The Asia Research Institute (ARI) of National University of Singapore (NUS) invites applications from graduate (MA and PhD) students who are engaged in research on Southeast Asia for the annual fellowship and forum:

|  |
| --- |
| **ASIAN GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP** | 7 June – 16 July 2021 |

Offered to graduate students working in the **humanities and social sciences on Southeast Asian topics**, this opportunity will allow the recipients to connect with NUS on a virtual fellowship for a period of six (6) weeks.

Successful candidates can expect the following benefits:

1. Access to library and computer resources in NUS

You can look forward to excellent library access to e-resources at NUS’ main library ([http://www.lib.nus.edu.sg/](http://libportal.nus.edu.sg/frontend/index)). NUS’ main library has 2 million volumes covering all topics.

1. Exposure to webinars by various experts in the field
2. An appointed mentor/advisor on your research topic
3. An opportunity to present your research paper at the Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies to an audience of young international scholars and senior Southeast Asia specialists

***Intensive English Academic Writing Program (Optional)***

A limited number of students will be selected to take part in a two-week long intensive course on English academic writing, to be held online. This program is specifically intended for students who still struggle with writing and/or communicating in academic English, often coming from non-English speaking backgrounds. This program may benefit students who require support in the English language in their academic courses.

|  |
| --- |
| **SINGAPORE GRADUATE FORUM ON SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES** | 12-16 July 2021 |

This five-day forum, the sixteenth of an annual series of forums for graduate students who work on Southeast Asia, will be organised thematically online. Themes broadly reflect (though not limited to) the core research strengths of the Asia Research Institute, including the Asian dynamics of religion, politics, economy, gender, culture, language, migration, urbanism, science and technology, identities, population and social change.

The first two days of the forum will be dedicated to Skills Based Sessions during which senior scholars will address various topics such as:

* How to get published in peer-reviewed journals
* How to apply for international grants
* How to flourish as an early career academic

During the final three days, graduate students will be given the opportunity to present their work in sessions organized thematically. Graduate students working on topics related to Southeast Asia are invited to submit abstracts based on research at an advanced stage (i.e. already completed data collection and analysis). If research plans were disrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students are encouraged to submit proposals based on work in progress that critically reflects upon pandemic research modalities through methodological innovation. NUS students are also encouraged to take advantage of this unprecedented opportunity to interact and exchange ideas with students from other regions whose interests focus on Southeast Asia.

**REQUIREMENTS & EXPECTATIONS**

Successful candidates for the fellowship are expected to submit a draft of their papers by **21 May 2021**. This paper will be shared with his/her local mentor in preparation for his/her interactions with her/him.

Those selected for both the fellowship and forum are required to send in a full-length paper (4,000-5,000 words) by **23 June 2021,** and make a presentation on their work at the Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies on 12-16 July 2021.

Please note that the paper must be based on your own work, and only previously unpublished papers or those not already presented elsewhere can be accepted.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

Candidates are to send a softcopy of the following documents in English language to Ms Tay Minghua at [aritm@nus.edu.sg](mailto:aritm@nus.edu.sg) by **25 December 2020**:

1. Application Form
2. Paper Proposal
3. Research Proposal *(additional for AGSF application)*
4. A Letter of Recommendation from your Thesis Supervisor

*Since the fellowship offers an opportunity to enroll in an English academic writing course, your referee should also address how and why you would benefit from such a program (if applicable).*

Successful applicants will be notified by **mid February 2021**.

**CONTACT PERSON**

For any other queries, please contact Ms Tay Minghua at [aritm@nus.edu.sg](mailto:aritm@nus.edu.sg).

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Q1. If I am a citizen of an Asian country and currently studying in a non-Asian country, would I be eligible to apply for the fellowship?

A. You would not qualify for the fellowship, but you may submit an application for the Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies.

Q2. I have recently completed my bachelor’s (or master’s) degree course, and am currently preparing my application for the next stage of study. Would I be eligible for the fellowship or graduate forum?

A. Yes, you would qualify for both the fellowship and graduate forum. However, we would prioritize applications from graduate students who are currently enrolled in a degree course.

