Hornaday Graduate Research Fellowship - DEADLINE: 12 PM on MARCH 12, 2010

The Greater Good Science Center is an interdisciplinary research center devoted to expanding social well-being in individuals, relationships, and communities. We do this by studying the social and biological roots of positive emotions and by disseminating relevant findings and best practices to practitioners and the general public. Our research agenda engages scholars in multiple disciplines including neuroscience, psychology, sociology, political science, economics, public policy, social welfare, law, and organizational behavior. Our publications provide a bridge between social scientists and the general public.

We will award research a fellowship of $12,000 to one UCB Graduate Student for the next academic year (Fall 2010 - Spring 2011). We will support research that responds to one or more of the following themes:

1. The biological underpinnings of prosocial emotion. Examples of research in this arena would address questions such as: Is there a reward system in the brain that is involved with the experience of pro-social emotion that is different from reward systems involved in sensory pleasure? What physiological processes are involved in attachment-related processes, such as care-giving, altruism, monogamy, and friendship?

2. The context and cultivation of social well-being. For example, how do children and young adults learn to be compassionate and caring individuals—in school, at home, and in other social contexts? What qualities of human institutions (e.g., families, neighborhoods, schools, churches, laws, organizations) foster the underpinnings of social well-being? What are the childhood trends in social well-being over the last 35 to 40 years? How do people with different ethnic, religious, or class backgrounds, different social perspectives, different cultural values or different mental health histories peacefully co-exist?

3. Compassion, Health, and Community. How does compassion spread in communities, neighborhoods, cultures and institutions? How does compassion promote health and well-being?

In addition to pursuing their chosen research, Center Fellows are expected to “contribute to the Greater Good” by working approximately 5 hours per week as a research assistant—or otherwise sharing their talents—contributing to the Center’s website, Greater Good magazine, or one of the Center’s other initiatives.

TO APPLY: We are now accepting applications for 2010-2011 fellowships. Please submit:

1) 1000 word research proposal
2) Brief description of how you intend to spend the fellowship
3) Curriculum vitae
4) One letter of recommendation
5) Completed application cover letter including a signature from your advisor or research mentor

Submit all application materials to Ann Shulman, Greater Good Science Center, 2425 Atherton Street #6070, Berkeley, CA 94720. Applications are due March 12, 2010 by 12:00 pm. For further questions, please send an email to Anurati Mathur at anurati@berkeley.edu.