The Center for Urban and Regional Affairs supports research and technical assistance through a number of individual programs, each with their own deadlines and application procedures.

- The Artist Neighborhood Partnership Initiative (ANPI) is intended to increase the long-term involvement of underrepresented constituencies in the leadership and priority setting of a neighborhood, organize people leading to neighborhood change, and provide opportunities for artists to form partnerships with community-based organizations with the goal of strengthening neighborhoods. Grants up to $10,000 will be awarded to successful applicants for a grant period of April through November 2013. Partnerships applying to ANPI must include an organization serving a neighborhood geographic area and an individual artist. Only projects within the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul are eligible. Arts organizations should apply under the Neighborhood Partnership Initiative program (see below). A letter of interest is due by January 11, 2013. Promising projects will be invited to submit a full proposal, due by March 1, 2013. For additional eligibility requirements, terms of the award, and application procedures, visit www.cura.umn.edu/ANPI, or contact Jeff Corn at 612-625-0744 or jcorn@umn.edu.

- The Community Assistantship Program (CAP) matches community-based nonprofit organizations, citizen groups, and government agencies in Greater Minnesota with students who can provide research assistance. Eligible organizations define a research project, submit an application, and, if accepted, are matched with a qualified student to carry out the research. The application deadline for summer semester 2013 assistantships (early June through August) is March 15, 2013. For more information, contact CAP coordinator Will Craig at 612-625-3321 or wcraig@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/cap.

- The Community Geographic Information Systems (CGIS) program provides technical assistance in mapping, data analysis, and GIS to community-based organizations and nonprofits in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Staff at the CGIS program specialize in parcel-level mapping, demographic analysis, and Internet-based GIS technologies. The CGIS program has no formal application process or deadline to apply. Project requests can be made by phone, e-mail, or online at tiny.cc/CGIS-help, and generally can be turned around within two weeks. For more information, to discuss potential projects, or for assistance with data needs, contact CGIS program coordinator Jeff Matson at 612-625-0081 or jmatson@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/cgis.

- The CURA Dissertation Research Grant provides one year of support to a Ph.D. candidate in good academic standing at the University of Minnesota for the purpose of completing dissertation research on a significant issue or topic related to urban areas in the upper Midwest region of the United States. Recipients must have passed the preliminary exam stage and have approved dissertation proposals by March 1 of the year in which they apply for the award. The application deadline for the 2013–2014 award competition is February 11, 2013. For application guidelines or more information, contact CURA director Ed Goetz at 612-624-8737 or egoetz@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/Dissertation.

- The Kris Nelson Community-Based Research Program (Nelson Program) provides student research assistance to community and neighborhood-based organizations and suburban government agencies in the Twin Cities seven-county metropolitan area. Priority is given to groups serving diverse communities. Projects may include any issue relevant to a neighborhood or community’s needs and interests, including planning, program development, or program evaluation. Applications from organizations collaborating on a project are encouraged. The application deadline for summer semester 2013 assistantships (early June through August) is March 15, 2013. For more information, contact CURA community programs assistant Jeff Corn at 612-625-0744 or curacbtr@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/nelson-program.

- The Minnesota Center for Neighborhood Organizing (MCNO) trains people to work effectively in organizing and staffing neighborhood organizations. It trains new organizers and increases the skills of existing neighborhood staff, leaders, and volunteers through internships, workshops, and other programs. For more information about MCNO and the training opportunities available, contact Jay Clark at 612-625-2513 or clark037@umn.edu, or Ned Moore at 612-625-5805 or nedmoore@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/mcno.

- The Neighborhood Partnership Initiative (NPI) promotes vibrant neighborhoods that engage their diverse residents, build neighborhood resiliency, and increase the collective efficacy and action in a place. NPI supports place-based organizing partnerships that increase the long-term involvement of underrepresented constituencies in the leadership and priority setting of a neighborhood and organize people leading to neighborhood change. Grants of up to $10,000 will be awarded to successful applicants for a grant period of April through November 2013. Partnerships applying to NPI must include a resident-driven organization serving a neighborhood area in Minneapolis or St. Paul and at least one of the following: a Minneapolis or St. Paul organization serving arts, youth, communities of color, disabled, or immigrant constituencies. A letter of interest is due by January 11, 2013. Promising projects will be invited to submit a full proposal, due by March 1, 2013. For additional eligibility requirements, terms of the award, and application procedures, visit www.cura.umn.edu/NPI, or contact Jeff Corn at 612-625-0744 or jcorn@umn.edu.

- The Resilient Communities Project (RCP) is a year-long partnership between the University of Minnesota and one local community in Minnesota. Through the partnership, students
and faculty from across the University collaborate with the partner community to address its self-defined sustainability-related needs through course-based projects. This collaboration results in on-the-ground impact and momentum for a community working toward a more sustainable and livable future.

RCP is now accepting proposals from communities interested in being the community partner for 2013–2014. Cities, counties, and clusters of communities along a transportation corridor, around a regional center, or within a watershed are eligible to apply. To minimize travel time and costs, applicant communities should ideally be located within a two-hour drive of Minneapolis. Communities located farther away from Minneapolis may be considered if the applicant contributes additional funds for overnight travel costs. The deadline for proposals is February 15, 2013. The partner community will be selected and notified in March 2013. For a complete application packet and more information about how to apply, contact RCP program director Mike Greco at mgreco@umn.edu or 612-625-7501, or visit the RCP website at rcp.umn.edu/home/communities/apply-to-rcp/.

■ The Faculty Interactive Research Program is designed to encourage University of Minnesota faculty members to carry out research projects that involve a significant urban-related public-policy issue for the state or its communities, and that include active engagement with groups, agencies, or organizations in Minnesota involved with the issue. CURA is now accepting proposals for the 2013–2014 competition. Regular faculty members from all University campuses are invited to apply. Each award will provide support for two pay periods of the faculty member’s time in the summer of 2013 and a half-time graduate research assistant for the 2013–2014 academic year. Where appropriate, limited support for miscellaneous research expenses can be provided. The application deadline is February 11, 2013. Grant recipients will be notified in March 2013. For additional eligibility requirements, terms of the award, and application procedures, contact CURA director Ed Goetz at 612-624-8737 or egoetz@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/FIRP/announcement.

■ The Fesler-Lampert Chair in Urban and Regional Affairs is an endowed position that supports the research activities of a University of Minnesota faculty member for work on a project related to urban and regional affairs in Minnesota. The award is made possible through the generosity and vision of David and Elizabeth Fesler. Funds may be used to obtain release time or other support for the project, and may be used for either new or current projects. The application deadline for the 2013–2014 academic year competition is February 11, 2013. Grant recipients will be notified in March 2013. For additional eligibility requirements, terms of the award, and application procedures, contact CURA director Ed Goetz at 612-624-8737 or egoetz@umn.edu, or visit www.cura.umn.edu/Fesler-Lampert/competition.

Hennepin County Aging Initiative Findings Available

Increased longevity, the large Baby Boomer population, and declining birth rates are producing a unique shift in the age structure of Minnesota. Serving a growing number of older adults in the years ahead will create challenges and opportunities for local governments and community organizations throughout Hennepin County, the Twin Cities metro area, and the state.

Through reviews of recent research, analysis of current local data, and focus groups with county residents, the Hennepin County Aging Initiative aims to help county leaders and stakeholders understand these changes and respond with effective public policy.

The Hennepin County Research, Planning and Development Department has created a web page to share information compiled by its research analysts. To access the page, visit www.hennepin.us/about and select the link to Aging–Research Findings under Research & Data on the lower left side of the page.