Program Description

This project will bring five “Carnegie Fellows” from the South Caucasus to Berkeley for a two-week visit to Berkeley for an intensive review of the key literature, theoretical approaches, and methods employed in a particular field of scholarship. The visit will take place from April 17 through May 1, 2010.

The nature of the program is as follows. Working with five paired UCB faculty members and five paired UCB graduate students from the same academic discipline and with knowledge of the Carnegie Fellow’s field theme, each Carnegie Fellow will produce, in English, a field reading list, a syllabus for an undergraduate lecture course, a syllabus for a graduate seminar, and a field survey, all of which will be posted on the Web for use by other scholars from the South Caucasus and elsewhere. The principal purposes of the project are to help familiarize the Carnegie Fellows with scholarship in the United States in their field of interest and to promote ties between UCB faculty and graduate students and colleagues in the South Caucasus.

Shortly after being selected as one of the five Carnegie Fellows for the April visit, each Fellow will be informed of the names, backgrounds, and contact information of their assigned Berkeley faculty mentor and graduate student facilitator (GSF). The Carnegie Fellows and GSFs will then have one month to prepare separately a draft course syllabus and a draft summary statement of the field theme, which should be e-mailed to the respective faculty mentor prior to the beginning of the visit. The faculty will review these materials and work with the GSFs to identify faculty contacts at UCB and neighboring institutions, arrange meetings, and suggest additional readings in preparation for the visit.

The Carnegie Fellows will arrive at Berkeley on or about Saturday, April 17, and will have Sunday to rest and explore the area. On Monday, April 19, the Carnegie Fellows, faculty mentors, GSFs, and project Principal Investigators will participate in a daylong workshop. The workshop will be broken up into five 1½ hour sessions, one for each Carnegie Fellow and corresponding field theme. The UCB faculty mentors will make presentations reviewing and discussing key works in their disciplines, new theories and lines of research, and his or her intellectual approach to the topic. They will also provide syllabi from courses taught currently or in the past and comment on the draft bibliography/reading lists. Discussion will follow each presentation.

After the initial workshop, the Carnegie Fellows, with the assistance of the GSFs, will use the Berkeley libraries to gather materials, supplement their reading lists, expand on their course syllabus, and prepare their field reports (see below). They will also be given
demonstrations of new technologies for teaching purposes (the effective use of presentation and graphics software in the classroom, course webpages and proctored discussion groups, Internet research, library databases and search engines, the distribution of course materials through the Internet, videoconferencing, etc.) and attend undergraduate lectures and graduate seminars given by the faculty mentor or, with permission, by other UCB faculty. The faculty mentor will meet periodically with the Carnegie Fellow to discuss progress and make additional suggestions as to reading materials. In addition, the Carnegie Fellows will meet with other faculty at Berkeley, Stanford, or elsewhere in the Bay Area when practicable. The GSFs will also organize a trip to Stanford to review the libraries there (notably the Hoover Library) and meet with Stanford scholars. During the entirety of their stay, the Carnegie Fellows will be assisted by the GSF in use of the library, gathering of materials, appointments, class attendance, library access, transportation to Stanford or San Francisco, and preparation of the reading lists, syllabi, and field reports.

A second workshop will be convened on the afternoon of Friday, April 30, 2010 with the entire project team. Each Carnegie Fellow will present a draft field report (maximum ten pages) at the workshop along with their revised readings lists and syllabi. The field reports will consist of a literature review, an analysis of major contending theoretical approaches in the field, and a description of the main goals/topics that the visiting scholar would cover in an undergraduate lecture class and a graduate seminar on the field theme.

After the visit, ISEEES will place the project work products (reading list, course syllabus, and field report) on a special website for dissemination purposes.