

# THE TOBIN PROJECT

WINNER OF THE  
2013 MacArthur Award for  
Creative and Effective Institutions

## RESEARCH ASSISTANT OPPORTUNITY

The Tobin Project is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization seeking to catalyze innovative scholarship on major, real-world problems facing our society, from rising economic inequality to threats to national security. The Tobin Project works with a network of several hundred scholars, from Nobel Laureates to top graduate students, along with policymakers at the highest levels of government to refocus academic research toward pressing problems in the world.

## About the Tobin Project

A recipient of the 2013 MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions, the Tobin Project aims to identify and pursue research questions with the greatest potential to benefit society over the long term. Working with interdisciplinary groups of scholars, the Tobin Project is currently focused on four core areas, each structured around a strategic research question:

**Government & Markets:** *What are the conditions that distinguish success from failure in the governance and regulation of the economy?* Scholar leaders include: Ed Balleisen (*Duke, History*); Dan Carpenter (*Harvard, Department of Government*); and David Moss (*Harvard Business School; Founder, The Tobin Project*).

**National Security:** *How can the U.S. sustainably advance its national security interests given fiscal constraints and shifts in the global distribution of power?* Scholar leaders include: Stephen Van Evera (*MIT, Security Studies*); Jeremi Suri (*UT Austin, History*); and Ben Valentino (*Dartmouth, Political Science*).

**Institutions of Democracy:** *What factors and institutions—of government, business, civil society, and beyond—are most central to the functioning of American democracy?* One of the key projects in this domain, on the history of the corporation and American democracy, is led by Naomi Lamoreaux (*Yale, Economics*) and William Novak (*University of Michigan, Law*).

**Economic Inequality:** *What are the consequences of the rise of income inequality in the U.S.—for the economy, society, and democracy?* Scholar leaders include: Nancy Adler (*UCSF, Psychology*); Ray Fisman (*Columbia Business School*); Francesca Gino (*Harvard Business School*); Ilyana Kuziemko (*Columbia Business School*); Wendy Berry Mendes (*UCSF, Psychology*); David Moss (*Harvard Business School*); and Mike Norton (*Harvard Business School*).

*“At a time of partisan gridlock, the Tobin Project is an oasis of big thinking aimed at the common good.”*

—Michael Sandel,  
Bass Professor of Government,  
Harvard University

*The Tobin Project is a non-partisan organization recognized as a public charity under §501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) of the IRC.*

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## Opportunities

The Tobin Project is currently seeking part-time research assistants to work within and across our four core research areas. Across the organization, Tobin Project employees:

- Work with leading scholars from a variety of disciplines to generate and strengthen new research
- Develop and advance cutting-edge research programs on major problems facing society
- Engage with a variety of social scientific methods
- Assume increasing responsibility for designing and leading projects
- Work in a collaborative and entrepreneurial office in the heart of Harvard Square

## Applying

The Tobin Project is seeking candidates for the fall semester, with flexible hours and remote work possible. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis, and candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Application materials –cover letter, resume, relevant academic transcripts (unofficial versions are acceptable), and a writing sample – should be sent to [opportunities@tobinproject.org](mailto:opportunities@tobinproject.org). Please note that writing samples constitute a large part of the decision-making process.

We strongly encourage you to visit our website—[www.tobinproject.org](http://www.tobinproject.org)—before applying. You will find information about our mission, model, and research efforts, what it’s like to work at the Tobin Project, and application guidelines.

Thank you for considering the Tobin Project and we look forward to hearing from you soon!

*“Tobin is entrepreneurial,  
open, driven by data  
rather than ideology, and  
committed to bringing as  
many perspectives to the  
table as possible.”*

—Heather Gerken,  
Wright Professor of Law,  
Yale Law School

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