Tanaka Research Fund 2015

Application guidelines

Criteria:
The Tanaka Research Fund, established with the generous support of the Tanaka Memorial Foundation in Tokyo, is designed to support independent fieldwork in Asia by Trinity students. This fieldwork may be part of a larger project, such as a senior thesis for one's major, or it may be a study that the student wishes to pursue out of his or her own intellectual curiosity and desire to understand a particular aspect of the society, culture, economy, or politics of a particular Asian country better.

The grant is for use during the summer months. In addition to whatever use they make of their findings for senior theses or other projects, recipients will be required to present the results of their research to the Center for Urban and Global Studies so that they may be shared with the Trinity community and the Tanaka Memorial Foundation.

Materials to submit:
A complete application will consist of the following: 1) A personal statement and project proposal; 2) a preliminary schedule and budget; and 3) a letter of support from a Trinity faculty member who will serve in some sort of advisory capacity for the project.

1) Personal Statement and Project Proposal
In 2000 words or less describe the personal history of your interest in Asia and the issue you are proposing to study, as well as the important details of the research project itself. How you choose to organize the statement and proposal is up to you, but it should address questions such as: Where will the fieldwork be conducted? What research question or questions is your proposed fieldwork designed to address? What resources will you make use of in your fieldwork (e.g., libraries, interviews with specific people of groups of people, site surveys, etc.), and how will you go about accessing them? What methodologies will you use to conduct your fieldwork? What faculty member or members at Trinity will help you with the project (either during the fieldwork phase or afterward), and what will their contributions to it be? How will the opportunity to pursue this project contribute to your academic and/or career goals?

2) Preliminary Schedule and Budget
Describe in as much detail as possible the timetable for your fieldwork, including probable dates, locations, and the activities to be conducted. Also, include a budget for the project. Be as specific as possible about the foreseeable costs, and be sure to include transportation fees to and from the country in which you will conduct the fieldwork and lodging fees while there.
3) Letter of Support
This is a letter from the faculty member you mention in your project proposal. It should include an evaluation your potential to carry out the project successfully, and a description the faculty member’s own role in overseeing it (including any subsequent involvement they will have with your work, such as serving as a thesis advisor, etc.). It does not need to be a formal letter. The faculty member may send an informal email to the chair of the selection committee, Prof. Jeffrey Bayliss (jeffrey.Bayliss@trincoll.edu) if she or he wishes.

Deadline:
Deadline to be announced in the spring, and will be added to the application at that time.