



The Compton Africa Peace Fellowships at Michigan State University for Dissertation Research by African Students in African Universities

A Program of the MSU African Studies Center and the Women and International Development Program

Michigan State University's African Studies Center (ASC) and Women and International Development (WID) Program are offering Compton Africa Peace Fellowships to graduate students from Sub-Saharan Africa to support their dissertation field research in Africa. This program is an element of the MSU *African Higher Education Partnerships Initiative* (AHEPI). These dissertation fellowship awards are made possible by a grant from the Compton Foundation through its *Peace Fellowship Program* for addressing peace, conflict resolution, and security in Africa.

GOALS AND PRIORITIES OF THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM:

The goal of the Compton Fellowship Program in Peace and Security is to build intellectual capacity in Sub-Saharan African nations and institutions that can address the challenges of conflict resolution, peace, and security issues intra- and internationally. The fellowships will support exceptional Ph.D. degree candidates at universities in Sub-Saharan Africa who intend to work in their country or region of origin after completing their studies. A secondary goal is to promote the integration of environment, peace, and/or population issues in graduate-level study and research.

The Compton Foundation's peace and security program focuses on a variety of activities and issue areas which include: reducing the threat from weapons of mass destruction; resolving and avoiding international and regional conflict; and broadening the definition of national security to include environmental and population aspects.

ELIGIBILITY:

Students eligible for the MSU Compton Africa Peace Fellowship Program must:

- 1) Be citizens of a nation in Sub-Saharan Africa and not be seeking citizenship or residency abroad.
- 2) Be enrolled in a Ph.D. program at an African university partnering with MSU in exchange and linkage programs and nominated by the Dean or Director of their Faculty or Institute.
- 3) Be candidates for the Ph.D. degree in any of a variety of disciplines, such as political science, sociology, anthropology, history, public policy, criminal justice, social work, communications, economics or agricultural economics, and law and pursuing an eligible research topic (see next section).
- 4) Provide evidence that all requirements for the Ph.D. degree (including comprehensive examinations and departmental approval of the dissertation proposal) will be completed except for dissertation fieldwork and write-up by the time they plan to begin fieldwork with the Compton funding.
- 5) Be pursuing a dissertation that requires fieldwork in Africa for a *minimum of six months and a maximum of 12 months* for collecting qualitative or quantitative data.

ELIGIBLE RESEARCH TOPICS:

The Compton Foundation utilizes a broad definition of peace and security, encompassing a number of cross-cutting issues, including peace building and conflict resolution. Students are eligible for pursuing research in fields such as political science, sociology, anthropology, history, public policy, criminal justice, social work, communications, economics or agricultural economics, and law. However, the applicant must make a clear and compelling case for his/her research having a *direct* bearing on peace and security issues in Sub-Saharan Africa. Research projects with cross-cutting themes related to environment and/or population issues are of particular interest; however, they must demonstrate a direct bearing on African peace, conflict, and security themes. The sponsors are especially eager to consider proposals on peace and security that also address issues of gender. The MSU Compton Africa Peace Fellowship Program will consider applications in the following sub-fields if their direct bearing on the theme is clear:

- Peace, Democracy, and Civil Society
- Environment, Natural Resource Security, and Community Participation
- Population and Refugees
- Communication, Peace, and Security
- Labor and Industrial Conflict and Cooperation
- Peace, Security, and Conflict Resolution in African History
- Food and Economic Security

AWARDS:

The awards are for up to US\$15,000 and are to be used to support field research in Sub-Saharan Africa and also may be used for travel, housing, and meals for a one-month program of consultation and directed readings at MSU related to peace and security. Two awards will be given for 2006 to students at an African University partnering with MSU in linkage agreements and exchanges.

No more than one applicant from each university will be considered. Applicants from African universities will be nominated by the Dean or Director of their Faculty or Institute. It is the applicant's responsibility to notify the Dean or Director of his/her interest in applying for the Fellowship. Applications should be sent directly to Michigan State University.

Awards will be granted after a competitive review by an MSU committee of faculty in the African Studies Center and Women and International Development Program.

DEADLINE:

February 15, 2008 for awards to be used in 2008.

APPLICATION FORMS:

Application forms are available at: <http://africa.msu.edu/compton.php> and <http://www.wid.msu.edu/forstudents/opportunities.htm>

Completed application forms must be submitted **by mail and e-mail** to:

MSU-Compton Fellowship Committee
c/o David Wiley
African Studies Center
100 International Center
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1035
wiley@msu.edu

**Application Form for The Compton Africa Peace Fellowships
at Michigan State University
for Dissertation Research by African Students in African Universities**

**A Program of the MSU African Studies Center and
the Women and International Development Program**

Deadline for awards to be used in 2008: February 15, 2008

Please complete this form and return it to the address at the end of the form. Use additional pages if necessary.

