



Minerva Chair Visiting Faculty Appointments at Air University, 2013-2015



Air University is now accepting applications for one or more research faculty to serve as Minerva Chair(s) for a period up to two years. These visiting endowed chairs are funded by the Department of Defense Minerva Research Initiative program, a social science basic research program launched by former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates in 2008 to improve our fundamental understanding of the social, cultural, behavioral, and political forces that shape regions of the world of strategic importance to the U.S. Minerva research faculty chair appointments fall under the provisions of the Interagency Personnel Act (<http://www.opm.gov/programs/ipa/mobility.asp>). Potential candidates should confirm their eligibility for IPA status before submitting an application.

The Minerva program is intended to build DoD in-house expertise in the social sciences by incorporating social science expertise into strategic levels of study and engagement across the Services and within the Department. Program objectives include:

- 1) To support and develop basic social science and area studies research that will help define sources of present and future conflict and improve understanding of political trajectories of key regions of the world;
- 2) To develop the Department's intellectual capital in social sciences and foreign area studies to enhance its ability to address future challenges; and
- 3) To develop relationships between the Department and the academic social science community.

Each chair will conduct original research on a topic under the broad heading of *Asian-Pacific Security, Past, Present and Future*, with projects that address the relationship between security, military capability (specifically air, space, and cyber capability), and national and international economic prosperity in the 21st century being particularly desirable.

Expertise in fields such as Science and Technology Studies, Cultural Studies, Security Studies, and subjects related to Air operations are of particular interest, but all proposals under the general heading of Asian-Pacific security will be considered. Minerva fellows will teach and reside within the Air War College (AWC), but will have access to all of Air University's research institutions and schools. A full listing of AU schools and centers is online at <http://www.au.af.mil/au/schools.asp>.

Minerva fellows receive a generous travel and research budget. Qualified faculty may also receive funding for dedicated research assistants for their projects. Air University will provide salary and benefits commensurate to experience and expertise through the chair's home institution for the period of service; Minerva Chairs are 12-month faculty and will be compensated accordingly. Minerva fellows will also be provided with a generous research and travel funding and will take part in Air University workshops and conference events pertinent to their chosen research topic.

Minerva Research Fellow(s) at Air University must meet the following minimum requirements:

- 1) Ph.D. in social sciences, foreign area studies, or a related field, or significant executive experience in these fields.
- 2) A significant track record of teaching, research, academic presentation and publication in a topic area mutually agreed upon by OSD and Air University and within the scope of the Minerva Research Initiative.
- 3) Preference goes to candidates who have not previously been employed by or received research funding from the Department of Defense.

Minerva Research Fellow(s) at Air University will at a minimum:

- A. Submit for publication or publish at least one article in their subject area per year in peer-reviewed journals and present that research to a relevant joint Department of Defense forum (e.g., seminar, workshop or brown bag series).
- B. Participate in Minerva program reviews and serve as a peer reviewer for other Defense-funded social science research.
- C. Participate in and help to coordinate Minerva outreach activities.
- D. As appropriate, be available as a subject matter expert for Defense and USG communities of interest related to research area.
- E. Minerva Research Fellows teach one elective at AWC per year and may help to develop curriculum. However, at least 60% of the Fellow's time must be allocated to research responsibilities.

Additional information about the Minerva Initiative is available at <http://minerva.dtic.mil/chairs.html>. To For further information about the Air University Minerva Chair program contact Dr. Martin Loicano at martin.loicano@us.af.mil. Two to three page research proposals relating to the topic *Asian-Pacific Security, Past, Present and Future* should be submitted with an updated CV to Dr. Loicano. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the Minerva Chair(s) are filled.

About Air University

Air University provides the full spectrum of Air Force education from pre-commissioning to all levels of professional military education, including degree granting and professional continuing education for officers, enlisted and civilian personnel throughout their careers. The university's professional military education programs educate Airmen on the capabilities of air, space and cyberspace power and its role in national security. These programs focus on the knowledge and abilities needed to develop, employ, command, and support air and space power at the highest levels.