

## **Geographies of Justice Dissertation Fellows**

The Geographies of Justice Dissertation Fellowships are one-year, non-renewable awards offered by the Social Justice Initiative in conjunction with the Sawyer Seminar. The Sawyer Seminar is a series of four international convenings of experts in the fields of human and civil rights. These fellowships are grant funded and intended to provide students with a period of time dedicated to completing their dissertation research and engaging with the seminar. The fellowships are open to students in the Humanities or Social Sciences who have passed their preliminary examinations at the University of Illinois-Chicago. Students supported by these fellowships will need to have dissertation projects relating to one or multiple areas of focus of the Sawyer Seminar: Israel/Palestine since the 1967 war, Apartheid and Post-Apartheid South Africa, the U.S. Black Freedom Movement from 1960-present or relating to one of the thematic strains of the seminar: art as protest and a space for imagining alternative futures; education, pedagogies, epistemologies in flux; prisons, police, security, and violence; wealth disparities, economics, and labor rights. Fellows will be expected to participate in all four seminars and the mini-conference associated with this grant. The fellowships will provide a \$20,000 stipend and cover tuition and benefits.

In order to apply, students should submit a statement of interest describing how their research aligns with the seminar and outlining the ways in which they intend to contribute to the seminar, an abstract of dissertation research, resume/CV, UIC transcripts, and two letters of reference to Emily Williams at [emilywil@uic.edu](mailto:emilywil@uic.edu) by March 1, 2016.

### **A description of the Sawyer Seminar is below.**

The Social Justice Initiative (SJI) at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) invites applicants for a one-year postdoctoral fellowship as part of the 2016-2017 Sawyer Seminar on “Geographies of Justice: A Scholarly and Public Dialogue Series about the Contested Terrain and Meaning of Freedom in the late 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century World.”

Funded by the Mellon Foundation, the Sawyer Seminar will bring together a diverse and interdisciplinary group of scholars, as well as public intellectuals and community activists, to look at three sites of political and intellectual contestation: apartheid and post-apartheid South Africa, Palestine/Israel since 1967, and the U.S. Black Freedom Movement since 1960. The seminar will explore struggles for freedom and justice and consider what scholars, activists, and artists can learn from one another across national borders and other divides. We will organize our inquiry around four axes: 1) Prisons, police, security and violence, 2) Wealth disparity, economics and labor rights, 3) Education, pedagogies, and epistemologies in flux, and 4) Art as protest and as a space for imagining alternatives.