



Call for Applicants

Ph.D. Research Scholarship 2013/2014 Academic Year on Religion, Public Policy & Social Transformation in Southeast Asia

Deadline: 27 July 2013 at 11:00 a.m. (Yogyakarta Standard Time)

Description

ICRS invites applicants for one competitive Ph.D. Research Scholarship in Inter-Religious Studies with a research focus on *Religion, Public Policy & Social Transformation in Southeast Asia*. The Ph.D. Research Scholarship is part of the collaborative research project entitled “Religion, Public Policy & Social Transformation in Southeast Asia”, which is supported by the New York-based Henry Luce Foundation. The collaborative research project addresses three general themes:

1. ***Managing Religious Diversity***: This theme examines the way the state and society manage religious diversity, and the variety of problems deriving from the political negotiations, which constantly strive to achieve social balance and sustainable support. It delves into issues such as religious pluralism and its interface with education and multiculturalism, the majority-minority divide, the politics of domination and ‘minoritization’ and the limits of tolerance. It also hopes to highlight the fundamental problem of the “common” and “public good” from the religious perspective.
2. ***Religion, Identity and Gender***: This theme deals with the intersection between religion and the politics of identity and gender. It specifically delves into the thorny and multifaceted problem of religion, solidarity, the need to belong and expressive politics. This theme will wrestle with how the state defines, and sets the course for identity and gender in Southeast Asia. It specially looks at identity-seeking movements and the restrictions imposed by state machinations, laws, regulations and public policies. The theme hopes to explore the changing role of women in politics and the contentious role of women religious leadership as well as their influence on religion and public life in general.

3. *Religion in the Public Sphere*: This theme relates to religion and its porous boundaries and subsequently the inherent challenges they may pose. It is expected to answer the basic question of whether or not a 'secular public sphere' exists. It will examine further the church/mosque-state dichotomy, and examine how the ever expanding cyber culture has had an impact on traditional religions and their various forms and manifestations of rituals, religious thinking and practice. The theme anticipates policy-relevant thinking along the lines of globalization and the advent of transnational religious praxes within the context of Southeast Asian society, and how they directly impact the lives of people in the region.

Scholarship Coverage

The full Ph.D. Research Scholarship program begins in September 2013 with a probation period of one academic semester. The Research Scholarship program covers the awardee's tuition, monthly stipend and some funding for research travels. If the awardee were an Indonesian national, he or she will be required to undergo a sandwich program for at least one semester in one of ICRS' partner universities. Throughout his or her studies, the awardee will work as a Research Scholar for the ICRS flagship collaborative research project entitled "Religion, Public Policy & Social Transformation in Southeast Asia," which covers eight countries in Asia (i.e. Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia and Myanmar) and the United States of America. The Research Scholar is expected to assist in conducting research and work under the direct supervision of the Principal Investigator, who is a Core Doctoral Faculty of ICRS.

Requirements

To be considered, all applicants should fulfill the general requirements to enter a Ph.D. program in Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM). For more details, all applicants should refer to <http://um.ugm.ac.id/2013/home.php?title=page&p=130401>. The awardee will be listed as a Ph.D. student in Inter-Religious Studies (S3 IRS) UGM and will receive a Ph.D. degree from the same university. In addition to the general requirements, all applicants should:

- Hold at least a Master's degree in social and political sciences, international relations, public policy, religious studies, theology and other relevant disciplines
- Write a brief research proposal that relates to the overall theme of the research project
- Have an ITP TOEL score of at least 525 or its equivalent
- Be able to work independently and under pressure
- Be able to fulfill research targets and objectives
- Proven track record of research
- Have superb writing skills
- Fill out (in English) ICRS Application Form (downloadable at: <http://icrs.ugm.ac.id/download-center/detail/39/2013-2014-icrs-application-form.html>) and submit all required supporting documents

Application Procedure & Deadline

All applicants should register online at <http://um.ugm.ac.id> and submit two copies of application to ICRS by **no later than 27 July 2013 at 11:00 a.m. (Yogyakarta Standard Time)**. Late applications will not be considered.

For Further Information

Maufur (Ipung)

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