignments are to be posted online to the DPDF Workspace. Fellows will receive separate instructions to gain access to Workspace.

1) By May 28<sup>th</sup> post to Workspace in one document a 350 word **summary or abstract** of your draft dissertation research proposal, followed by an updated 2,000 word draft of your **dissertation research proposal**, and then a 300 or more word description of your intended **summer research plans** and how you expect those plans will help you complete your dissertation research proposal. In your draft proposal describe:

- the research question(s) you expect to answer,
- what existing research literature will help you to answer your question(s),
- what methods of investigation you expect to use obtain the information you will need to discover the answer your question(s), and
- how you expect to analyze your research findings to determine the validity of your answer(s) and its(their) broader theoretical implications.

Indicate where you have doubts or questions about your plans. (We will post your revised **abstract** to the DPDF Program's public website and provide copies to the conference presenters with whom you will meet during the first day of the workshop).

2) Before the June 11<sup>th</sup> conference, read all of the other fellows' updated research and summer research plans and to write a **paragraph about each proposal** describing the main question to be answered by the research and how well you find the different elements in each proposal to mesh with and support one another and the author's summer research plans. As the main purpose is to help you sharpen your thinking about what makes an effective proposal, we do not require that you post your comments to the Workspace; but if you find your points do not come up in the workshop discussion, please do share your notes with proposal's authors.

3) Before the June 11<sup>th</sup> conference, write a **summary of and suggestions for another fellow's updated research plans to present in the workshop. (See in the workshop agenda below for the presentation assignments.)** You will be given 10 minutes to present you summary to the group during the workshop. Your presentation should describe as accurately and succinctly as possible the basic elements of the proposal – its research question(s), supporting literature, methods of investigation, mode of data analysis, broader theoretical implications) – and how well the elements complement one another. In addition to this description, please then point out not only where you think the formulation and coherence of the proposal might be strengthened but also where you find ideas and connections particularly interesting or valuable to the proposal's persuasiveness. You might suggest ways in which the fellow's summer research plans might help to strengthen the proposal. Following your presentation, all the fellows will be asked to contribute their views. At the end of the discussion, the proposal's author will be given about 5-10 minutes to respond to any of the particular points made, ask questions of the group for clarification, and raise any other issues with which he/she might like comments or help. After the workshop session, please revise your summary if the discussion has changed any of your points, and then send it to the author.

5) Before the June 11<sup>th</sup> conference, please **read the following articles**, which will be posted on Workspace for downloading and consider if and how each does (or does not) contribute to your own research plans:

- Josh DeWind and Damla Ergun, 2013, "Development and Migration: Historical Trends and Future Research," in J. Cortina and E. Ochoa-Reza, eds., *New Perspectives on International Migration and Development*, New York: Columbia University Press, p. 5-42.
- Hein de Haas, 2010, "Migration and Development: A Theoretical Perspective," in *International Migration Review* Vol. 44 (1): 227-264.
- Philip Martin, 2009, "Migration and Development: The Elusive Link," *International Migration Review*, Vol. 42 (2): 431-39.
- Alejandro Portes, "International Labor Migration and National Development," in M.M. Kritz, *U.S. Immigration and Refugee Policy: Global and Domestic Issues*, Lexington, MA: Lexington Books, p. 71-93
- Ronald Skeldon, 2012, "Migration Transitions Revisited: Their Continued Relevance for the Development of Migration Theory," in *Population, Space and Place* 18: 154-166.

Recommended Reading (not required and not posted to Workspace):

Ronald Skeldon, 1997, *Migration and Development: A Global Perspective*, Harlow, UK: Addison Wesley Longman Limited.

***Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>***

**7:30 pm: Welcome Dinner at The High Table, located in the Eastgate Hotel**

**CONFERENCE AGENDA**

***Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>***

**(A more detailed conference agenda will be posted to Workspace in a separate document.)**

**9:00-9:30 am: Introductions**

Michael Keith, Center on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS)  
Josh DeWind, Social Science Research Program - DPDF  
Ronald Skeldon, University of Sussex

***Presentations***

**9:30-10:30 am: Historical Perspective**

Dudley Baines

**10:45-11:45 am: Rural Transformation and Migration**

Priya Deshingkar

**12:00 – 1:00 pm: National Development Policies and Migration**

Oliver Bakewell

**1:00-2:00 pm: Lunch (to be confirmed)**

**2:00-3:00 pm: Development and Forced Migration**

Nick Van Hear

**3:15-4:15 pm: Theory: Development as a Driver of Migration**

Hein de Haas

**4:30-5:30 pm: Global Urbanization and Migration**

Michael Keith

**7:00 Dinner (to be confirmed)**

## WORKSHOP AGENDA

*Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>*

**9 a.m. to 11 a.m.: Workshop Session #1: Review of Conference**

Presenters from the previous day's conference who can stay over for another day will form a panel to assess with the students what ideas emerged from the interdisciplinary perspectives of the different presenters that seemed particularly helpful in identifying future research questions and how the fellows' dissertation research might benefit from or contribute to this field of study. The fellows should prepare to raise issues and ask questions of the panelists that might help the fellows' projects to benefit from or contribute interdisciplinary approaches to development and migration studies.

**11:15 am -12:15 pm: Individual Meetings between Conference Presenters and Fellows**

After the panel discussion, we will ask each of the presenters to meet with a few of the fellows in small groups to discuss their impressions of the fellows' proposals, summaries of which they will have been given prior to the workshop. We have asked that they raise any questions and give you any suggestions they think might be helpful and allow you to raise any questions about your research plans that you might like to discuss. We will invite the conference presenters to join us for lunch, where you can continue these conversations more informally.

**12:30 am -1:45 pm: Lunch**

**2 to 5 pm: Workshop Session #2: Fellows' Research Projects and Summer Plans**

For this and the next four workshop sessions we will examine each fellow's proposal collectively with the purpose of helping the authors to identify and clarify their research questions and how they plan to answer them. We will consider how existing research literatures (including the assigned readings) can help to formulate questions, inform choices of research methods, and analyze research findings so as to provide answers to the research questions and shape their broader theoretical implications.

Each session will be divided into three 50 minute discussions followed by a 10 minute break. In each hour, a fellow will be asked to make a 10 minute presentation of another fellow's proposal (as described in the see the assignments above) and then we will invite everyone to seek clarification or suggest ways in which the author might accomplish his/her goals. The floor will then be turned over to the project's author to respond if he/she wishes to do so.

	<u>Proposal Author</u>	<u>Commentator</u>
2-3 p.m.	Youjin Chung	Rashesh Shrestha
3-4 p.m.	Peter Hepburn	Kriangsak Teerakowitkajorn
4-5 p.m.	Aaron Malone	Pronoy Rai

**Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>**

**9 am to 12 pm: Workshop Session #3: Fellow's Research Projects and Summer Plans**

	<u>Proposal Author</u>	<u>Commentator</u>
9-10 a.m.	Andrea Wright	Ashley Parcells
10-11 a.m.	Yingchan Zhang	Aparna Parikh
11-12 a.m.	Julia Morris	Svetoslava Milusheva

**2 pm to 5 pm: Workshop Session #4: Fellows' Research Projects and Summer Plans**

	<u>Proposal Author</u>	<u>Commentator</u>
2-3 p.m.	Ashley Parcells	Youjin Chung
3-4 p.m.	Pronoy Rai	Peter Hepburn
4-5 p.m.	Kriangsak Teerakowitkajorn	Andrea Wright

**Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>**

**9 am to 12 pm: Workshop Session #5: Fellows' Research Projects and Summer Plans**

	<u>Proposal Author</u>	<u>Commentator</u>
9-10 a.m.	Svetoslava Milusheva	Yingchan Zhang
10-11 a.m.	Aparna Parikh	Julia Morris
11-12 a.m.	Rashesh Shrestha	Aaron Malone

**2 pm to 5 pm: Workshop Session #6: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Research**

In this session, having completed a review of all the fellows' research plans, we will step back and assess what we have learned together about the study of development and migration from multiple disciplinary approaches and consider what new understandings the fellows' projects gain from and potentially contribute to this field of study. We will in particular draw upon the assigned readings and assess the extent to which the perspectives they offer might be helpful, or not, to your own research. In this context, we will begin to consider what each of the fellows might expect to learn from his/her summer research that will help the final formulation of a dissertation research proposal in the Fall workshop.

***Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>***

**9 am to 12 pm: Workshop Session #7: Preparing for Summer Research and the Fall Workshop**

The last session will be divided into two parts. For the first 2 hours, we will ask each fellow to summarize briefly their summer research plans, how they may have changed over the course of the workshop, and what they expect to learn that will contribute to the preparation of a final dissertation research proposal in the Fall workshop. What do you need to discover during the summer that you do not already know? What problems do you anticipate and how might you confront or get around them? What if your findings raise unanticipated issues and suggest you had better change your intended dissertation research questions, methods, or scope?

For the last hour, we will discuss summer assignments, arrangements to report back during the summer, and how to prepare a revised research proposal at the end of the summer and what to expect of the fall workshop.

**SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL  
DISSERTATION PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP**

**Hyatt Arlington, Arlington, Virginia  
Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014**

**FALL 2014 WORKSHOP AGENDA**

**DEVELOPMENT AND MIGRATION**

**Research Directors: Josh DeWind [dewind@ssrc.org](mailto:dewind@ssrc.org)  
Ronald Skeldon [r.skeldon@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:r.skeldon@sussex.ac.uk)**

This second of two DPDF workshops is designed to help graduate student fellows prepare cogent and fundable dissertation proposals. The two workshop goals are 1) to help fellows synthesize their summer research; and 2) to develop revised drafts of dissertation proposals, either for committee or funding purposes. The workshop will challenge fellows to consider their summer research and proposal development within the context of contributions from and to their research fields.

In this workshop we will focus on the logistics and methods of writing a dissertation proposal—the actual practice of producing a persuasive and defensible plan for a major research project that contributes to and derives support from scholarship on development and migration. Fellows should aim to come out of the second workshop with a clear course of action to revise their proposal drafts into refined and coherent research proposals and to establish a supportive network of mentors and young scholars within the research field.

**WORKSHOP ASSIGNMENTS**

All assignments should be uploaded to the DPDF online Workspace:

- By **September 3** please post to Workspace a short research report (approximately 1-2 pages) describing what problems and successes you experienced and what you learned from your summer research and how these experiences have contributed to your refining your research questions and your choice of the research methods that you now intend to include in your research proposal.
- By **September 8** please post to Workspace a revised version of your dissertation research proposal. Your draft will ideally follow the guidelines of a particular funding agency or be designed as a “generic” proposal of 4-6 page, singled-spaced version that can be adapted to the requirements of a number of funders.

To prepare your draft, look at the requirements of 4-5 possible funding sources, many of which you will find listed on the DPDF Workspace. Examine closely their deadlines, expectations, guidelines, and record of support for projects like yours. Consider federal agencies, foundations, libraries, research centers, and other potential funders. What do they say they expect regarding research questions, related research literature, methods of investigation and of data analysis, and other requirements related to length and importance of each aspect of a proposal? How much research time would their funding support?

- Come to the workshop on **September 17** ready to present a summary and discuss in detail the proposal of the person listed below in agenda Sessions 3-5).

Your summary of the proposal should note the following:

1. how the author has changed the proposal since the Spring workshop,
2. what now appears to be the central question that research will answer,
3. how cited literatures contribute to research that will answer those questions,
4. what the research methods are proposed and justified as appropriate,
5. how the author will analyze the research findings in order to answer the central question.

