

**Bucknell Humanities Center
Mellon Humanities Academic Year Research
Fellowships For Faculty-Student Collaboration
Proposal Guidelines AY 2019-2020**

Proposals due Monday, September 23, 2019

◆ **OBJECTIVE**

Mellon Academic-Year Research (MAYR) Fellowships are intended to enable faculty-student teams to conduct collaborative interdisciplinary research during the regular academic year (i.e., August 15 – May 15). The program is designed to support projects focused on humanistic inquiry and involving faculty-student teams of two to five participants from at least two disciplines. The award provides each student researcher with a \$2,500 fellowship for at least 20 weeks of work, and each faculty member with up to \$2,000 in research funds. Student fellowships are provided as a stipend. Faculty funds will be available as a reimbursement account for expenses associated with the collaborative project, and may not be requested as a stipend. Allowable expenses are explained below (see “Budget”). These grants are awarded on a competitive basis.

◆ **ELIGIBILITY**

Teams must include at least one faculty member and at least one student with interests and expertise in different disciplines. The grants are designed to foster collaborative work of a kind that does not normally occur when students are hired to do office work or when student involvement on a project does not include the student as a genuine collaborator. All projects that focus on the humanities or humanistic social sciences are eligible for the award regardless of the departmental affiliation of faculty and student applicants. Eligible projects may result in work that develops into a student honors thesis, but students may not simultaneously receive academic credit and a fellowship for the same work.

MAYRs are not intended to be used by faculty during either a sabbatical or untenured faculty leave. When sufficient funds are available, proposals from visiting members of the faculty who will be returning to the University for a complete academic year will be considered. Faculty are encouraged to continue collaborative relationships with students during the summer by applying for other research grants available at the University. MAYRs may not be held in conjunction with other external or internal grants that provide student support for the same project. After receiving funding for one academic year, faculty may apply for an additional year of funding to continue productive projects.

◆ **APPLICATION DEADLINES & GUIDELINES**

Application deadline: **Monday, September 23, 2019**

Descriptive assessment deadline: **Tuesday, September 15, 2020**

Application must include all components described below, assembled into a single PDF File and emailed as an attachment to BHC Administrative Assistant, Kathi Venios (klv006@bucknell.edu).

1. **Completed Cover Sheet** (see below)
2. **Proposal:** Limit the body of the proposal to four single-spaced pages (12-point font, reasonable margins), although appendices may be included when appropriate.

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The proposal must include the following subsections:

- a. **Project Description:** Describe the project in a form intelligible to the non-specialist and explain how it meets the grant requirements for interdisciplinary and humanistic inquiry. Clearly identify the anticipated outcomes that receipt of the grant would support and explain what qualifications the student collaborator would need in order to ensure a successful collaboration. In no case should a proposal consist of simply a cover letter attached to a proposal to an outside agency.
 - b. **Rationale:** Provide a rationale for the project, including its scholarly significance in the context of the interdisciplinary areas. Include a statement of the value of the proposed work to the professional development of the faculty member(s), placing the project in the context of past and future scholarship. Explain how the collaboration will introduce student collaborator(s) to the research methods associated with one or more disciplines.
 - c. **Work plan:** Describe the project plans and provide details about the scope of the student research. Include a projected schedule or timeline that includes a clear description of student work equal to 10-12 hours per week for at least 20 weeks. Please note that faculty recipients are expected to mentor their student assistants in a collaborative relationship, and ensure that the work plan reflects this commitment.
 - d. **Budget:** Include a budget for up to \$2,000 per faculty member for research expenses and explain how the funds would be used to complete your proposed scholarly project. Allowable expenses include research materials and expenses and related research or conference travel for both faculty and students. The funds may not be used to purchase computer equipment.
3. **A current curriculum vitae for each faculty team member.**
4. **Chair's letters of endorsement for each faculty team member.** Please ask your department chair or program director to provide a letter of endorsement for your project directly to BHC Administrative Assistant, Kathi Venios (klv006@bucknell.edu). The letter of endorsement should explain why the proposed project is significant and provide a context within which to evaluate it. Department chairs or program directors who are themselves applying should ask a colleague to write this letter. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit the proposal to the chair/director (or faculty member writing this letter) at least five working days before the deadline so that s/he may write an informed letter of endorsement. Chairs or directors will submit the letter no later than the proposal deadline.

◆ **EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS**

The goal of this grant is to support innovative interdisciplinary work done by faculty and student collaborators. The primary selection criteria includes the degree to which the proposed project will bring faculty and students together for clearly-defined projects that are likely to lead to continued investment in humanistic inquiry. The proposals will be evaluated based on quality, likelihood of success, the impact on the students' intellectual development, and the impact on the faculty members' professional and intellectual development.

◆ **DESCRIPTIVE ASSESSMENT**

Grant recipients are expected to email a descriptive assessment of their collaborative faculty-student work to BHC Administrative Assistant, Kathi Venios (klv006@bucknell.edu) by Tuesday, September 15, 2020. These assessments will be used to provide feedback to the Mellon Foundation.

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◆ **COVER SHEET**

Faculty information:

Name: _____

Department: _____

Email address: _____

Year of first Bucknell appointment: _____

1. If more than one faculty member is participating in this collaboration group, please include the above information for each faculty member in the space below.
2. List all previous Bucknell grants applied for by faculty member(s). Indicate year of application and whether proposal was funded.
3. List other internal and/or external funding sources that you currently have available, or for which you are applying, for this project.

Student information:

Name: _____

Major: _____

Email address: _____

Class year: _____

If more than one student is participating in this collaboration group, please include the above information for each faculty member in the space below.

Please submit this cover sheet and the entire proposal, via an email as a single PDF File attachment, to BHC Administrative Assistant, Kathi Venios (klv006@bucknell.edu).