Q3. Should I obtain the recommendation letter from my supervisor and submit it along with my application, or my supervisor could send in the letter separately?

A. It would be recommended for you to submit the recommendation letter along with the application form to avoid any loss of email in transit. However, if your supervisor prefers to forward the letter to us directly, he/she may do so as well.

Q4. How may I know if my research topic would be a good fit for the fellowship and/or the graduate forum?

A. We would be happy to consider your application if your research is on Southeast Asia, and the topic falls within the themes of one (or more than one) of our research clusters. For more information the research clusters at ARI, please visit our website at <https://ari.nus.edu.sg/> and click on “Clusters”.

Q5. What is the general outline of the English academic writing program?

A. The English academic writing program will focus mainly on the following aspects:

- How to deploy the English language to express ideas clearly, and in a style appropriate to academic research   
- writing

- How to present a research question and answer clearly in your research paper

- How to organize information to help readers process ideas efficiently

Q6. Which countries are not considered to be part of Southeast Asia?

A. India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, together with central and East Asian countries, are not considered part of Southeast Asia.

|  |
| --- |
| **APPLICATION FORM** |

I would like to apply for: *(choose ONE only)*

1.  **Asian Graduate Student Fellowship** (7 June – 16 July 2021)

Would you like to apply for the English Academic Writing Program\*? Yes / No

2.  **Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies** (12-16 July 2021)

*\* Optional and beneficial only if you are not a (near) native English speaker, and have not received training in English academic writing.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PERSONAL PARTICULARS** | | | | | | |
| Full Name *(please underline family name)* | |  | | | | |
| Nationality | |  | | Gender | | Male / Female |
| Email Address | |  | | | | |
| Mailing Address | |  | | | | |
| **ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS** | | | | | | |
| Current Student Status *(please state university, faculty and which year/stage of study)* | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| Bachelor’s Degree *(please state university, faculty and year obtained)* | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| Master’s Degree *(please state university, faculty and year obtained)* | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| Current Thesis Supervisor(s) *(please state name, university, and email address)* | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| Area(s) of Research | | | | | | |
| Asian Migration | Asian Urbanisms | | Changing Family | | Identities | |
| Inter-Asia Engagements | Religion | | Science, Technology and Society | |  | |
| Others *(please specify)* | | | | | | |
| **PUBLICATION & AWARDS** | | | | | | |
| List of Academic Publication / Research Output *(please list the most recent 5, if more than 5)* | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| Awards, Fellowships & Grants Obtained *(please list the most recent 5, if more than 5)* | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |

**Deadline for the submission of application form is 25 December 2020.**

|  |
| --- |
| **PAPER PROPOSAL** |

**Title of Paper**

**Name**

Institutional affiliation

Email address

Location (state/country)

**ABSTRACT**

The abstract should be between 300-400 words, and should clarify the substantive issues which your paper will address and be firmly grounded in your own research project.

Please include the following information:

1. Objectives of paper/ hypotheses (if any)
2. Conceptual framework
3. Methodological approach, including:
   * your sources and the methods employed in collecting and analyzing them (for example: if you carried out a survey, give sampling design, sample number, etc.; if you did in-depth interviewing, then how many did you do and what approach did you use; if archival, then which archives, documents, etc.)
   * if the COVID-19 pandemic has hindered your data collection (for example: you could not conduct ethnographic fieldwork or visit an archive), explain in which ways the pandemic has limited your research activities, how you have responded to the challenge, and which methodological innovations were required.
4. Findings and discussion
5. Conclusion (in relation to your objectives)
6. 5 keywords for your research paper

Papers that are only based on literature reviews will not be accepted.

**ABOUT THE SPEAKER**

A short paragraphed biography of about 150 words, including details such as the author’s current position, research interests, relevant activities, etc.

|  |
| --- |
| **RESEARCH PROPOSAL** |

*Required only if you are applying for the Asian Graduate Student Fellowship*

The proposal should be between 400-600 words, and should include the following:

1. Your reasons for applying for the fellowship
2. Your motivations for enrolling in the Academic Writing Program *(if applicable)*
3. Your expectations of the fellowship in terms of your research and writing
4. How the fellowship will contribute to your research