

Rescuing Threatened Scholars

IIE's Scholar Rescue Fund provides support and safe haven to scholars anywhere they are in danger of being silenced by arrest, persecution, torture or death.

SRF by the Numbers

Through 2007:

Over 1,300 requests for assistance
170 scholars from 38 countries awarded Fellowships
\$4.1 million in fellowship funds awarded
106 host institutions in 27 countries



A Legacy of Rescue – A Beacon of Hope |

By assisting the world's scholars wherever and whenever their lives or freedoms are in jeopardy, the **Scholar Rescue Fund** is making the world a less dangerous place. Marking its fifth year in 2007, the Fund intensified its focus on preserving the intellectual capital so urgently needed to educate the next generation.

Rescue on a Global Scale |

Conditions and conflicts continue to pose imminent threats to scholars around the world. In 2007, SRF provided financial support and helped find safe haven for 83 threatened scholars from 18 countries. Though many have lost their homes, witnessed unimaginable violence and in many cases survived attempts on their lives, all scholars on SRF Fellowships have resumed their work within weeks – often days – of their arrival at their host campuses. Whether guest lecturing, teaching, researching, or writing, scholars in all disciplines have published significant works and presented at national and international conferences. In 2007, 49 host institutions in 15 countries have become invaluable SRF partners, and have contributed over \$700,000 in matching support to the scholars hosted on their campuses.



Mobilizing Support for Iraqi Scholars |

SRF launched the **Iraq Scholar Rescue Project** in 2007, amid reports of thousands of Iraq's most senior academics falling victim to targeted killings or being forced to flee. More than 800 Iraqi scholars facing death threats, kidnapping attempts, or attacks on their families have approached SRF. With resources to assist up to 200 senior Iraqi professors over the next three years, SRF has launched intensive outreach to invigorate partnerships with host institutions in the Middle East and North Africa regions to allow scholars to teach, research and publish in safety closer to home and where they can stay connected to displaced students, colleagues and families. SRF has mobilized help and support from generous donors in the U.S., as well as ministries of education, UN agencies, and the Jordanian Royal Family, to contribute to the success of this urgent endeavor.

A \$5 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and a matching \$5 million grant from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs launched the Iraq Scholar Rescue Project in 2007, building on support from the Richard Lounsbury Foundation, The Siarr Foundation, and individuals. SRF Board Members led by Chairman Henry Jarecki, foundations such as the Open Society Institute and the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, and committed donors made generous endowment and operating gifts to support the Fund's work around the globe.

▲ Impact: Defending indigenous rights

Facing targeted oppression because of his work, this legal scholar from the Democratic Republic of Congo, shown here with SRF Chairman Dr. Henry Jarecki, requested help from SRF to continue his research and writing in Switzerland where he has published numerous works including a book on the land rights of indigenous minority groups.

▶ Impact: Life-saving research

Threatened with arrest and imprisonment for criticizing the Sudanese regime and advocating for women's rights, this microbiologist fled for safety. SRF support has enabled her to continue life-saving research on tuberculosis at a U.S. university's Department of Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics.

▶ Impact: Preserving cultural heritage

A prominent archaeologist and former Director General of Baghdad's National Museum of Iraq, this scholar is credited with orchestrating the return of thousands of stolen antiquities following the 2003 looting of the museum. A fellowship from SRF has allowed him to teach in safety while he works to preserve Iraq's cultural heritage.

