The Stanton Nuclear Security Fellowships, established in 2009 with gifts from the estate of Frank Stanton (1908–2006), are spread across five institutions and two continents. Several of this year’s fellows have another link: They have all been part of the network of the University of California’s Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation through their involvement with IGCC’s Public Policy and Nuclear Threats (PPNT) program, established in 2003 through a National Science Foundation IGERT grant.

The Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program seeks out new models of interdisciplinary training to equip the scientists of the future. IGCC Director Susan Shirk: “Our proposal was a little unusual in that it brought together both social and ‘hard’ sciences and the technical and policy worlds. Plus most IGERTs are between two departments on one campus. We wanted to bridge the nine UC campuses.”

IGCC provided fellowships for 26 University of California graduate students and to date has trained more than 100 students and professionals through its multi-week summer boot camp at UC San Diego, which incorporates lectures, discussions, simulations, and informal networking with nuclear experts from around the world.

Matthew Kroenig and Robert L. Brown were part of the original cohort of PPNT Fellows brought together by IGCC in 2003. Kroenig, an assistant professor of government at Georgetown University, is spending the year as a Stanton Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. His 2010 book Exporting the Bomb: Technology Transfer and the Spread of Nuclear Weapons has received wide attention. Brown, an assistant professor of political science at Temple University, is at the Belfer Center’s Project on Managing the Atom, where he will continue work on a book on the International Atomic Energy Agency’s role in the nuclear nonproliferation regime. Brown has maintained especially strong ties to IGCC. He was a 2005-06 Dissertation Fellow, and since 2008 he has managed the post-NSF incarnation of PPNT.

Lance K. Kim and Dane Swango, both members of the 2004 IGERT cohort, are Stanton Nuclear Security Fellows at the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, California. Kim’s academic training includes a Ph.D. in nuclear engineering (2011) from UC Berkeley, and a master’s degree in public policy from the Goldman School of Public Policy. Swango received his Ph.D. in political science from UCLA in 2010.

Wilfred Wan, an alumnus of the 2007 PPNT Summer Bootcamp, is a Stanton Nuclear Security Predoctoral Fellow at Harvard University’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. Wan, a Ph.D. candidate in political science at the University of California, Irvine, was a 2010–11 IGCC Dissertation Fellow.