

# Sawyer Seminar Job/Position Descriptions

## **Sawyer Seminar Program Coordinator**

The Sawyer Seminar Program Coordinator will be responsible for the successful coordination of all activities related to the Sawyer Seminar, a series of four international convenings of experts in the fields of human and civil rights, hosted by the Social Justice Initiative at the University of Illinois at Chicago. This is a grant-funded position paying \$18.00 for ten hours per week for fifty-two weeks over the course of the next two years. The Sawyer Seminar Program Coordinator's responsibilities will include but are not limited to: managing the development of the Sawyer Seminar website, coordinating fellowship applications, posting job descriptions, arranging travel and lodging for national and international guest speakers, securing meeting space reservations, scheduling Sawyer Working Group meetings, maintaining detailed and accurate records of seminar and working group meeting content. The ideal candidate will have had experience in conference planning, coordinating large groups of people, working in higher education or non-profit/grassroots organizations, and will be skilled in web-design and maintenance. Familiarity with the social justice themes of the seminar is also desirable

Please send a resume/curriculum vitae, cover letter, and the contact information for three references to Emily Williams at [emilywil@uic.edu](mailto:emilywil@uic.edu). Please include "Sawyer Program Coordinator" in the subject line. Please send application materials by October 1, 2015

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

The Social Justice Initiative (SJI) at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) invites applications 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.