

**Marcus W. Orr Center for the Humanities
Freeburg Fellows Program
Faculty Fellowships for Spring 2020**

The purpose of the Faculty Fellowships in the Marcus W. Orr Center for the Humanities (MOCH) Freeburg Fellows Program is to encourage, facilitate, and highlight excellent research in the humanities at the University of Memphis. Operated in tandem with the Freeburg Fellows Dissertation Fellowships, this program allows recipients to write and research in a collaborative, interdisciplinary environment alongside other research-active faculty members and advanced doctoral students. By supporting and showcasing humanities research being conducted by our faculty, this program strengthens the ties between the university and local community and demonstrates the vital role played by the humanities in our culture.

Award Details

Up to four fellowships will be awarded to tenured and tenure-track faculty members in the College of Arts and Sciences. Recipients will be drawn primarily from the four humanities departments (English, Foreign Languages and Literatures, History, Philosophy), but applications will also be considered from non-humanities faculty members working in related areas. Fellowships allow faculty members to devote their energies to their research by providing one semester of leave from teaching in Spring 2020, a supportive cohort of fellows with whom to share their work, and an occasion to showcase their work in a public forum in Fall 2020. Faculty Fellows will receive their usual pay and benefits during the Spring 2020 term and will be relieved of teaching duties (exempting dissertation supervision) and other responsibilities (the latter subject to negotiation with their chair). Fellows will also receive a modest stipend to be used for research-related activities and supplies. These fellowships are generously funded by a bequest from Catherine and Charles Freeburg.

Eligibility

All full-time, tenured, and tenure-track College of Arts and Sciences faculty members in good standing are eligible to apply. Fellows cannot have received PDA during the 2018-2019 school year, nor will they be eligible for PDA during the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 school years. Projects at any stage of development will be supported, but those that will clearly benefit from the fellowship's support and will lead to a publication and/or significant fellowship/external funding opportunities will be prioritized. When possible, fellows will be selected to create a mix within the fellowship cohort of junior and senior faculty from across diverse disciplines, and with an eye toward projects that speak to or relate to one another. Fellows who have been rejected in previous years may apply again with the same project.

Fellowship Requirements

Fellows are required to remain in residence throughout the fellowship period and to participate in all MOCH-sponsored events and regular fellows meetings. The primary purpose of these meetings is to create a collaborative, interdisciplinary community of scholars where fellows will share their work, provide feedback, discuss research-related challenges they may be facing, explore possible collaborations, provide mentorship to junior colleagues and graduate student fellows, etc. Other meetings may address grant-writing and external funding opportunities; facilitate discussions about course redesign, the future of the humanities, and topical readings of broad interest; feature informal talks by visiting speakers; etc.

At the conclusion of Spring 2020, fellows will be asked to submit a brief report summarizing the work they completed during their period of research leave.

Fellowship recipients will be expected to serve on a review panel for the subsequent year's award cycle.

In Fall 2020, fellows will present on their research in a MOCH-sponsored event aimed at the public and wider university community.

Application

Applications must include the following materials:

- (1) Completed application form (below)
- (2) Current CV
- (3) Supporting letter from applicant's chair/director
- (4) Project narrative (see guidelines below)
- (5) Bibliography (not to exceed two pages)

Project Narrative Guidelines

One aim of the Faculty Fellowship Program is to help foster a climate in which humanities scholars are supported in their pursuit of external funding opportunities. To this end, the requirements for the project narrative largely duplicate the proposal requirements for the main National Endowment for the Humanities grants (www.neh.gov/grants and <https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/fellowships>). Other external funding sources (e.g., ACLS, Guggenheim Foundation) require that applicants address similar topics in their proposal narratives. Applicants for the Faculty Fellowship Program are thus easily able to adapt their proposal narrative in pursuit of external funding opportunities in the future.

In a narrative not to exceed three single-spaced pages, please address the following areas:

- (a) *Research and Contribution* – “Describe the intellectual significance of the proposed project, including its value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Provide an overview of the project, explaining the basic ideas, problems, or questions examined by the study. Explain how the project will complement, challenge, or expand relevant studies in the field.”
- (b) *Methods and Work Plan* – Describe your methodology and clarify the part or stage of the project that will be supported by the Faculty Fellowship. “Provide a work plan, describing what you will accomplish during the award period. ... If you do not anticipate finishing the entire project during the award period, discuss your plan for doing so.”
- (c) *Competencies, Skills, and Access* – “Explain your competence in the area of your project. If the area of inquiry is new to you, explain your reasons for working in it and your qualifications to do so. Specify your level of competence in any language or digital technology needed for the study.”
- (d) *Final Product and Dissemination* – “Describe the intended audience and the intended results of the project.” Outline the anticipated research outputs (e.g., articles, book chapters).

Deadline

All application materials must be submitted electronically via PDF to moch@memphis.edu by Friday, March 15, 2019 at 5:00 PM. The subject line must read “Faculty Fellowship.” Please have your department chair send his/her letter of support directly to moch@memphis.edu.

Marcus W. Orr Center for the Humanities
Freeburg Faculty Fellowship Program Application for Spring 2020

Name: _____ UUID: _____

Department/Center: _____ Faculty Rank: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Name of Department Chair/Director: _____ Email: _____

Project Title: _____

By checking this box, I certify that I did not hold a PDA during the 2018-2019 school year. I also understand I will not be eligible for a PDA during the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years.

Have you received internal or external research support within the past three years? Yes No

If so, please provide the following details: semester/year, funding type, source, amount, project title

Project Abstract

Please provide an abstract (350 words maximum) that briefly summarizes the proposed project and outlines the projected outputs.