



## *Fieldwork Support Grants*

### **Information for Application Fall 2004**

The ADVANCE Program of the Earth Institute at Columbia University will provide women scientists with supplemental pay to help defray childcare and contact expenses or adult care expenses incurred during extended periods when the scientist must travel to do field work or research. The Earth and environmental sciences, in particular, often require young scientists to spend time in residence on a research vessel or in another country gathering data for research. For young women who are also raising small children or taking care of elderly parents, the costs of childcare and maintaining contact with their children or of supplemental eldercare during their fieldwork can be prohibitive. Fieldwork Support Grants are designed to provide an additional source of funds that women scientists can use to ensure that their dependents are well cared for when they are absent because of the demands of their research. Travel to attend scientific meetings can also create a hardship for women scientists with small children and we will consider applications for home childcare expenses for women who have a clear leadership role at specific scientific meetings.

**What is ADVANCE?** Funded by a five-year, \$4.2 million National Science Foundation (NSF) award, the Columbia University ADVANCE Program at the Earth Institute (EI) is targeted at increasing the participation and advancement of women scientists and engineers in the academy through institutional transformation. The five goals of the EI ADVANCE Program are to (1) change the gender demographics of EI scientists and engineers through intelligent hiring practices, (2) provide support to women scientists through difficult life transitions, including elder care and adoption or birth of a child, (3) enhance mentoring and networking opportunities, (4) implement transparent promotion procedures and policies, and (5) conduct an institutional self-study. Earth Institute ADVANCE programs include (a) a comprehensive survey of university faculty (b) a senior faculty working group that enhances recruitment and retention by providing support for searches and faculty development, (c) internal and external funding competitions designed to recruit and retain women scientists and engineers, and (d) focused workshops and conferences.

**Who is eligible to apply for a Fieldwork Support Grant?** Women scientists in the research units or participating departments of the Earth Institute at Columbia University are eligible to apply for Fieldwork Support Grants. Applicants must hold the Ph.D. and be engaged in research that requires residence at a distant location for purposes of fieldwork or research or short-term grants to permit attendance at a scientific meeting in which the scientist has a leadership role. For childcare grants, the scientist must have children between infancy and the age of 13. Minority women scientists are especially encouraged to apply.

**What does a Fieldwork Support Grant entail?** This grant will provide financial assistance to women scientists for expenses connected with childcare and contact and for expenses associated with the care of disabled parents during periods of absence from their primary workplace for fieldwork. The funds will be awarded as supplemental pay, which is intended to partially alleviate the extra expenses of childcare, for trips back from the field to the University to see their young children, or for long distance phone calls from remote locations to talk to their children on a regular basis. The amount of each award will be based on need and demand. These awards will be considered supplemental to, but will not replace, other forms of research assistance or hardship pay. A Fieldwork Support Grant will provide additional compensation of \$75 per day, which is presumed to approximately equal the additional daily cost of childcare expenses incurred during fieldwork. Under this assumption, the ADVANCE Program has the capacity to support approximately 250 days of childcare each year. If the funds are not fully dispersed in any single grant year, they will be carried over to the next year.

**Application procedure.** Applicants are required to submit a statement of no more than one page stating how many days support they are requesting and how they plan to use those funds. Applicants should also submit a childcare and contact (or eldercare) budget for the period of the research trip, showing the funds at their disposal for travel, childcare (or eldercare) costs, communication, and return trips during the fieldwork period (as applicable). The budget should also itemize how the requested Fieldwork Support Grant will be spent. Proposals will be reviewed three times each year. Applications are due in the ADVANCE Program Office on January 15, April 15, or August 15, 2005. Awardees will be notified within a month or by February 15, May 15, or September 15, 2005.

**Selection criteria.** Awards will be based on need, appropriateness of the proposed use of the funds, and the availability of alternative sources of childcare (or eldercare) support. All applications will be reviewed and funding decisions made by the ADVANCE Executive Committee.

Research units in the Earth Institute ([www.earth.columbia.edu](http://www.earth.columbia.edu)) include:

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO)  
[www.ldeo.columbia.edu](http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu)

Center for International Earth Science  
Information Network (CIESIN)  
[www.ciesin.columbia.edu](http://www.ciesin.columbia.edu)

International Research Institute (IRI) for Climate  
Prediction  
[iri.columbia.edu](http://iri.columbia.edu)

Center for Rivers and Estuaries  
[www.ldeo.columbia.edu/res/pi/Hudson/](http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/res/pi/Hudson/)

Center for Nonlinear Earth Systems (CNES)  
[www.ldeo.columbia.edu/~einat/CNES/CNES\\_home.html](http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/~einat/CNES/CNES_home.html)

The Black Rock Forest  
[www.blackrockforest.org](http://www.blackrockforest.org)

Center for Environmental Research and  
Conservation (CERC)  
[www.cerc.columbia.edu](http://www.cerc.columbia.edu)

Columbia University/UNESCO Joint Program  
on Biosphere and Society (CUBES)  
[www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/cubes/](http://www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/cubes/)

The Earth Engineering Center  
[www.seas.columbia.edu/earth/index.html](http://www.seas.columbia.edu/earth/index.html)

Center for Global Health and Economic  
Development  
[www.cgheed.columbia.edu](http://www.cgheed.columbia.edu)

Center for Globalization and Sustainable  
Development (CGSD)  
[www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/cgsd](http://www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/cgsd)

Center for Economy, Environment & Society  
(CEES)  
[www.earth.columbia.edu/about/aboutcees.html](http://www.earth.columbia.edu/about/aboutcees.html)

Program on Science, Technology, and Global  
Development;  
[www.earth.columbia.edu/cgsd/res\\_byinstitution/pstgd.html](http://www.earth.columbia.edu/cgsd/res_byinstitution/pstgd.html)

Center for the Study of Science and Religion  
(CSSR)  
[www.columbia.edu/cu/cssr/](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cssr/)

Laboratory of Populations  
[www.rockefeller.edu/labheads/cohenje/cohenpro.htm](http://www.rockefeller.edu/labheads/cohenje/cohenpro.htm)

Center on Capitalism and Society  
[www.earth.columbia.edu/ccs/](http://www.earth.columbia.edu/ccs/)

NASA-Goddard Institute for Space Studies  
[www.giss.nasa.gov/](http://www.giss.nasa.gov/)

Tropical Agriculture Research Program  
[www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/tropag/](http://www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/tropag/)

The Center for Hazards and Risk Research  
(CHRR)  
[www.ldeo.columbia.edu/chrr](http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/chrr)

Participating departments of Columbia University include Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology (E3B, Arts and Sciences); Earth and Environmental Engineering (DEEE, Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Sciences); Department of Environmental Health (Mailman School of Public Health); Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences (DEES, Arts and Sciences); Department of International and Public Affairs (Arts & Sciences); and Barnard College Department of Environmental Science.

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For further information, contact: the ADVANCE Program Office.

Jennifer Laird, ADVANCE Program Coordinator  
The Earth Institute at Columbia University/Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory  
61 Route 9W, PO Box 1000  
Palisades, NY 10964-8000  
(845) 365 - 8620  
laird@ldeo.columbia.edu