The Chicano Studies Institute is pleased to issue a call for proposals from undergraduate students engaged in research on topics pertaining to the Chicana/o or Latina/o populations in the United States. Projects grounded in all academic fields are welcome with priority given to interdisciplinary research projects.

The selection committee will be awarding grants of up to $1,500 each for 2009-10. Interested UCSB undergraduate students should submit two copies of their application packet. This packet must include the required application form (available at the Chicano Studies Institute, South Hall 4518) and a four-page proposal narrative that includes: a project abstract (150 words), a description of the research (including a brief review of pertinent literature), a description of methodology, a statement regarding the significance of the research, and a detailed budget. Funding can be used for supplies and other costs associated with research (e.g., interview transcribing, research travel, travel to libraries or to meet with collaborators).

Applicants must also submit a letter of sponsorship from a faculty advisor. The faculty letter must include a commitment to meet regularly with the student in order to provide advice and mentorship through the duration of the proposed project. Faculty letter writers should review and comment on the proposals in their letters, and students are strongly encouraged to provide drafts of the project narratives to their proposed faculty sponsors well before the submission deadline.

Proposals will be evaluated by a selection committee appointed by the Advisory Committee of the Institute. Review criteria will include: clarity, quality, feasibility, significance, and sound research method. By the end of Spring quarter 2010, applicants awarded funding will be expected to write a brief report of their expenditures (extensions may be requested if applicants intend to pursue research during the summer of 2010).

Completed applications must be received by the Chicano Studies Institute (South Hall 4518) by 4:00 pm on November 16, 2009.

For additional information, please contact Carl Gutiérrez-Jones, Director, Chicano Studies Institute, carlgj@english.ucsb.edu / 893-2226.