

CCTSJR Graduate Research Fellowship Information



About the Consortium

The University of Louisville's **Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research** begins in early 2017. This initiative represents a collaborative effort including more than 30 faculty who participated in conceptualizing the Consortium. In addition to receiving the internal iRFP grant, the Consortium is supported with pledges from 31 University offices, units, centers, institutes, and departments, including participation from 7 colleges and schools (Arts & Sciences, Education & Human Development, Law, Medicine, Nursing, Public Health & Information Science, and Social Work). The Consortium provides a new, university-wide hub for social justice scholarship, bringing interested faculty and students together to incubate new community-engaged transdisciplinary research. Our definition of social justice relies on scholars who conceptualize how systems activate and reinforce inequality. The Consortium adopts a transdisciplinary model that stretches past traditional academic multi-disciplinarity or interprofessionalism to foster collaborations across disciplines, colleges, and beyond academia that are dedicated to finding new solutions to complex, intransigent social problems. It will function as the outward face of social justice at the University of Louisville. Internally, the Consortium will support social justice research, advocacy, and community engagement through activities designed to bridge the gap between research and action. Research initiatives will focus on: Community Justice, including Restorative Justice and Housing Justice; Environmental Justice; Social Justice in West Louisville; Emerging Social Justice Issues such as Health Equity.

The Consortium will create structured opportunities for faculty across disciplines and schools to gather and pursue both internal and external support for their research, as well as provide opportunities for undergraduate and graduate student engagement. The Consortium supports transdisciplinary research teams through faculty fellowships (direct grants and indirect support), graduate student research assistantships, and undergraduate scholarships. The Consortium will do this work through several governance bodies, including a Lead Partner Working Group, Faculty Council, Community Advisory Board and University Advisory Board. The Lead Partner Working Group initially includes the A&S Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, the Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace & Justice, the Brandeis Laboratory for Democracy and Citizenship, the SPHIS Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky, and the HSC Office of Health Affairs, Diversity and Inclusion.

What is Transdisciplinary Research?

An expanded definition of transdisciplinarity and its distinction from multi-disciplinarity or interdisciplinarity can be found at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17330451> .

We use these terms in the sense noted in the article: "Multi-disciplinarity draws on knowledge from different disciplines but stays within their boundaries. Interdisciplinarity analyzes, synthesizes, and harmonizes links between disciplines into a coordinated and coherent whole. Transdisciplinarity integrates the natural, social, and health sciences in a humanities context, and transcends their traditional boundaries" to create new forms of knowledge, typically developed with community practitioners. Projects that incorporate arts or humanities elements into other kinds of research include, for example, photovoice methodologies combined with health science research; students' personal narratives woven into social sciences research that examines educational inequities; or public policy research that includes theatrical representation of its findings.

Fellowship Specifics

The University of Louisville's newly created Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research seeks a Graduate Research Fellow at the doctoral level to assist in all its operations and support multiple research and program activities. Graduate students applying must be full-time UofL students accepted into a PhD degree-granting program. Applicants are required to have earned above a 3.0 cumulative GPA during their Master's career or most recent full-time graduate semester.

We seek a dynamic, strategic thinker with an interest in organizational development from the ground up and with the following demonstrated experience: 1) in effective interpersonal relationship-building and communication skills, orally and in writing, with diverse constituencies; 2) in organization-building including exercising discretion and judgment in balancing a wide range of academic and community-based tasks; 3) in developing and maintaining priorities in order to conduct multiple tasks in a given time frame; and 4) as team player with a positive, outgoing attitude, as well as commitment to diversity and to social justice issues of the sort that underpin the Consortium.

The Research Fellow will work in close consultation with the Consortium's Research Manager, faculty who are the primary investigators, and other student research fellows. This student will have major responsibilities for constituting and supporting various transdisciplinary social justice research teams that include representatives from a wide array of academic disciplines and community partners.

Students who have current funding may still apply. Until July 2017, the candidate will be required to work up to 10 hours/week for the Consortium in addition to the hours they work in their current assistantship. The student will receive ex-pay for the hours they work for the Consortium. The student will then transfer to the Consortium Fellow position full-time (about 20 hrs/week) on July 1, 2017. Tuition and stipend for the 2017-18 academic year are covered, with the expectation of renewal for up to two more years pending good performance.

Application Process

Application forms are available on the Anne Braden Institute website (<http://louisville.edu/braden/research/transdisciplinary-social-justice-research-consortium-cfp>) and at the Institute office after **JANUARY 16th, 2017**. The deadline for receipt of applications is 5:00 p.m. on **March 20th, 2017**. Applications may be submitted by mail if received by the deadline, or may be hand delivered to: Attention Nia Holt, CCTSJR, c/o **Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, 258 Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, 40292. Completed and scanned PDF applications may also be submitted to transdis@louisville.edu by the same time and date.**

Finalists will be invited for interviews to be scheduled not later than early in the week of April 10th, 2017. The Fellow will be selected no later than April 13th, 2017, and should be prepared to begin soon thereafter.

For more information, contact Nia Holt at [\(502\) 852-6142](tel:(502)852-6142) or by email at niholt01@louisville.edu.

CCTSJR Graduate Research Fellowship Application



Background Information

Name	
Street Address	
City ST ZIP Code	
Phone	
E-Mail Address	
Degree Program	
Expected Graduation Month/Year	
Student ID	

Recommendations

You are required to submit letters of recommendation from two professionals. These may be submitted with your applications, or mailed to transdisciplinary@louisville.edu, with the subjected line marked "Doctoral fellowship recommendation." Please provide the names and contact information of those submitting your letters of recommendation.

1.	Name, Title	
	Phone/Email	
2.	Name, Title	
	Phone/Email	

Additional Information Required

Please submit this application with following documents:

- 2-pp. Letter of Application describing your academic, community, and personal interests and qualifications for this position
- A CV
- A copy of your undergraduate and graduate transcript (if you did not receive your undergraduate degree and/or graduate degree from University of Louisville)

Agreement and Signature

By submitting this application, I affirm that the facts set forth in it are true and complete. I understand that if I am accepted for this position, any false statements, omissions, or other misrepresentations made by me on this application may result in my immediate dismissal.

Name (printed)	
Signature	
Date	

Our Policy

CCTSJR Graduate Research Fellows require 20 hours of work per week and provide tuition remission, monthly stipend, and health insurance coverage. Ph.D. students may receive support for 12 months.

It is the policy of this organization to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual preference, age, or disability.

Thank you for completing this application form and for your interest in the University of Louisville's Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research

Deadline

Your completed application, including recommendations, must be submitted electronically to transdisciplinary@louisville.edu or delivered in hard copy to **Nia Holt** no later than **5:00 pm on MARCH 20, 2017:**

ATTN: Nia Holt-CCTSJR
c/o Anne Braden Institute,
Ekstrom Library Room 258, University of Louisville,
Louisville, KY 40292.