Looking for funding for a service project? The PSC has many potential resources for you, but we are not the only show in town. This document highlights some MIT internal resources that students have used to fund service projects and selected external opportunities that are primarily for budding social entrepreneurs. Please check the websites for details and current information – things may have changed since we compiled this!

Do you have others to suggest? Email Alison at hynd@mit.edu

Internal MIT Resources

$30,000 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize

The prestigious $30,000 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize serves as a catalyst to help today’s young inventors rise into tomorrow’s technological and entrepreneurial leaders. It is awarded annually to an inventive graduate student or graduating senior at MIT. Publicity around the award can lead to invaluable exposure to science, business, and investment communities. Past winners and finalists include Amy Smith, who invented low-tech devices that address problems in developing countries; Nathan Ball, who invented life-saving technologies such as a device for rapid vertical mobility; and Aviva Presser for her work with microbial fuel cell technology. The Lemelson-MIT Program recognizes outstanding inventors, encourages sustainable new solutions to real-world problems, and enables and inspires young people to pursue creative lives and careers through invention. Application deadline is Friday, December 10, 2010

Award amount: $30,000
Deadline: Application for 2012 will open September 2011

$100k Competition D-track

http://www.mit100k.org/about/about/

The MIT $100K Entrepreneurship Competition is designed to encourage students and researchers in the MIT community to act on their talent, ideas and energy to produce tomorrow’s leading firms. Now in its 20th year, the Competition has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and business startup services to outstanding teams of student entrepreneurs who submitted business plans for new ventures showing significant business potential in areas ranging from cutting edge technology to social, economic and environmental development. The $100K launched the Development Track in 2006 to jumpstart transformative change in emerging markets. Since its inception, the Development Track has helped launch over 50 revolutionary business ideas, ranging from income-generating bicycles to cell phone-enabled medical diagnostics for the rural poor.

Award amount: Up to $100,000
Deadline: Check the website
Aga Khan Travel Grants

http://web.mit.edu/akpia/www/travelreq.htm

The Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture at MIT awards summer and IAP travel grants to all graduate students and to undergraduate students who are preparing an Optional Senior Thesis in the MIT School of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Applicants should be in the thesis preparation stage of their program. Topics must be primarily focused on some part of the Islamic world or an Islamic community. Comparative research that includes some part of the Islamic world is also welcome. Theses requiring research in an archive or collection with holdings related to the Islamic world, past or present, are also eligible.

Four to five grants are awarded yearly. Award recipients must complete their travel either in the Summer or IAP. Depending on their travel completion, they must present their research at an AKPIA sponsored event during the following academic year. A final report on the research will also be required.

Award amount: Check website.

Deadline: Application requirements are announced each year in late February and the application deadline is usually mid April.

CAMIT (Council for the Arts at MIT) Grants

http://arts.mit.edu/about/council/camit-grants/

The Grants Committee supports projects that offer MIT community members opportunities to create, participate in, and learn about the arts. Any student currently receiving academic credit from MIT, or current MIT staff and faculty are eligible to apply for Grants Program funding. Applicants may submit proposals individually or on behalf of a group or organization. A Grants Committee, composed of Council members, evaluates these competitive applications and recommends funding. Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss projects with a staff member before submitting an application.

Award amount: Awards range from hundreds to thousands of dollars.

Deadlines: Fall September (late) Winter after IAP Spring in 2011 was April 1.

Applicants seeking Council funds of up to $500 may submit proposals at any time for a Director’s Grant. These grants are made available to assist projects that occur between scheduled funding cycles or that require modest support. Applications are reviewed by the Council’s Director.

Carroll L Wilson Award

http://entrepreneurship.mit.edu/clw-award

The Carroll L. Wilson Award is a grant awarded to graduate students, in any MIT department, who wish to pursue exciting and challenging opportunities abroad. The aim of the Carroll Wilson awards is to provide opportunities for MIT graduate students to explore a program of research and/or study of an important societal problem with international dimensions.

