Invitation for applications to the field schools in 2010

The Support Program for Improving Graduate School Education invites ASAFAS students to apply for the 2010 field school programs. The field schools provide opportunities to learn development in Asian and African developing countries, which are aimed to broaden student's view on future career development. The program intends to foster human resources for bridging research and practice.

Details of the Support Program are explained in the Japanese website: http://www.asafas.kyoto-u.ac.jp/kaikaku/

1. Field schools in 2010

Field schools in 2010 are planned in two places:

Thailand: 12 September – 21 September 2010 Namibia: 12 November – 21 November 2010

Students who wish to conduct their own fieldworks in their own field sites (not necessarily in Thailand or Namibia) before and/or after a field school would apply to do so in the application. You can apply to both field schools. In this case, indicate which one is your first choice.

2. Application Period

Application opened: 14 June 2010

Application deadline: 30 June 2010

3. Field school schedule (tentative)

(1) Thai Field School

Early May or mid-May Preparatory Lecture in Kyoto

Note: those planning to apply to the Thai field school are requested to attend the pre-lecture, although it is before the submission deadline.

12 September Field School starts

13-16 September Fieldwork (theme: community activities for the forest conservation)
17 September Meeting and discussion with Chiang Mai University students and faculty
18-19 September Fieldwork (theme: problems of urbanization, history of Chiang Mai)

20 September Wrap-up meeting

21 September Closing meeting and the field school ends

Institutions cooperating: NGO Link, Chiang Mai University

(2) Namibia Field School

12 November Field School starts

13 November Lectures (theme: Wild-life conservation and development practices)

14 November Windhoek→Gobabeb

15–18 November Field visits

(theme: vegetation, resource management, and livelihood in arid area)

19 November Gobabeb →Windhoek

20 November Lectures

^{*} Preparatory Lectures will be opened in October.

Institutions cooperating: Gobabeb Training and Research Centre

4. Eligibility for application

Students who are eligible to apply

- ASAFAS graduate students under enrolment
- 1st-year students are particularly encouraged to apply.
- Students who apply for the first time will be prioritized.
- Students who have submitted a pre-thesis and students who have participated in the field schools in 2008 and 2009 remain eligible to apply.

Students who are not eligible to apply

- ASAFAS graduate students who are not under enrolment
- JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists Doctor Course recipients
- Post doctoral researchers

Students who are eligible to apply but who are receiving / will receive other research funds, particularly from ITP or G-COE, should pay attention to the followings:

- ITP recipients who will stay and study in Thailand or Namibia are eligible to apply the field school in the same country. For this case, details of the fund allocation for accommodation and transportation during the field school will be consulted individually. ITP recipients who will stay and study in other countries thanThailand or Namibia would be eligible to apply if the ITP training period started after the field school or ended before the field school.
- G-COE recipients are eligible to apply, but they are required to clearly separate the travel itinerary into a G-COE period and a Kaikaku field-school period.
- Recipients of other funds have to seek consultation with the Kaikaku office in advance of sending an application.

5. The number of participants

Approximately 10 students for each field school

6. Expenses supported

The program supports expenses (see the list below) for the field school as well as for individual research before and/or a field school. Applicants investigate costs necessary for the research in advance of the application and fill in the budget plan in the application. The amount of the budget supported by the program will be decided according to the contents of the application and miscellaneous factors related to the program management. The program cannot guarantee support of the full amount of the budget applied.

- (1) International and domestic airfare
- (2) Accommodation and transportation during the field school (foods excluded)
- (3) Research expenses before and after the field school
 Accommodation, Transportation, Books, Printing, Communication, Consumable goods strictly for research (Foods and allowance/reward for people who help the research are excluded)
- (4) Visa fee

7. Application

Applications are sent via email to the following address below by heading in subject: 'Application for Thailand (or) Namibia field school' (attn: the Kaikaku Program office).

kaikaku@asafas.kyoto-u.ac.jp

8. Selection

Applications are reviewed by the program board committee. Attentions will be given:

- how the applicant connects the field school experience to her/his own research and/or her/his future career development; and
- for those applicants who wish to conduct her/his own fieldwork before or after the field school, if the
 applicant proposes a clear plan of the fieldwork, i.e. clear objectives, relevant activities, and feasible
 timeframe, etc.

9. Important notes

- Applicants must have consultation from her/his supervisor(s) about application to the field school. A
 fieldwork plan before and after the field school should be thoroughly developed, schedule and route
 (i.e. itinerary) of the fieldwork are fully investigated and planned. A detailed itinerary must be
 presented.
- The result of applications will be notified possibly with advice given by the program board committee. If an applicant was instructed to resubmit the application with amendments, the applicant would follow the instructions. Once an application is accepted (regardless of an initial application or a resubmitted one), the itinerary cannot be changed.
- Participants must return to Japan from the field by 10 March 2011.
- The trip for the field school and fieldwork cannot be combined with private trips.
- Flights which can be arranged in Japan must be arranged in Japan. Participants are not allowed to purchase air tickets in overseas if the tickets can be purchased in Japan.
- Visas are arranged by participants themselves (fees are reimbursed). Thailand and Namibia visa information will be provided in a later stage.
- Participants must submit a report of the field school after returning to Japan. Forms of the report are provided. Reports are uploaded on the webpage of the program.
- If participants published papers based on the fieldwork supported by the Kaikaku program, the participants would be requested to acknowledge in the paper the Kaikaku Program for research fund. A copy of the paper should be sent to the office of the program.

Contacts

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