Call for Collaborative Research Projects
Center for Justice, Tolerance, & Community (CJTC)

The Center for Justice, Tolerance, & Community (CJTC) is pleased to announce the availability of small grants to fund collaborative research projects undertaken by UCSC faculty and community partners. Over the next two years, with funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, we anticipate awarding at least three grants of up to $10,000 each.¹

CJTC’s broad mission includes research and policy development about social justice and the building of collaborative communities. We aim to conduct our work in a collaborative fashion, both across disciplines within the university and between the university and the community. We combine rigor, relevance, and reach – that is, we support and encourage high-quality cutting-edge research with an emphasis on public dissemination of findings, relevance to contemporary public discourse and policy debates, and active engagement with affected communities.

In this first year’s solicitation of proposals², the Center is open to a broad range of topics involving education, economic, or environmental issues confronting a changing California and affecting underrepresented communities. We are open to a broad range of methods and disciplines from the social sciences and humanities, but are particularly interested in interdisciplinary approaches that combine methodological rigor with accessibility to the public, especially community leaders and decision-makers. We are particularly interested in projects that focus on educational equity concerns and that strengthen community ties, the central focus of our Kellogg grant. Ideally, these grants will be seed money to support longer-term collaborations.

Proposals will be more favorably considered if they include one or more of the following:

- An interdisciplinary team of researchers approaching the issue from diverse and comparative perspectives
- A current or potential partnership(s) with community organizations
- A description of potential policy relevance
- A strategy for public dissemination, education, or engagement

Proposals should be no more than five pages long. Each should include a brief statement of the topic to be pursued, the nature of methods and research designs, the possible relevance to

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¹ If proposals are especially strong, the committee will consider budgets of up to $15,000.
² The second solicitation will occur during the 2006-2007 academic year.
community or public policy issues, any plans for future funding or public dissemination, a list of committed faculty participants and potential or committed community partners, and a one-page budget. Allowable expenses include meeting costs, research travel, student assistance, software packages, books, supplies, and speakers/resource people who can aid in project development. We ask that a single coordinator be identified for administrative purposes.

Proposals will be due by June 1, 2006. Decisions will be announced by June 15, 2006 and funding will be available soon thereafter. Funds should be expended no later than June 30, 2007, with a two page accounting due shortly thereafter.

Funding decisions will be made by the faculty steering committee of the CJTC. Steering committee members may apply but will be recused from the selection process.

For more information or for further discussion regarding topic fit, nature of community collaboration, or other matters, please feel free to contact Beth Nelson, CJTC Program Manager at 459-1022.