

Hall Center for the Humanities

WHITING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT FELLOWSHIP – KU INTERNAL COMPETITION

The Whiting Foundation has invited the University of Kansas to nominate two KU humanities faculty members for the Whiting Public Engagement Fellowship. See <http://www.whiting.org/humanities/public-engagement-fellowship/about> for more information, including complete guidelines.

INTERNAL COMPETITION DEADLINE: Applications must be received as one PDF, submitted by email to Sarah Bishop at s026b689@ku.edu no later than **May 5th at 5:00 p.m.**

Applications must include as one PDF:

- 1. This Application Form**
- 2. Applicant's current CV**
- 3. Short sample of current or previous public-facing work**

Details: This fellowship recognizes and supports faculty who incorporate public engagement into their scholarship. The fellowship is designed for professors whose expertise and proposed project are squarely in the humanities. The Foundation is seeking to support faculty who have already been translating their scholarly work for the benefit of the public sphere or are in the early stages of doing so and thus have at least modest experience that demonstrates an orientation toward public engagement. The fellowship can be taken consecutively with institutional or other grant-supported leave. Proposals should *not* involve a scholarly monograph as the final output.

Award Amount: Fellows' home institutions will be granted \$40,000 to fund six consecutive months of leave and an additional up to \$10,000 to cover costs such as travel, collaboration, and training. Fellows may take the leave in fall 2018 or spring of 2019. All fellows will participate in two meetings, one in summer 2018, one in summer 2019, and provide a brief final report on their work at the end of the fellowship. In cases where the \$40,000 award does not cover half of the nominee's annual salary and benefits, the Foundation expects the home institution to bridge the gap to fully cover salary and benefits.

Eligibility: In order to be eligible, KU faculty must fit **ONE** of the following criteria:

- Be a full-time untenured humanities faculty member with at least two full years of employment
- Be a full-time tenured faculty member in the humanities who began the first semester of tenure between Fall 2012 and Fall 2017

Projects will be selected based on the following three criteria:

- *Potential to engage the intended public:* Is the project conceived with an audience outside the academy in mind and designed carefully to reach them? How significantly will the project affect the public, in terms of both breadth (e.g., size of the audience) and depth (e.g., level of engagement)? (Projects need not be national in scope.) Does the nominee have a clear plan to reach the intended audience(s)? Has the nominee demonstrated an ability to reach broader audiences effectively?
- *Ability to complete the project successfully:* Does the nominee have the qualifications to complete the work proposed during the fellowship (or in the longer timeline laid out in the application)? Is the project itself manageable, taking into account any work the nominee has already done? If success of the project depends on collaborators or a third party (such as a magazine or book publisher), does the proposal include persuasive evidence that the collaboration will be effective?
- *Intellectual value:* Will the project make a meaningful intellectual contribution for its audience, conveying the complexity and nuance of humanistic learning? Does the nominee have an outstanding history of research and teaching that lends itself to the proposed project? Does the project make use of the nominee's scholarly expertise in an intellectually rigorous way?

WHITTING INTERNAL APPLICATION FORM

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

Email: _____

Department: _____

Eligibility: I am a (choose one):

full-time untenured humanities faculty member with at least two full years of employment

full-time tenured faculty member in the humanities who began the first semester of tenure between Fall 2012 and Fall 2017

Name of Department Chair: _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Title of Proposed Project: _____

Project Overview (text limited to 300 words) Provide a compelling summary of your public-facing project, making clear the humanities content, intended public, form of engagement, and key partners, activities, and desired outcomes. Indicate the project's status and any work already completed.

Collaborators (text limited to 200 words) Identify critical partners and describe their qualifications, specific role(s), and the current status of your relationship (e.g., not yet contacted, in conversation, firmly committed). If you plan to seek out collaborators you have not yet identified, indicate what kinds of people or organizations they might be. If collaboration is not relevant to the project, enter N/A.

Existing work on similar subjects or in similar media (text limited to 200 words) Describe the competitive field for your proposed project. What gaps exist in the field, and how does your project work to fill them? How does your project fill a need? Demonstrate your understanding of other work that is available on similar topics or in similar media. Show that you understand the options facing your intended public and have a sensible approach to distinguish your project as a compelling alternative.

Intended public and engagement plan (text limited to 200 words) Specify the segment of the public you intend to engage through your fellowship project and describe your plan to reach them, including the channels you will use. Show not just that your project will be available to a public but that they will be moved to participate in and be affected by it. Make clear, in language compelling to a non-specialist, why the project will be engaging to the chosen public. Show that you have thought through how you will adapt your approach for your intended public – and that you have selected that public carefully.

Technical skills (text limited to 200 words) Any public-facing project draws not only on the intellectual acumen and subject-matter expertise that will be clear from your CV but also on skills less obviously associated with traditional academic work. Indicate the skills required for the project to succeed and describe how you have demonstrated expertise in each or will collaborate with someone who has.

Timeline (text limited to 200 words) Indicate the timeline for your project, including the timing of any major milestones. If the project will not be completed in the term of the fellowship, indicate how the fellowship term fits into the larger timeline. Projects may already be in progress when the fellowship begins and need not be finished during the fellowship period, but fellows should make substantial progress through the concentrated attention the fellowship allows.

Budget (text limited to 200 words) Nominees may propose to direct the \$50,000 award (\$40,000 may be used as stipend, up to \$10,000 may be requested for other costs) in whatever way will be most effective to advance the project. Any reasonably necessary cost is eligible. For example, funds may be allocated to secure course releases, for a semester or more of leave, for travel, to obtain targeted training crucial to the project for themselves or others, to purchase required equipment or supplies, and to support collaborators for their time or work on the project.