

The David Matz Fellowship Program

Conflict Resolution MA and Certificate Students who have completed at least 9 credits and have secured an experiential learning opportunity are eligible to apply for this award for up to \$6000. The application deadline is March 19, 2021.

Types of learning opportunities that will be considered for funding in 2021*:

- summer course work
- internship or volunteer work (for example, covering living expenses so a student can take an unpaid internship)
- registration fees for academic symposium/conference
- costs related to student initiated research project

***Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, proposals for international travel related to internships/volunteer work, academic projects or study will not be accepted in this application cycle.**

If you are selected to receive the David Matz Fellowship funds you will need to provide verification of your experiential learning opportunity before receiving the funding. Valid documentation includes:

- A letter verifying your internship, volunteer opportunity or research position.
- Confirmation of registration for a summer coursework
- Material documenting an academic symposium, etc.

Winners will be announced in April. David Matz Fellows will be expected to participate in a Conflict Resolution Colloquium next fall reporting on their fellowship experience.

Please complete online application form and send your resume to conresglobal@umb.edu. Contact Kelly.ward@umb.edu with questions.

It has been true for years that in Conflict Resolution, practice is way ahead of theory. The work people do is much more sophisticated and effective than the readings can account for. Readings do help; they point in a general direction and suggest where intuition might mislead. But nothing substitutes for work in the field, and work with real people with real conflicts. But getting that experience is very difficult.

That is where the internship comes in. A good internship gives the student the chance to really do it, to see others really do it, to feel what it is like to "sit in the chair," to feel what it is like to succeed, and, alas, to feel what it is like to fail. It gives the student the chance to work with the chemistry between people; no role-play, no video, no class discussion can adequately simulate that.

The internship can provide the basis for a career-building network, and it can provide the basis for career-long reflection on events and feelings.

But getting a good internship is not easy. Many hurdles: they can take a lot of time; the field supervisor can be a jerk; the needs of the work place may not fit with the needs of the student; and they may be far away.

The goal of the Matz Fellowship is to increase the chance that the internship will be a good one. No surprise: money helps. The right internship can be expensive. Being able to afford child-care or income-loss can make all the difference. Being able to plan your study program with a

particular internship in mind can influence courses chosen, and whether a study-focus will be local, national, international.

The Program's alumni and friends have generously made this Fellowship available. Many of them know how important experience in the field really is, be it in the form of independent research, work with existing organizations, or participation in a summer learning experience. They are making it possible for the next generation of students to get the benefit of it. We –faculty and students –should all be very grateful to them for their vision and commitment.

-David Matz, Founder and Professor Emeritus of the Conflict Resolution Programs