

The Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars

As part of its commitment to promote arts and sciences in Heidelberg, the Ghaemian Foundation has established the Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars. Soheyl Ghaemian is the CEO of the Heidelberg-based Reutax AG, a newly emergent corporation in the IT sector.

The Fund is meant to facilitate research and scholarly exchange in the field of American Studies by providing grants for travel to a library, archive or academic conference. It is administered by the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA).

Especially in the humanities, and in particular for graduate students and younger scholars, the challenge to procure funds for research-related travel is ever-recurrent and often insurmountable. The Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars is designed to help alleviate this condition. In assisting scholars with the expense of travel, it will allow Ph.D. candidates and others to not only mine archives and libraries but also to present their research at international conferences or discuss their work with renowned experts. The Fund will thus significantly contribute to an enhanced visibility of American Studies research conducted at the University of Heidelberg.

The Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) is at once a central academic institution of the University of Heidelberg and a private-public partnership dedicated to the study of the United States of America. It serves as an interdisciplinary institute for higher education, as a center for advanced research, and as a forum for public debate.

Ten disciplines provide the institutional framework of the HCA. These are American literature, economics, geography, history, law, musicology, philosophy, political science, religious studies, and sociology. This concentration of interdisciplinary expertise about the United States is unique in Europe.

The HCA offers a one-year, English-language Master of Arts in American Studies (MAS) program that targets qualified graduate students from around the globe. In addition, it offers a three-year structured Ph.D. program, also in English.

Grants from the Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars are awarded by the HCA on a competitive basis. Eligibility is limited to graduate students, Ph.D. candidates, and postdoctoral scholars who pursue research at the University of Heidelberg related to the culture, society, politics or economy of the United States or to transatlantic relations.

The Heidelberg Center for American Studies welcomes applications year-round.

For research trips to archives and libraries, applications must include

- a curriculum vita
- a project description (not to exceed 3 pages)
- a one-page bibliography of the most recent, relevant secondary works on the topic
- a list of resources to be consulted
- an estimated budget

Applications for grants to assist with the expense of travel to academic conferences must include

- a curriculum vita
- title and abstract of your presentation at the conference (not to exceed 250 words) as well as an indication that your proposal has been accepted by the conveners
- an estimated budget

Please also consult the website of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies at

www.hca.uni-heidelberg.de.