Award amount: Up to $7,000.

Deadline: Within the first 2 weeks of January.
IDI Tech Dissemination Fellowship
http://web.mit.edu/idi/idi_programs.htm
The International Development Initiative’s (IDI) Technology Dissemination Fellowships enable MIT students to implement and disseminate technologies that benefit under-served communities in developing countries. The emphasis is on disseminating technologies developed by MIT students and student teams, but IDI is open to other models.
Award amount: Variable.
Deadlines: Check website.

The Kelly-Douglas IAP and Summer Travelling Fellowships
http://web.mit.edu/kdfund/fellowship/
An important dimension of the Kelly-Douglas Fund is the support for and encouragement of undergraduate education in the humanities, arts and social sciences. We believe that travel outside MIT to pursue an independent project in an HASS field, or to collaborate in a humanitarian project, can have a powerful and lasting effect on students.
Award amount: The maximum level of support offered by the Fund is $1000. However, since the Board seeks to assist as many students as possible, grants are often for smaller amounts.
Deadlines: For all travel and research to be completed by January 31st-August 1 of that calendar year. For all travel and research to be completed by July 31st, January 1st of that calendar year.

ODGE Fellowships
http://web.mit.edu/odge/finances/fellowships/odgefellowships.html
The ODGE administers a number of endowed fellowships through an annual competition in March, many of which have unique restrictions. All nominations (both for new awards and for renewal requests) must be submitted by the departmental graduate office on behalf of the student.
A complete listing of fellowships are on the website.
Award amount: Tuition + Student health insurance plan + $2350-2600 stipend per month
Deadline: March 2012

PHRJ (Program on Human Rights and Justice) Research Fellowships
http://mit.edu/phrj/internships.html
The MIT Program on Human Rights and Justice (PHRJ) offers fully-funded summer internship opportunities for students at MIT. The awards are available to current undergraduate and graduate students. The internships, usually between 8 and 12 weeks, can be arranged with non-governmental or inter-governmental organizations, social movements, or business organizations concerned with issues related to human rights, justice and sustainable development, broadly conceived. The purpose of the internships is to provide MIT students the opportunity to study human rights issues first-hand at the field level or through applied research.
N.B. The internships were not offered in 2011. Some years, funding is restricted to projects with a particular theme.
Award amount: The PHRJ Summer Internships provide modest stipends for use towards travel and
living expenses, a total not exceeding $4,000. Of this sum, one thousand dollars will be paid upon completion and presentation of a short internship report and an oral presentation about the activities, the host organization and the contribution to the intern's academic life.

Deadline: Typically in April.

Peter J. Eloranta Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships
http://web.mit.edu/eloranta/
This fellowship funds student-run research projects for any field of study. The Eloranta Summer Fellowship Committee makes the award based on its review of submitted proposals. In making awards, the selection committee looks for the WOW quality: Well-written, Original, and Workable. The stipend may be used to cover living expenses, travel, or materials and services costs.
Award amount: $6,000.
Deadline: Was April 1 in 2011.

Legatum Fellowships
http://legatum.mit.edu/fellowship
The Legatum Center seeks entrepreneurs who aspire to have a lasting and positive economic impact on low-income countries by developing their own entrepreneurial ideas and building their own local enterprises. The Center’s approach is intensely practical. Recognizing that even the best innovations can be rendered useless if not distributed effectively, we work closely with our Fellows to design not just innovative products and services, but also workable, affordable, and sustainable business distribution methods.
Award amount: The amount of the Fellowship is based on the applicant's financial situation. Funding is for one year.
Deadline: Early February.