In addition you should discuss how the proposal is written:

1. As presented are the research questions clear and do they seem original and compelling?
2. Is the text clearly and persuasively organized and written?
3. Is the proposal accessible to an interdisciplinary audience of reviewers?
4. Are the questions situated in the most appropriate literatures and theories?
5. Is the proposal organized to establish a clear relationship between the questions being asked and the methods of both investigation and analysis to be employed?
6. Will the methods discover the data or information necessary to answer the central question?
7. Is it clear that the researcher is well prepared to undertake the research that she/he has proposed?

Your summary and discussion should be written out so that you can make any changes that seem useful after the discussion and give your summary and comments to the author after the Session discussion has ended.

- By **September 17** read all the other proposals and make similar notes on each, but limit yourself to one or two specific aspects of the proposal where you think your suggestions might most help to strengthen is coherence. Use these brief notes to contribute to the workshop discussions and, following each discussion, make any additions you think helpful and send your notes to the proposal's author.
- We recommend that you read “On the Art of Writing Proposals” and “The Essentials of Research Design,” which are posted to the DPDF Document Library on Workspace. Both provide thoughtful discussions that can give you a framework for writing and evaluating research funding proposals.

## WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

*Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>*

**6 p.m.:**

**Registration and welcome reception**

Workshop materials will be distributed at registration.

*Dinner on your own*

*Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>*

**9 a.m. to 12 p.m.:**

**Workshop Session #1: Summer Research - Successes and Challenges**

We will ask that you present your thoughts about a variety of aspects of your summer research experiences which are not limited to what you wrote in your final summer research report. As your mid-summer field research reports suggested, the field offers moments of delight and discovery, small triumphs and unexpected allies and friends, and exciting new insights. At the same time, research also involves disappointments, unexpected setbacks, and sometimes can be very stressful. In this session, we will compare four classes of field problems reflected in your earlier reports and explore ways to address them in your research:

1. Subjectivity: How did research challenge your sense of self, authenticity, anxiety, social comfort, and concerns about what you might give back to those you study?
2. Access: How did you negotiate with scholars, archivists, government officials, and the subjects of your research to persuade them of the importance and legitimacy of your work and obtain their cooperation?
3. Focus: How did you keep the project centered on your questions and moving forward in a viable and realistic manner but still make sure it would be interesting to you and others?
4. Flexibility: How did and will you in future research adapt to possible but uncertain opportunities and potentially foreseeable and unexpected obstacles?

**2 to 5 p.m.:**

**Plenary Session on Dissertation Research Funding**

Fellows from all of the DPDF research fields at this workshop session. In this session, DPDF staff, in conjunction with some of the research directors, will discuss the genre of proposal writing for research funding. Topics such as the following will be discussed:

- the importance of meeting funders' requirements and addressing their expectations
- writing for disciplinary versus interdisciplinary audiences
- finding an appropriate tone and style
- ways to write about your pre-dissertation research as preparation for long-term research
- best practices for preparing a research budget
- pulling back the curtain on funder review processes

In the second part of the plenary, students will break out into small groups to form a review committee and evaluate the merits of two short that were submitted to the Fulbright Student

Program. These proposals and background about the funding program will have been sent to you prior to the workshop and posted on Workspace. After you have decided as a committee whether you would fund either of these proposals, we will reconvene to compare the evaluations and decisions of each committee and consider what we have learned about the proposal review process.

**Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #2: Reviewing Proposals**

This session begins our intensive focus on each of your individual proposals. We will spend 40 minutes on each proposal with short breaks in between. Each proposal presenter will have 10 minutes to summarize the basic elements of the proposal – central research question, connection with existing research and theoretical literatures, methods of investigation and of analyzing findings, and finding an answer to the central question. We then will spend about 20 minutes in general discussion of the proposal during which the author will be expected to remain silent and listen to the discussion. For these discussions we ask that you think of yourselves as scholars on a review panel evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of a proposal: Is it well written and accessible to an interdisciplinary audience of reviewers? Are the research questions original and compelling? Are they situated in the appropriate literatures and theories? Is there a clear relationship between the questions being asked and the methods of investigation and analysis being used (in other words, will the methods excavate the material necessary and enable discovery of the answer the question)? Is it clear that the researcher is well prepared to undertake the research s/he has described? The discussion will be followed by a recapitulation by another student who will take notes on this discussion to share with the proposal writer. The recap-discussant will summarize the main points made during the discussion and suggest which he or she thinks to be the most helpful or important for the author to consider in making future revisions to his/her proposal. Following the discussion, the proposal author will have 5 or so minutes to respond, if he or she wants.

