



Planning and Urban Form Fellowship: Large Landscape Conservation

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy invites applications for a Planning and Urban Form Fellowship, a program to develop academic and professional interest in planning, urban form, and land conservation through support for major research projects.

The Department of Planning and Urban Form is concerned with the relationship between the form of the built environment and the mosaic of open spaces across the landscape. The theme of large landscape conservation runs through several of the department's recent programs, including policy focus reports and conferences on the subject, an ongoing large landscape demonstration project, the convening of a large landscape practitioners' network, and research on the character and effectiveness of large landscape initiatives across North America.

The Institute is seeking research proposals that will contribute to the design and implementation of a continental-scale database linked to a Geographic Information System (GIS) focused on tracking, evaluating, and advancing large landscape conservation initiatives in the United States and neighboring nations of Canada, and Mexico. Competitive proposals are likely to address the following issues:

- The system design should provide capacity to map and store information about publicly and privately owned conservation land (e.g., conservation easements held by land trusts).
- The system interface should, to the extent feasible, be map-based with capability to access additional data linked to parcels, such as the following:
 - Biophysical data, including information on local biodiversity resources and habitats, such as Massachusetts BioMapII (<http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/dfg/biomap2.htm>) .
 - Protected area database US, or PADUS, as used by LandScope (www.landscape.org).
 - LandVote and Conservation Almanac information on conservation finance performance and available tools, developed by the Trust for Public Land (www.landvote.org and www.conservationalmanac.org).
 - Information on concentration of philanthropic interest in land conservation in the area
 - Information on the local culture and history of conservation, and on the local tourism infrastructure, if available (for example, featured National Geographic stories on LandScope (www.landscape.org), or on the internet map maintained by the Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council (www.crownofthecontinent.net)
 - Information on the threat of climate change to the region (www.cakex.org).
 - Information on local and state land use regulations and conservation incentives (e.g., transferable tax credits in Virginia and Colorado) (www.conservationalmanac.org).
 - Information on local capacity to harvest sustainably (e.g., FSC forests).
 - Interface of the “green infrastructure” with the built environment (e.g., urban/parkland interface, as per various TPL Greenprinting projects (http://www.tpl.org/tier2_pa.cfm?folder_id=3130)).
- The GIS system and underlying database should be geographically scalable, offering users the ability to zoom in and out from a local parcel level to a continental scale and back again.

- The system design should identify software platforms and database hosting configurations that offer cost-effectiveness, rapid accessibility, and relative ease of maintenance and expansion.
- The system design should be compatible with open source tools for planning built environments now being developed (for example, see HUD Salt Lake City/University of Utah grant now under development; Chicago 2020 plan developed by Fregonese Associates, which was awarded Daniel Burnham award by the American Planning Association, as described at <http://www.planning.org/awards/2004/index.htm>).

Applications will be evaluated on the basis of (1) topical relevance; (2) potential impact of the results (including consideration of the dissemination mechanisms discussed in Part E, below) and their importance to understanding and implementing large landscape conservation initiatives; (3) strength of the research design, including data availability and methodology; and (4) demonstrated ability of the applicant to complete the proposed project successfully. Each of these factors will be given equal weight in determining the final award(s).

Research funding for each approved project will be up to \$30,000. Grants are awarded for one year.

Application Guidelines

Fellowship applications must include:

A. Cover Page. The cover page must include the title of the project, an abstract (do not to exceed 100 words), and the name and complete address of applicant(s), including phone number and email.

B. Project Summary (do not exceed one page). The project summary should include a statement of objectives, methods to be employed, and the significance of the project.

C. Project Description (do not exceed ten pages). Define the primary objective of the research, proposed methods and data to be used, the primary audience, and the mechanism or means of disseminating the research findings. Proposals that specifically combine investigative research with an educational program should describe the elements of the entire project, including research methods, audiences, and the educational delivery mechanism. If necessary, you may include an appendix (**not to exceed ten additional pages**), and a bibliography or set of references (**not to exceed five additional pages**).

D. Workplan. Define the specific tasks or activities required to accomplish the project. Organize the project tasks into major phases or components and establish milestones or interim goals to mark the completion of each phase. Define the duration and costs of each phase or component.

E. Dissemination Mechanism. List the dissemination mechanism(s) planned for the project results. These may include various forms of publication (e.g., books, journal articles, press reports), presentations at conferences or workshops, and use as course material.

F. Potential Impacts. Indicate any immediate and longer-term impacts the project may have, including the audiences and professional or scholarly fields that may be affected directly by your project.

G. Budget. Itemize all major expenses, such as the time and salary for the principal investigator(s) and research assistant(s), travel expenses, and other project-related expenses.

H. Curriculum Vitae (do not exceed five pages).

I. Current Lincoln Projects. List all projects for which you are currently receiving or are being considered for funding from the Lincoln Institute.

Deliverables

Email Applications Only

The application must be written in English, using *Microsoft Word*. Format the application for printing on 8.5 x 11-inch (letter-size) paper, with one-inch margins. The application may be single- or double-spaced, but each section must not exceed the maximum number of pages, as described under *Application Guidelines*. Use page breaks for each separate section.

Email the entire application as a single-document attachment to fellowships@lincolninst.edu and put your last name followed by your first name in the subject line (e.g., Doe, Jane F.).

Please note: Submission of a proposal creates no funding obligation on the part of the Lincoln Institute, and applicants should not incur any expenses on the assumption that the proposal will be approved. Expenditures incurred in preparing applications are for the applicant's own benefit and under no circumstances reimbursable by the Lincoln Institute.

Deadline for receipt of email applications: March 15, 2011.
Fellowship awards will be announced by April 30, 2011.