Tau Beta Pi Service and Engineering Fellowships
TBPs Fellowship Program is for MIT undergraduates seeking to pursue a service engineering project during this coming summer. The purpose of this program is to support students who seek to apply their engineering and technological understanding to better society, both domestic and abroad. Successful fellows should be prepared to guide a student-led project that can leave behind lasting, sustainable benefits for a community. The work may be arranged with non-governmental or inter-governmental organizations and other community-conscious groups. Students of all disciplines are welcomed to apply.
Award amount: Generally between $2000 to $5000 each.
Deadline: around mid April

UROP/International Research Opportunities (IROP)
http://web.mit.edu/UROP/
http://web.mit.edu/UROP/basicinfo/irop/index.html
UROP offers the chance to work on cutting edge research—whether you join established research projects or pursue your own ideas. As UROPers, undergraduates participate in each phase of standard research activity: developing research plans, writing proposals, conducting research, analyzing data and presenting research results in oral and written form. UROP projects take place during the academic year, as well as over the summer, and research can be done in any academic department or interdisciplinary laboratory. Projects can last for an entire semester, and many continue for a year or more.

IROP opportunities are available to MIT undergraduates who are interested in engaging in international research projects. Overseas research opportunities provide many of the same benefits offered through conventional study abroad experiences—they provide a forum in which to connect with individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds, who share similar intellectual goals. In addition, IROP experiences help students enhance communication and leadership skills and refine collaborative and decision-making skills, while increasing understanding and awareness of ethical issues.

Award amount: Academic credit OR stipend from supervisor (starting at $9.25 p/h).
Direct funding: semester stipend - $1,300; summer stipend - $4,400 (paid in form of 9.25 p/h)
For Scholarship Recipients: guaranteed semester funding (see above)- NO DIRECT FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR IAP!

Deadline: several deadlines depending on funding and time of project; please see link: http://web.mit.edu/UROP/basicinfo/deadlines.html

External Funding Resources

N.B. Many, but not all, of these resources are most appropriate for post-graduation support of social entrepreneurs and require that you have already piloted your project.

Acumen Fund

http://www.acumenfund.org/

The Acumen Fellowship is a one-year program that immerses Fellows in world-class leadership training, field work with social enterprises on the front lines, and a community of change makers and thought leaders. The mission of the Acumen Fund Fellows Program is to build a corps of next generation social sector leaders by fusing operational and financial skills with moral imagination to create solutions to global poverty and fill the talent gap. Each year, Acumen Fund recruits highly talented and passionate young professionals to reflect on their role as leaders, build their leadership capacity, and provide much needed management support to our investees. They offer two fellowship programs:

Global Fellows Program:
http://www.acumenfund.org/fellows/global-fellows-program.html

Award amount: Covers reasonable monthly living costs for the duration of the year-long program
Deadline: Mid November.

The East Africa Fellows Program
http://www.acumenfund.org/fellows/east-africa-fellows-program.html

This program will be made up of individuals who are driving groundbreaking projects with large social impact both as employees with businesses, public sector organizations, and leading NGOs - and as
entrepreneurs. The East Africa Fellows Program offers Fellows the opportunity to receive world-class leadership training along with the tools to accelerate the progress of their social projects.

Award amount: Fellows will have all program-related costs covered during the year-long program. This includes all costs associated with the seminars and regional trip (including lodging, food, and transportation), as well as visa processing costs.

Deadline: Mid April

Ashoka Fellowships
http://www.ashoka.org/fellows
Ashoka Fellows are leading social entrepreneurs who we recognize to have innovative solutions to social problems and the potential to change patterns across society. They demonstrate unrivaled commitment to bold new ideas and prove that compassion, creativity, and collaboration are tremendous forces for change. Ashoka Fellows work in over 60 countries around the globe in every area of human need. There are several programs available through the program. Check the site to see what interests you.

Award amount: Varies.

Deadlines: Vary.

Aspen institute programs
http://www.aspeninstitute.org/
The Aspen Institute mission is twofold: to foster values-based leadership, encouraging individuals to reflect on the ideals and ideas that define a good society, and to provide a neutral and balanced venue for discussing and acting on critical issues.

The Institute offers many different fellowships and funds. We recommend searching for keywords such as “fellowships” on their website.

Award amounts: Vary.

