

Anca Romantan Graduate International Research Grant (2017-2018)

In memory of Professor Anca Romantan, a scholar committed to international research in the field of Communication, we are pleased to announce a call for applications for an International Research Grant for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Professor Romantan leaves us with a rich legacy of rigorous, imaginative and critical research and publication. During her brief time at UMass Amherst, she was engaged in new research on the fraught political culture of European globalization. Her last publications focused on the dark side of civil society and the use of new media, by both Far Right and mainstream conservative organizations, to mobilize nationalist identity in Romania and across southern Europe. Professor Romantan was also a scholar of transnational “cultures of protest” around environmental, labor and social rights and the increasingly precarious plight of migrants in Europe and the United States. Her earlier work had explored risk and neoliberal governance, from the aviation industry to global public health. Professor Romantan’s proficiency in multiple languages, her deep commitment to complex social theories, and her passionate advocacy of empirical research was reflected in both the breadth of her interests and the care with which she advised graduate students on developing their own research. As a scholar fluent in qualitative and quantitative methods, Professor Romantan believed firmly in international fieldwork of many kinds to support engaged scholarship.

The \$1000.00 competitive grant will be awarded to a graduate student in the Department of Communication whose primary dissertation research site is outside the United States. The grant will provide support for the student’s travel, living and/or research expenses, and will be awarded based on the strength of the applicant’s academic performance and grant proposal. Please visit the following address for more description and for previous winners of the award:

<http://www.umass.edu/communication/node/829>

This grant is open to all ABD doctoral candidates in the Department of Communication whose research requires international travel. Interested students should submit a current CV and a research proposal to Kathy Ready and cc the GPD by April 7, 2017. The GPD will forward all nominations to the Grad Studies Committee, who will select this year’s awardee by April 21. For more details on the proposal, please see below.

Selection Criteria:

- The applicant has successfully defended the dissertation prospectus for which he/she seeks funding
- The purpose and importance of travel and activities to be conducted outside the United States are clearly described
- The applicant demonstrates background preparation, language skills, and methodological skills for the proposed research
- The intellectual merit and innovation of the proposed research are clear
- The applicant will depart for international travel no later than January 30th, 2018

Required Application Materials:

- An up-to-date curriculum vitae
- An application of no more than 1250 words, double-spaced, including the following: a summary of your research proposal and its anticipated outcomes and contributions; a description of the project's research design and the role of international research within it; a detailed description of the research you will conduct outside the United States, including advance preparation you have done or will do; an anticipated travel schedule; an itemized budget to which the \$1,000 award will be applied
- A letter of support from your advisor

Those who have previously received the award may apply, but first time applicants will be prioritized.