CALL FOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS

The UNLV International Center for Gaming Regulation (the “Center”) is offering up to two (2) six (6) month non-resident fellowships to support impactful research on important gambling issues. These fellowships will be awarded on a competitive basis via a peer-review process outlined below.

TOPICS

Submissions are welcomed on any topic of current interest to the global gambling community. We encourage submissions to engage topics that will be of immediate value to policy makers, operators and suppliers. Our current topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- The impact of COVID-19 on gaming operations in the areas of table games, sports betting and igaming.
- Data ownership, management and manipulation in sports wagering.
- Artificial intelligence use in sports betting for improved player interaction.
- Comparative analysis between highly regulated industries such as cannabis, financial, gambling and food; organizational structures, mission and promulgation techniques.
- Impact of media conglomerates such as Google, FoxSports, Amazon, and Facebook on sports betting.
- iGaming comparisons between the US and the UK - impact of player protectionism and growth.
- Comparative analysis of growth initiatives for gambling in domestic versus international jurisdictions.
- Examination of regulatory organizational structures, expertise and focus. Is it time to change?

TIMELINE

Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis, with a final deadline for this cycle of October 30, 2020. Early submissions are encouraged. It is expected that the fellowship position will commence on January 1, 2021 and end on June 30, 2021.
DELIVERABLES

It is expected that a white paper will result from the fellowship project. Additional deliverables (e.g., academic journal publications, conference presentations, or policy advocacy for best practices) are also welcome.

EXECUTION

The fellowship is not a UNLV resident position. Therefore, successful applicants are not required to base themselves in Las Vegas for any portion or the entirety of the research project. Depending on the location of the successful applicant(s), it may be a requirement of the fellowship to participate in video conferences with stakeholders in order to disseminate the research results.

FUNDING

Applicants may request up to $15,000 USD (gross) for a period not to exceed six (6) months. Indirect costs (such as facilities and administration) are allowed, but the full project budget may not exceed this $15,000 USD limit. The funds for research are distributed in accordance with the Center’s research funding policy, which can be found using the following link: https://www.unlv.edu/icgr/policies/funding.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Applicants may be domestic or international, and may apply without an affiliation with a public, private, governmental, or non-profit entity.

REVIEW PROCESS AND CRITERIA

Proposals will be reviewed by members of the Center’s Academic Council. The decision of the Center, after review by members of the Council, will be final. Submissions will be evaluated based upon the following criteria:

1. **Significance and Impact**: submissions should emphasize how the project can effect change in gambling environments for growth and can be of use to operators and suppliers around the world. Innovative solutions that create new and useful knowledge are particularly encouraged. Consultation with relevant gambling and other regulatory bodies is also encouraged.
2. **Research Plan and Rigor**: submissions should emphasize how the project will be executed, including a detailed strategy on any research methodology, timelines, research plan, and deliverables.
3. **Personnel**: person(s) applying should describe the appropriate and relevant experience that will serve this project well.
4. **Budget:** it is anticipated that in most cases, personnel costs for the fellow(s) will constitute the majority of these budgets, unless there exists a compelling reason to spend funds in a different fashion. All budgets should be reasonable with regard to the proposed research plan and should be set out, in as much detail as possible, in a format which outlines the requested payment deadlines to specific deliverables throughout the fellowship in no more than four (4) payments total during the six (6) month period up to $15,000 USD. Travel is not considered an essential aspect of the fellowship and as such, travel expenses will not be covered as a part of the fellowship and should be excluded from the budget.

5. **Institutional Support and Capacity:** while not required, as single, unaffiliated applicants are welcome to submit, institutional support (in the form of administrative assistance, facilities, or other resources) will be considered when applicable.

6. **Human Subjects Research:** should any primary research be conducted with human subjects (including both exempt and full review formats), submissions should outline how human subject reviews will be undertaken with an appropriate institutional review board. Details on UNLV’s requirements for human subjects’ research is available at https://www.unlv.edu/research/ORI-HSR

**SUBMISSIONS**

Submissions should be limited to no more than **eight (8) pages** (excluding appendices), double spaced, 12-point font, and should be addressed to the International Center for Gaming Regulation at joe.bertolone@unlv.edu using the email subject heading “Research Fellowship Application.” Applications received after **October 30, 2020** will not be considered.