Deadlines: Check website. For some programs, applications must be made through university career centers and some are by nomination only or restricted to particular groups

Awesome Foundation
http://awesomefoundation.org/
The Awesome Foundation is open to all people and organizations. There are no prerequisites to apply (beyond, of course, being awesome).

Award: $1,000.

Deadline: none, applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Echoing Green
http://www.echoinggreen.org/
To accelerate social change, Echoing Green invests in and supports outstanding emerging social entrepreneurs to launch new organizations that deliver bold, high-impact solutions. Through a two-year fellowship program, we help our network of visionaries develop new solutions to society’s most difficult problems. These social entrepreneurs and their organizations work to solve deeply-rooted
Echoing Green invests in social entrepreneurs to address social, environmental, economic, and political inequities to ensure equal access and to help all individuals reach their potential. To date, Echoing Green has invested nearly $30 million in seed funding to almost 500 social entrepreneurs and their innovative organizations.

**Award amount:** A stipend of $60,000 for individuals ($90,000 for 2-person partnerships) paid in four equal installments over two years, and stipends for health insurance and professional development.

**Deadlines:** This is a competitive 3 stage application process that typically begins in July.

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**Fulbright Program for US Students.**

[http://us.fulbrightonline.org/home.html](http://us.fulbrightonline.org/home.html)

The Fulbright program is the largest U.S. international exchange program offering opportunities for students, scholars, and professionals to undertake international graduate study, advanced research, university teaching, and teaching in elementary and secondary schools worldwide.

**Award amount:** Varies, can receive $100 extra per month for up to two dependents depending on program

**Deadline:** October 17, 2011

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**Do Something Awards**

[http://www.dosomething.org](http://www.dosomething.org)

Since 1996, DoSomething.org has honored the nation's best young world-changers, 25 and under. Do Something Award nominees and winners represent the pivotal "do-ers" in their field, cause, or issue.

**Award amount:** The grand prize winner will receive $100,000 during a live broadcast for five nominees. They also offer $500 seed grants.

**Deadlines:** Check website.

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**The Draper Richard Kaplan Foundation**


The Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation believes that dedicated, talented leadership is the essence of social change. To this end, we provide funding and business mentoring to social entrepreneurs as they begin their non profit organizations. By delivering support at the critical start-up phase, Draper Richards Kaplan grants help outstanding people create social change.

**Award amount:** $100,000 annually for three years, specifically and solely for entrepreneurs starting new non-profit organizations. (6 available grants)

**Deadline:** None. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until 6 grants have been awarded.

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**John P. McNulty Prize**

[http://www.mcnultyprize.org/about.shtml](http://www.mcnultyprize.org/about.shtml)

The John P. McNulty Prize seeks to inspire young people from around the world to make a real difference in their communities by recognizing the very best in high-impact leadership.
Award amount: The winner receives $100,000, paid over a 2 year period, contingent upon continued progress; $10,000 for finalists.

**Deadline:** Mid April.

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**SevenFund**


SEVEN (Social Equity Venture Fund) is a virtual non-profit entity run by entrepreneurs whose strategy is to markedly increase the rate of innovation and diffusion of enterprise-based solutions to poverty. It does this by targeted investment that fosters thought leadership through books, films and websites; supporting role models - whether they are entrepreneurs or innovative firms - in developing nations; and shaping a new discourse in government, the press and the academy around private-sector innovation, prosperity and progressive human values.

Seven supports a variety of initiatives from photo and essay competitions to a $100,000 open RFP.

Award amount: Varies.

Deadlines: Check website for individual competitions.

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**Skoll Foundation**


Each year the Skoll Foundation presents the Skoll Awards for Social Entrepreneurship to a small number of social entrepreneurs who are solving the world’s most pressing problems. The Skoll Foundation has an open application process for Awards consideration. However, to be considered for the Award, organizations must meet very specific Awards criteria: winners have a tested and proven social innovation that addresses an issue of critical importance and is positioned for large-scale impact.