Personal Information

1. Name: _____ E-mail: _____

2. Current address: _____

City: _____ State/Country: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

3. a. Permanent (Home) Address: _____

City: _____ State/Country: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

4. Country of Citizenship: _____ Country of Current Residence: _____

Undergraduate Education

5. a. Institution(s):

_____ Dates Attended: _____

_____ Dates Attended: _____

b. Major: _____ Minor(s): _____

c. Degree: _____ Date: _____

d. Undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA): _____ (A = _____ points)

(Explain if a non-U.S. system): _____

e. What was your field (focus) of study? _____

6. Graduate Record Examinations (if applicable):

a. Graduate Record Examination Scores: Dates taken (month/year): _____

Verbal Score: _____ Quantitative: _____ Analytical: _____

Name of Advanced Field: _____ Advanced Field Score: _____

b. If you have not received scores, have you taken the GRE exams? Yes ___ No ___

If Yes, date taken: _____

Graduate Education

7. In what institutions have you been a graduate student or candidate? (See also Question #8 below.)

	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>When Completed?</u>
a.	_____	_____	_____	_____
b.	_____	_____	_____	_____
c.	_____	_____	_____	_____

8. Current or most recent academic affiliation:

a. Name of academic institution in which you are or recently have been enrolled: _____

b. Name of academic department in which you are enrolled: _____

c. Date accepted into the Ph.D. program – Semester/Term: _____ Year: _____

d. Name of academic advisor or major professor: _____

9. Progress of Academic Program:

a. Indicate when the following in your academic programs were or will be completed:

i) When graduate course work completed – Semester/Term: _____ Year: _____

ii) When comprehensive examinations completed – Semester: _____ Year: _____

If not applicable explain: _____

iii) When dissertation proposal approved – Semester: _____ Year: _____

10. a. For each year of graduate study, indicate below the year and the number of semester or quarter/term credit hours of each grade received:

		Number of credit hours of each grade						
Academic Year	Institution (See #7 above)	Degree/ Program	A 4.0	A- /B+ 3.5	B 3.0	B- /C+ 2.5	C 2.0	D or lower 1.0
1st Year: _____ - _____								
2nd Year: _____ - _____								
3rd Year: _____ - _____								
4th Year: _____ - _____								
5th Year: _____ - _____								
6th Year: _____ - _____								

b. What is your current cumulative grade point average: _____ (A = _____ points)

c. If there is a gap in your graduate study, please explain the reason: _____

11. Please indicate what other fellowship, scholarship, or other award you will have during your dissertation field research and write-up periods.

a. _____

b. _____

12. List any fellowships or other awards you have applied for to fund your dissertation fieldwork.

<u>Support Requested</u>	<u>Support Level/Amount</u>	<u>Date of Notification</u>	<u>Received Yes/No?</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Dissertation Research

Please attach a copy of your dissertation proposal and a letter from your advisor, verified by your department chair, indicating that you will have completed requirements for the Ph.D., such as the comprehensive examination, and department approval of your research proposal by the time you begin fieldwork. (This may be included in advisor’s letter.)

13. Briefly describe your particular area(s) of concentration in your graduate study or topical areas on which you have focused. (If needed, please attach additional pages.)

14. What is the title of your dissertation proposal?

15. Where will your fieldwork be conducted and how will it address the Compton Fellowship issues of conflict resolution, peace, security issues, and/or environmental and sustainable development relevant to Africa? (If needed, please attach additional pages.)

a. Research Site: _____

b. Addressing what issues: _____

16. What specific course work have you taken relevant to the Compton areas of concentration?

17. What language(s) will you be using in your research and what is your fluency in each?

18. Briefly describe your career goals after completing graduate training. (If needed, attach additional pages.)

19. Please indicate the dates when you plan to be in the field for your dissertation research:

20. Please include on a separate page a budget in US dollars for your field research, including items such as air transport, transport in the field, research assistants, stipend, photocopying, and purchase of equipment or data.

21. Names and addresses of persons you have requested or are requesting to write letters of reference for you. At least two letters are required from professors in your major field.

Reference letters are confidential and may be shared only among the Center Fellowship Selection Committee, Center administrators, and the referee. Inform your referees to address: (a) specific points related to your scholarly and overall potential; and (b) the Compton foci indicated in question #15 above and fully described in the announcement.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

22. If the space available in this application form is not adequate, please provide any other information you believe is relevant to your candidacy for the Fellowship on separate pages.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail and e-mail completed application to:

MSU-Compton Fellowship Committee
c/o David Wiley
African Studies Center
100 International Center
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1035
wiley@msu.edu

If you have questions, please contact:

Prof. Anne Ferguson, WID Director
Ph: 517/353-5040 – E-mail: *fergus12@msu.edu*
Prof. David Wiley, ASC Director
Ph: 517/353-1700 – E-mail: *wiley@msu.edu*
Carmen Bain, WID Assistant Director
Ph: 517/353-5040 – E-mail: *wid@msu.edu*

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- **Completed application form (*mail and e-mail*)**
- **At least two letters of reference from professors in your major field addressing specific points related to your scholarly and overall potential, and to the Compton foci. In addition, one of the two letters must be from your advisor and verified by your department chair, indicating that you will have completed all requirements for the Ph.D., such as the comprehensive examination, and department approval of your research proposal by the time you begin fieldwork. (*mail*)**
- **A copy of your dissertation proposal (*mail and e-mail*)**
- **A copy of your most recent transcript (*mail*)**
- **A budget for your field research (*mail and e-mail*)**