



EducationUSA Weekly Update

No. 82 May 19, 2008

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I. Scholarships and Fellowships

Robert Wood Foundation Health & Society Scholars Program

Deadline: October 3, 2008

This scholars program is designed to help build the nation's capacity for research, leadership, and policy change in regard to the multiple determinants of population health. The program's goal is to improve health by training scholars to: investigate the connections among biological, genetic, behavioral, environmental, economic, and social determinants of health; and develop, evaluate, and disseminate knowledge and interventions that integrate and act on these determinants to improve health. To be eligible, scholars must: have completed doctoral training by the time of entry into the two-year program (August or September 2009).

Winners will receive an annual stipend of \$86,000 in year one and \$89,000 in year two of the program. For complete details on eligibility visit: <http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20241>.

Open Society Fellowship

Dear all,

I am pleased to announce the launch of the Open Society Fellowship. The Fellowship will enable outstanding individuals from around the world – journalists, activists, academics, practitioners – to work on projects that inspire meaningful public debate, shape policy, and inform the thinking and activities of the Open Society Institute and the Soros foundations.

Fellows' projects may include books, articles, documentary films, online media, and efforts to seed new campaigns and organizations.

The Fellowship, directed by Leonard Benardo, focuses on four areas: National Security and the Open Society; Citizenship, Membership and Marginalization; Strategies and Tools for Advocacy and Citizen Engagement; and Understanding Authoritarianism. OSI may also support a limited number of projects that fall outside these areas but are within the scope of OSI's [mission](#).

Fellows will receive competitive stipends, communications assistance, and access to OSI's networks of partners and grantees. Most Fellowships will be awarded for one year but longer or shorter durations may be considered. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

For more information, please visit <http://www.soros.org/initiatives/fellowship>.

As we move forward with this innovative and exciting program, I encourage you to share this announcement widely.

Sincerely yours,
Aryeh Neier

II. News you can use

Using the Media to Promote Adolescent Well-Being

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2008/spring_children_haskins/spring_children_haskins.pdf

Many researchers and parents are concerned about the effects of the media on adolescents. It's in no way a new concern, but there is a renewed interest in how media can potentially be harnessed to combat some of the more pernicious messages

Contact an EducationUSA adviser near you for guidance on finding and applying to an accredited U.S. college or university <http://www.educationusa.state.gov/> 1

disseminated by mainstream media. This particular 8-page brief released in April 2008 takes on that very subject. The brief is part of "The Future of Children" initiative, which is jointly sponsored by Princeton University and The Brookings Institution. Authored by Elisabeth Hirschhorn Donahue, Ron Haskins, and Marisa Nightingale, the brief suggests that nonprofit groups and associations can effectively "draw teens into conversations by supplying them with expertise and tools they can share with their friends to become advocates to one another." The report goes on to suggest that working with new media and social networking sites may be more effective than trying to rally against such new forms of expression. From The Scout Report, Copyright Internet Scout Project 1994-2008. <http://scout.wisc.edu/>

Smithsonian: Science and Technology

http://www.si.edu/Encyclopedia_SI/Science_and_Technology/default.htm

Browsing through the Encyclopedia Smithsonian can be a bit like spending time with a friend: You'll rediscover some familiar stories, and you'll probably learn something new at the same time. This particular part of the Encyclopedia Smithsonian covers science and technology and visitors can learn about Arctic wildlife, major "firsts" in aviation history, and bird biology. The materials are drawn from different parts of the Institution, including the Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention & Innovation and the National Air & Space Museum. Visitors can also scan the left-hand side of the page for alphabetically organized resources from aeronautics to zoology. Overall, the site is a great way to access a few of the tremendous resources offered by the Institution, and it may just inspire a deeper search through some of their additional online offerings. From The Scout Report, Copyright Internet Scout Project 1994-2008. <http://scout.wisc.edu/>

Useful Web Sites for Summer Preparation

There are thousands of good college websites these days. REAC Nancy Keteku has found one that's like a refresher course in competitive undergraduate admissions, useful for advisors as well as students. To give your professional development a boost, go to <https://www.collegedata.com> and click on "prepare and apply" - then read the relevant articles, share them with your students, and incorporate them into your group sessions. Instant smarts!

REAC Kathleen Alam's recommendations

REAC Kathleen Alam has sent a document that can be found on the USEFI website. She writes, *I think it's an excellent compilation of contacts in India, and it's well presented for the US academic community. I thought you might want to share this with some of your centers to use as a template if they would like.* [inst audit on India - April, 2008 .doc](#)

Podcasts

If you go to <http://www.financialaidpodcast.com> you can sign up to have finaid news sent to you daily in an email. You can also simply click onto the "listen now" and have what's like a radio broadcast - you can listen while you're doing something else!!

From www.feedblitz.com: I was surfing through the iTunes Store at lunch today and wandered back into iTunesU <http://www.apple.com/education/itunesu_mobilelearning/itunesu.html>, a collection of academic lectures and things that Apple began gathering a while ago. (iTunesU is found at http://www.apple.com/education/itunesu_mobilelearning/itunesu.html)

My, how things have changed. You can now get the same academic quality of an Ivy League education (at least course content) on your iPod. Take your pick - Yale, Stanford, UC Berkeley, MIT - the best schools in the nation are sharing their lectures, guest speakers, concerts, and more. Here's the mindblowing part: it's free. \$40,000 a year to attend a top tier school? Or free on your iPod? Of course, iTunesU isn't a substitute for a full education, but if you're going to go to college and try to save money, you can supplement your education wherever you attend with top courses, instructors, and materials from the best schools in the nation.