Award amount: The Skoll Award includes a core support grant to the organization to be paid over three years and a noncash award to the social entrepreneur that is presented at the Skoll World Forum on Social Entrepreneurship.

Deadline: Check website.

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**Social Entrepreneur Networking Resources**

**Cordes Fellowships at the Opportunity Collaboration**

[http://www.opportunitycollaboration.net/pre/fellowships/](http://www.opportunitycollaboration.net/pre/fellowships/)

Cordes Fellowships provide exceptional social entrepreneurs and nonprofit leaders engaged in poverty alleviation and economic justice enterprises the opportunity to participate as Delegates in the Opportunity Collaboration. The purpose of the Fellowship program is to (a) open doors, minds and networks for emerging social entrepreneurs and nonprofit executives, (b) enrich the Opportunity Collaboration with new, emerging leaders and (c) infuse the collaborative discussions with a diversity of perspectives.

Award amounts: Cordes Fellows selected from non-OECD countries (developing economies) receive a $4,750.00 full scholarship, and pay no registration fee. Fellows from OECD countries (developed economies) receive a $4,000.00 scholarship, and pay a $750.00 registration fee.

Deadline: End of January.
Boston Fellowship for Jewish Innovators  
http://www.bostonfellowship.com/index.html

CJP's PresenTense Boston Fellowship is a five-month program based in Boston that enables young Jewish social innovators to turn their envisioned projects into reality. The program includes skillbuilding sessions and intensive seminars to teach core entrepreneurial skills and proficiencies, mentorships from professional and lay leaders in the field, and coaching and peer workshops.
Award amount: You pay $120!
Deadline: Check Website

Israel Research Fellowship  
http://www.israelresearchfellowship.org/

The Israel Research Fellowship seeks to invest in young leaders researching in, working towards, and advocating for a peaceful and flourishing Middle East. We aim to create a community of outstanding leaders, experts and influential opinion makers in the field. The Fellowship supports exceptional post-graduates and outstanding college graduates from across the world who have committed to a year-long, Israel-based fellowship in a major governmental, non-governmental, think-tank or media setting. They will be mentored by senior executives in their placements and be continuously informed by specially designed training seminars. The Israel Research Fellows, with their comprehensive knowledge and training will serve as a network of young leaders, advocates and future experts in the field.
Award: Stipend- amount varies based on experience/credentials
Deadline: Beginning of March

Pop Tech Social Innovation Fellows  
http://poptech.org/sifellows

The PopTech Social Innovation Fellows program is designed to help fill that gap – to equip world-changing innovators with the tools, insights, visibility and social network that can help them scale their impacts to new heights.
Award amount: All expenses paid for program
Deadline: Nomination only- will open February 2012

Social Venture Network  
http://svn.org/index.cfm?pageId=706

Now in its fourth year, the SVN Innovation Awards recognize the most promising social ventures and innovative entrepreneurs working to create a more sustainable world. The award winners are invited to join the SVN community to help them achieve their potential and scale their impact by connecting them to the resources and people of SVN.
Award amount: Membership fees, waived registration/conference fees, hotel reimbursement up to $1500 to attend National conference.
Deadlines: Check website.
Post-Graduation Long-term Funded Internships

Global Health Corps Fellowships

http://fellows.ghcorps.org/

Fellows work with high-impact organizations in year-long paid positions. During their fellowship year, fellows make a significant and measurable contribution to the partner organization and the target population. Over the course of the fellowship year, fellows participate in a wide range of activities aimed at increasing their effectiveness as practitioners and their development as leaders.

Fellows build a set of shared values, commitment and skills that they carry well beyond the fellowship year. The GHC community and alumni program serve as a source of opportunity and strength throughout fellows' lives and careers.

Award amount: Stipend to cover all travel, living and work expenses for the duration of the Fellowship + a Completion Award at the end of the Fellowship.

Deadline: beginning of March for US Citizens, beginning of April for international applicants