Humanities Research Center
Virginia Commonwealth University
Residential Fellowships for Spring Semester 2015

The Humanities Research Center is delighted to announce the launch of an annual residential fellowship program, which each year will give four faculty members who are working on related issues or topics release from all teaching responsibilities for one semester so that they can focus on their individual research projects and at the same time engage regularly with each other. The topic or issue that unites the group can be quite broad (for example, Race Relations in Urban Environments, Gender and Sexuality in the Early Modern World, or the Politics of Virtue). The goal is to foster intellectual exchange and to enhance the quality of research at VCU by exposing faculty to different perspectives and methodologies. Applicants need not be working collaboratively and indeed we anticipate that in most cases they will not be doing so; but applicants must be open to thinking about their own projects in new ways and to asking new questions of their material as a result of engaging with colleagues who are considering similar issues in different contexts and/or using different methodologies.

The first group will convene in Spring Semester 2015. Fellows will meet as a group once a week to discuss their own work-in-progress and readings of common interest. Fellows will be required to give public presentations about their projects during the academic year following their residency at the Center. Publications resulting from this fellowship program should include an acknowledgment of the Center’s support.

All tenure-track faculty in the humanities at VCU are eligible to apply. They can apply either in groups or as individuals. In the case of group applications, at least two departments must be represented in each group of applicants. Groups that include colleagues at different stages of their scholarly careers are especially welcome (though this is not required). In the case of individual applications, applicants must indicate in their proposals the overarching themes and issues raised by their projects that they would like to consider in conjunction with other fellows at the center. The selection committee may select four applicants who have applied as a group, or put together four individual applicants whose projects give promise of intellectual synergy.
Applications are due 14 February 2014. They will be reviewed by a committee of faculty appointed by the center director, who will announce the results of the competition by the end of April 2014.

A complete group application will consist of the following:

- A completed coversheet for the group as a whole, including a description of the theme or topic that brings the group together, along with its significance to the humanities
- A completed individual coversheet for each group member
- A detailed proposal from each group member, not to exceed three single-spaced pages, that explains (a) the goals, methods, and significance of the applicant’s individual project, and (b) the impact that the project will have on the candidate’s discipline and the humanities in general
- A current Curriculum Vitae for each group member

A complete individual application will consist of the following:

- A completed individual coversheet
- A detailed proposal, not to exceed three single-spaced pages, that explains (a) the goals, methods, and significance of the applicant’s individual project, (b) the impact that the project will have on the candidate’s discipline and the humanities in general, and (c) in a final paragraph, the overarching themes and issues raised by the project that the applicant would like to consider in conjunction with other fellows at the center
- A current Curriculum Vitae
Proposed Theme or Topic:

Group members:

Name _____________________________          Department _____________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

Description of group topic (limit 200 words):
Name:

Department:

Rank:

Years in tenure-track position at VCU:

Email address:

Title of research project:

Project Summary (limit 200 words)