|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project Title: | Finding a Job in the Megacity: the Relationships between Education, Work, and the Urban Setting |
| Abstract: This proposal for a short term research fellowship for dissertation fieldwork in Karachi, Pakistan concerns the education to employment transition. I seek to explore the strategies of male college-educated youth as they navigate the urban economy of Pakistan’s commercial center. Specifically, I propose an ethnographic study of the transition of young men as they complete their undergraduate degrees and move on to full time employment in the formal economy. I am interested in the aspirations, the job searching activities, and the use and maintenance of social networks on a university campus, off campus, and at a private company in the service sector. I seek to carry out this study in four phases in an effort to understand the articulation between higher education and the formal economy in a period of urbanization, service-led economic restructuring and liberalization, as well as during a youth bulge. I seek funding for the crucial phase of the research in which I will be focusing on the completion of higher education among undergraduate business students. | |