



**Higher Education Research Institute
University of California, Los Angeles**

**Symposium & Call for Papers
Celebrating 40 Years of CIRP Research in Higher Education**

The Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) in the Graduate School of Education & Information Studies at UCLA announces a Call for Papers in celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP). The CIRP originated with the annual Freshman Survey in 1966 and includes annual follow-up surveys of the college experience and triennial faculty surveys, constituting a broad census of higher education involving over 1800 institutions, 12 million students, and 300,000 faculty. In the continuing spirit of cooperation with institutions to conduct research and assessment in higher education, HERI is issuing this national Call that will culminate in the CIRP 40th Anniversary Symposium. This Call is intended to facilitate innovative research on understudied areas, showcase new uses of the data, and incorporate a variety of disciplinary approaches to data collected under the CIRP banner over the last four decades.

The CIRP 40th Anniversary Symposium, to be held *Wednesday, November 1st, 2006 at the UCLA campus*, will serve to spotlight selected papers indicating new directions in research, as well as honor Alexander and Helen Astin for their contributions as founding directors of the Institute and the CIRP. It is our goal to assemble a renowned group of scholars, institutional researchers, alumni, and students at this Symposium in order to commemorate 40 years of important research in higher education. The CIRP 40th Symposium will precede the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), to be held 40 miles from the UCLA campus in Anaheim, California (Nov. 2-4, 2006).

Up to six papers will be chosen in the review process, and the selected authors will be required to complete their research in the summer and fall of 2006, attend the Symposium, provide a brief of the findings that can be posted on the HERI website, and prepare their paper for submission to a peer-reviewed journal. Arrangements may be made to offer remote access to data files or to conduct studies at the Institute in order to facilitate timely completion of selected papers to be presented at the CIRP 40th Anniversary Symposium. All data access fees will be waived and all travel expenses will be covered for selected authors to attend the Symposium. Additional studies that are of excellent quality may be approved that are not part of this special event. These will follow the regular process of review and determination of costs for data access. All data users are required to sign a restricted-use agreement limited to the topic of study and use within a specified timeframe.

Call For Papers

The submission deadline for this Call for Papers is Monday, May 1st, 2006. Selected authors will be notified no later than May 15th, 2006. HERI staff will initially sort to select studies that do not overlap with ongoing areas of research or external studies already approved, make inquiries or communicate with authors, and a distinguished group of UCLA faculty affiliated with HERI will be convened to select a final group for the Symposium. Research proposals that are unique and specific stand a good chance of being selected, particularly if they do either of the following: 1) Address issues that lack empirical research in higher education, 2) Make use of advanced statistical methodologies, 3) Employ new theoretical or disciplinary approaches to test with CIRP data, and 4) Illustrate new uses of CIRP data for institutional improvement and assessment. Additional studies may be approved as HERI staff work with authors not selected as part of this event.

Submitting a Proposal

Submissions are welcomed from researchers with varied disciplinary training, including the fields of Sociology, Psychology, Education, Anthropology, Political Science, Policy Studies, Statistics, Economics, and other relevant

Social Sciences. Additionally, HERI encourages institutional researchers to submit proposals that reflect innovative uses of CIRP data for institutional assessment. Unless researchers are already using current CIRP data for institutional assessment, the one limitation is that only data files between 1966 and 2003 will be available for data access requests as part of this Call. All data files within this range will be available for analyses, including CIRP Freshman data (1966-2003), HERI Faculty data (1989, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001), and CIRP longitudinal files (FUS, CSS, YFCY, and post-college follow-ups) up until 2003. An additional limitation is that all institutional identifiers and student identifiers will be stripped from the files, and access will be given for a limited set of variables relevant to each study.

Individuals interested in using HERI data must submit a proposal for data access and should demonstrate a clear idea of the specific project they wish to pursue. All individuals submitting proposals should also offer evidence of their credentials and affiliations by including short bio. Every submission must include the following information in its proposal narrative (2-3 pages):

Proposal Narrative

- A. Title.
- B. Purpose. Explain the study's theoretical framework. Make reference to the literature as appropriate.
- C. Research questions and/or hypotheses. Explicitly state your research questions.
- D. Datasets, respondents, and variables. Specify the existing data set(s) to be used (instrument and year), if you require a particular subset of respondents (e.g., only women), and the specific variables requested in the data set(s).
- E. Method of Analysis. Explain the analyses that will be performed.
- F. Location of study. Explain if you will be accessing the data in-house at HERI or will need to arrange for off-site access. If you plan on-site access, estimate when and how long you would need to be on-site.
- G. Dissemination. Describe the proposed dissemination of the results, including: to whom results will be released, how the results will be released, and a timetable for release.
- H. References.

Review Process

When reviewing proposals, the selection team will evaluate whether:

1. HERI data adequately matches the proposed research project;
2. The study design is adequate to answer the questions being asked, theoretical grounding is evident, and the proposal provides sufficient detail about dependent and independent variables;
3. The proposal details the process by which the investigator will acquire appropriate institutional review board approval;
4. The intended plan specified by the investigator involves advancing scholarship;
5. The research is conducted in a manner that minimizes conflicts with other research conducted by HERI staff or other investigators under previously approved projects, and
6. Evidence of intention to submit study through appropriate institutional review board procedures.

Submissions & Questions:

Interested individuals should send all submission materials and a copy of their CV postmarked by **May 1st, 2006**. Submissions and questions should be sent to cirp40th@ucla.edu, or by mail to:

John Pryor
Director, Cooperative Institutional Research Program
Higher Education Research Institute
3005 Moore Hall, Box 951521
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1521
(310) 825-1925 voice
(310) 206-2228 fax

For more information, visit the HERI website at: <http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/heri/heri.html>.