

THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION



NEWS RELEASE

1331 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., 12th Floor North, Washington, DC 20004

Office of External Affairs: Paula Durbin
Telephone: (202) 683-7188
www.iaf.gov

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THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION AWARDS 16 GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIPS

Washington, D.C.—The Inter-American Foundation (IAF) has awarded Grassroots Development Fellowships to 16 Ph.D. candidates from universities in the United States who will conduct dissertation research in Latin America during the coming year. The Fellows were selected on the strength of their academic record, their proposals and their potential contribution to grassroots development. All U.S. citizens except as noted, they will research the following topics:

- Carolina Arango-Vargas (Colombia), Syracuse University, *autonomy, resistance and development among women farmers' organizations in rural Antioquia, Colombia;*
- Kelly Bauer, George Washington University, *land reform and indigenous mobilization in Chile;*
- Paula Dias, Brown University, *oil, environmental education and governance in Brazil;*

- Maria dos Santos Soares (Brazil), University of Texas, *Companhia dos Comuns, theater and the challenge of racial equality in Brazil*;
- Jael Goldsmith Weil, Northwestern University, *citizens' strategies for changing economic, political and welfare regimes in Chile between 1954 and 2010*;
- Summer Harlow, University of Texas, *the digital transition of grassroots and activist media in El Salvador*;
- Brett Hartman, University of California-Santa Barbara, *gully rehabilitation and wet meadow restoration in the Bolivian Andes*;
- Sandra Ley-Gutierrez (Mexico), Duke University, *political participation and voting behavior in a context of violence in Mexico*;
- Katherine Maich, University of California-Berkeley, *domestic-worker movements in Guatemala and Peru*;
- Elizabeth Mason-Deese, University of North Carolina, *unemployed-worker movements in Buenos Aires*;
- Brian Palmer Rubin, University of California-Berkeley, *grassroots interest groups and development policy in Mexico*;
- Paula Pinheiro (Brazil), University of Florida, *co-management of natural resources in the Lower Juruá Extractive Reserve, Brazil*;
- Manuel Prieto Montt (Chile), University of Arizona, *Chilean water-management reforms and the indigenous people of the Atacama Desert*;
- Rodrigo Renteria-Valencia (Mexico), University of Arizona, *environmental conservation and the transformation of indigenous expertise in Mexico*;
- Czarina Thelen, University of Texas, *Maya youth theater, social justice and armed violence in Guatemala*;
- Mary Wilhoit, Northwestern University, *rural Peruvian women and the privatization of communal farmland*.

This fall the IAF will announce the competition for the 2013-2014 cycle of Fellowships for students in the social sciences, physical sciences, technical fields and the professions as they relate to grassroots development issues. IAF Fellowships provide international transportation to the field research site, a monthly stipend for a maximum period of 12 months and a research allowance. Fellows must have advanced to Ph.D. candidacy by the date they begin their IAF-sponsored research. To date, the IAF has supported more than 1,000 Fellows from the United States and 28 other countries in the Americas. For more information, visit www.iie.org/iaf.

The IAF is an independent foreign-assistance agency of the United States government. It was created in 1969 by the United States Congress to fund self-help initiatives of the organized poor in Latin America and the Caribbean. To date, it has awarded nearly 5,000 grants for grassroots development, worth approximately \$680 million. Together the IAF and its grantees have improved conditions for hundreds of thousands of poor families in communities throughout the hemisphere. For more on the IAF, log on to www.iaf.gov.