Finn International Post-Graduate Service Fellowship

“Don’t wait too long to experience things outside of the place you live, the people you know, where you work.”  
– Mike Finn

Summary
The Finn International Service Fellowship (the “Finn Fellowship”) was established in 2015 by the empowering philanthropy of Mike and Janet Finn who have been longstanding partners in the public interest training and global service visions of the Moritz College of Law. The recently launched Public Service Law Center at Moritz was made possible due to Mr. and Mrs. Finn’s generosity. Now, through the Finn Fellowship, the College is able to expose new graduates who possess a demonstrated interest in international service to the realities of law in a complex global society – providing financial support for a yearlong training and educational experience in an international setting. In many cases, we hope that the fellowship will launch a career in international service; in every case we expect the fellow’s work to impact the world and shape the fellow’s own professional development.

About the Fellowship
The Finn Fellowship enables one graduating Moritz J.D. student to devote 12 months to public interest training and legal service outside of the United States. A one-year non-renewable stipend of $60,000 is provided (health insurance is optional). The Fellow is responsible for researching any tax ramifications.

Applicant Eligibility
Applicants must be in their graduating year at Moritz and in good academic standing. Preference will be given to applicants with a demonstrated commitment to public interest legal work. This interest and commitment may be demonstrated through their prior public service experience, personal essays, recommendations, extracurricular activities, law school course work, academic achievements, and current work plans. Applicants must exhibit maturity and a professional demeanor appropriate for placement.

Qualifying Work
Eligible fields of work include, but are not limited to: Law and Development; Human Rights; Gender Equity; Environmental Law; Transitional Justice; and Peace, Stability and Democracy.

Fellows must begin their public interest training and legal service under the supervision of an attorney no later than September 30 (allowing time for bar exam study and testing). Eligible placement organizations include non-profit, non-governmental organizations, charitable organizations, international organizations, international courts, and other appropriate entities. Placements based outside of the United States are strongly preferred. In certain exceptions, the Finn Fellowship can be awarded to applicants with placements in international organizations inside the United States, if the Finn Fellowship Committee decides that the placement would mainly cover international legal issues.

Securing a Placement
Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to explore possibilities and to discuss their proposals with the Assistant Dean of International & Graduate Affairs prior to submission; however, the process of securing a qualifying placement is the responsibility of the fellowship candidate. If more than one placement offer is available, the applicant should rank them in order of preference and clearly mark them on their application materials.
Some resources for researching organizations and opportunities are:

UN and intergovernmental organizations ([http://unjobs.org/organizations](http://unjobs.org/organizations))
The Public Service Jobs Directory ([www.psjd.org](http://www.psjd.org))
Global Jobs ([https://globaljobs.org/](https://globaljobs.org/))
Human Rights Resource Center ([http://hrusa.org/field/joblinks.shtm](http://hrusa.org/field/joblinks.shtm))
South Centre in Geneva ([http://www.southcentre.int/work-opportunities/](http://www.southcentre.int/work-opportunities/))
Comprehensive List of International Organizations ([http://sfsgcc.georgetown.edu/work/organizations](http://sfsgcc.georgetown.edu/work/organizations))
European Affairs Job Site ([http://www.eurobrussels.com/](http://www.eurobrussels.com/))
NGO jobs (among others) ([www.idealist.org](http://www.idealist.org))

Application Deadline
Applications are due electronically via Symplicity on or before March 1 by noon (12:00pm).

Application Requirements
- Essay of three to five pages describing professional goals and how the specific fellowship placement would help the applicant achieve those goals. The essay should include details about a specific set of issues or interests the applicant is passionate about pursuing, and the practice, advocacy and/or research goals s/he hopes to achieve over the course of a year. The essay should also include details about the applicant’s interest or commitment to learning and service work in an international setting more generally.
- A resume.
- A law school transcript.
- A list of two references with complete contact information. Moritz faculty members may serve as references.
- A letter from any committed sponsoring organization(s) sent directly to Assistant Dean for International and Graduate Affairs ([fernandez.214@osu.edu](mailto:fernandez.214@osu.edu)) outlining:
  - Commitment to placing the Fellow
  - Statement certifying that the applicant will not be receiving additional pay (in addition to the fellowship award) directly from the organization
  - Organizational vision, mission and/or objective statements
  - A summary of current activities
  - How hosting a Finn Fellow will enable the organization to further its mission and meet relevant needs
  - The nature of its commitment to hosting a fellow and plans for supervision
  - Any resources that may be available for mentorship and professional development

Decision Timeline
The Committee may require interviews. The Finn Fellowship Committee will announce decisions by the end of March.

Fellow Reporting Requirements
The fellow will be required to submit a final report within 30 days of the end of the fellowship about the experience, the work done, any recommendations, and whether the fellow would recommend that organization for future placements.

Contact Information
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