	<i>Proposal Author</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Recap Discussant</i>
9-9:40	Aaron Malone	Rashesh Shrestha	Peter Hepburn
9:45-10:25	Andrea Wright	Kriangkak Teerakowitajorn	Youjin Chung
10:35-11:15	Yingchang Zhang	Svetoslava Milusheva	Aparna Parikh
11:20-12	Julia Morris	Aparna Parikh	Pronoy Rai

**2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #3: Reviewing Proposals**

	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Recap Discussant</i>
2-2:40	Rashesh Shrestha	Youjin Chung	Sveta Milusheva
2:45-3:25	Kriangsak Teerakowitajorn	Peter Hepburn	Yingchan Zhang
3:35-4:15	Pronoy Rai	Aaron Malone	Kriangsak Teerakowitajorn
4:20-5	Ashley Parcels	Andrea Wright	Julia Morris

**Friday night: Development and Migration Group Dinner**

**Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #4: Reviewing Proposals**

	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Initial Discussant</i>	<i>Recap Discussant</i>
9-9:40	Youjin Chung	Ashley Parcels	Rashesh Shrestha
9:45-10:25	Aparna Parikh	Yingchan Zhang	Andrea Wright
10:35-11:15	Sveta Milusheva	Julia Morris	Aaron Malone
11:20-12	Peter Hepburn	Pronoy Rai	Ashley Parcels

**2 to 5:45 p.m.: Workshop Session #5: Meetings with Research Directors and Small Groups**

In this session students will be involved in three different exercises:

*1- Meetings with the Research Directors:* We will meet with three students at a time to discuss how each students' proposals might be strengthened by editing or rewriting.

2-2:45	3-3:45	4-4:45	5-5:45
Aaron Malone Sveta Milusheva Ashley Parcels	Rashesh Shrestha Andrea Wright Pronoy Rai	Aparna Parikh Youjin Chung Kriangsak Terra- kowitzjorn	Peter Hepburn Julia Morris Yingchan Zhan

*2- Small Group Meetings:* For one hour, when not meeting with the Research Directors, each group will then meet separately to discuss with one another what they believe may be the single weakest aspect of their own proposal and seek suggestions about how to strengthen that part of the proposal. Alternatively a student may seek advice about how to strengthen the opening paragraph or two of their proposal. The purpose is to focus on parts of your proposal that may be most vulnerable to referees whose job is, in part, to try and eliminate each proposal in order to identify last remaining finalists.

*3- Revisions:* For the remaining time, students will work individually to begin rewriting or editing what they believe to be the weakest part of their proposal or the opening paragraph. Be prepared to share or present your revisions on Sunday morning.

**Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

**9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #6: Wrapping Up and Next Steps**

9-9:45 How did you solve your problem? Now meeting with a new group of three, present or explain how you revised your proposal and let others evaluate the outcome with you. In your small groups of three you will have 45 minutes to discuss the revisions you made to improve your proposal. Spending 15 minutes on each of the proposals in your group, discuss the changes and evaluate whether they successfully address the identified weakness.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
Aaron Malone	Rasesh Shrestha	Peter Hepburn	Julia Morris
Yingchan Zhan	Sveta Milusheva	Ashley Parcels	Youjin Chan
Pronoy Rai	Julia Morris	Andrea Wright	Kriangsak Terra- kowitzajorn

10-11:15 Funding: You will share and discuss with the others information you have identified about funding sources for your projects. We will discuss deadlines, expectations, requirements, and whether there might be additional sources to which each of you might consider applying for support.

11:30-12 Wrap Up/Next Steps: The Research Directors will close the workshop with a discussion of what comes next....?

**12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Farewell lunch at hotel**