

## AISLS CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies announces the inaugural AISLS Curriculum Development Grant competition. AISLS seeks proposals for developing instructional materials in Sri Lankan Studies that are suitable for use in introductory classes in U.S. community colleges.

AISLS expects to award one or two grants of \$1000 each. Graduate students and recent PhDs are especially encouraged to apply. Applications from teams of two persons are encouraged. Should a team win a grant, the members will share the \$1,000 award.

AISLS will award Curriculum Development Grants for the creation of online teaching modules. The modules should provide resources enabling community college instructors to integrate material on a Sri Lanka topic into one or more introductory courses taught widely at U.S. community colleges. These classes include, but are not limited to, the following: World History, Cultural Anthropology, World Religions, Comparative Politics, World Geography, World Literature, and Environmental Studies.

The modules must include at least one video or video link, and links to other textual and visual materials, either for in-class presentation or for the instructor's preparation. The project must include content written by the applicant(s) that gives community college teachers sufficient background and bibliographic information. The module should not be a lesson plan for instruction, but a set of resources that instructors can insert into their lesson plans.

Proposals may concern any topic suitable for inclusion in an introductory community college course. Some possible topics are:

- The 2004 tsunami and subsequent efforts at relief and reconstruction
- A case study of a multi-religious site (e.g., Adam's Peak, Kataragama)
- Economic and political history of tea plantations
- Post-colonial Sri Lankan literature
- The economic and social impact of contemporary labor migration
- The history of European colonization and independence
- Changing patterns of family life and gender relations

Applicants should keep in mind that these modules will be used in a community college setting. Most students and many teachers will have little background in Asian Studies and little knowledge of Sri Lanka. Although the teaching materials should focus on Sri Lanka, their pedagogical value should lie in illustrating broader themes in international studies.

The AISLS web designer will publish the modules on the AISLS website. Applicants are not required to have expertise or knowledge of online design and publishing. The proposal applicants must clear any copyright requirements prior to submission of the teaching module and receipt of final payment.

Proposals must include a one-page project proposal, describing the planned teaching module and its main components, and CVs of all applicants.

The deadline for proposals is January 15, 2017. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by February 1, 2017. Successful applicants will then have until September 1, 2017 to complete the teaching modules. The online teaching modules will be announced at the AISLS Annual General Meeting at the Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison in October 2017.

Proposals, and informal enquiries, should be submitted to the AISLS US Director, John Rogers, at [rogersjohnd@aol.com](mailto:rogersjohnd@aol.com).