Call for Papers: 
Audre Rapoport Prize for Scholarship on Gender and Human Rights

Deadline: July 1, 2014

The Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice at The University of Texas School of Law extends a call for papers for the Audre Rapoport Prize for Scholarship on Gender and Human Rights. The $1,000 prize will be awarded to the winner of an interdisciplinary writing competition on international human rights and women. The prize is made possible by a donation from University of Texas linguistics professor Robert King in honor of the work of Audre Rapoport, who has spent many hours dedicated to the advancement of women in the United States and internationally, particularly on issues of reproductive health. It is also meant to further the Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center’s mission to serve as a focal point for critical, interdisciplinary analysis and practice of human rights and social justice. Previous winning papers can be viewed below.

TOPIC: The scope of the topic is broad. We welcome papers, from any discipline, that address gender and human rights from an international, transnational, or comparative perspective. The selection committee will be multidisciplinary and international, comprising faculty from areas such as law, anthropology, literature, and government.

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible, an author must either be an enrolled student or have graduated from a university within the past year.

FORMAT: Papers should be between 8,000 and 15,000 words and must be in English. The word limit includes footnotes, endnotes, and appendices. The submission must consist of original work, and authors must have rights to the content and be willing to publish the paper on the Center’s website. If the paper has not been published elsewhere, the paper may also be considered for publication in the Rapoport Center’s Working Paper Series. All submissions must be accompanied by an abstract of 100 to 250 words and must be submitted in .doc or .docx format.

JUDGMENT CRITERIA: A panel of multidisciplinary and international faculty and professionals from fields such as law, government, anthropology, and literature will judge the papers anonymously. Previous committee members have included Helena Alviar (Associate Professor & Director of the Doctorate and Master’s in Law Programs, Universidad de Los Andes), Hilary Charlesworth (Professor & Director of the Centre for International Governance and Justice, Australian National University), and Cecilia Medina (Professor & Director of the Human Rights Center, Universidad de Chile, and immediate past President, Inter-American Court of Human Rights). Relevant judgment factors include the strength and logic of the argument, depth of the analysis, originality and importance of intervention in the field, thoroughness and soundness of the research, quality of writing (clarity and organization), and formatting and citations.
PRIZE: The winner will receive a $1,000 prize. The winning paper will be published on the Center's website. If the winning paper has not been published elsewhere, it will also be published in the Rapoport Center's Working Paper Series. The second-place paper may receive a prize and may be considered for publication in the Working Paper Series.

DEADLINE: Submissions should be sent via email to HumanRights@law.utexas.edu by July 1, 2014. Please submit paper (without any identifying information), abstract, and full contact details (including university, degree, and anticipated/actual graduation date) in three separate documents, and include "Audre Rapoport Prize for Scholarship on Gender and Human Rights" in the subject line. The winner(s) will be notified by early September.

QUESTIONS? Please contact us at HumanRights@law.utexas.edu.

Past Prize Winners


Genevieve Painter (2011): "Thinking Past Rights: Towards Feminist Theories of Reparations"

Maggie Corser (2010): "Enhancing Women's Rights and Capabilities: An Intersectional Approach to Gender-Based Violence Prevention"

Sherief Gaber (2009): "Verbal Abuse: Anti-Trafficking Rhetoric and Violence against Women"


Patricia Palacios Zuloaga (2007): "The Path to Gender Justice in the Inter-American Court of Human Rights"

Susan Harris Rimmer (2006): "Orphans' or Veterans? Justice for Children Born of War in East Timor"

Fleming Terrell (2005): "Unofficial Accountability: A Proposal for the Permanent Women's Tribunal on Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict"