



HERITAGE SCIENCE FOR CONSERVATION

Post-Doctoral Fellowship Proposal Guidelines

Post-Doctoral Fellowship Awards

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has funded 2 Post-Doctoral Fellowships at Johns Hopkins University, Sheridan Libraries, to conduct scientific research in the area of book and paper conservation for heritage collections. The Post-Doctoral Fellowship is primarily intended to provide financial support for a recent Ph.D. to assist as principal investigator in conducting collaborative research projects in the libraries Department of Conservation and Preservation, the Whiting School of Materials Science and Engineering as well as other institutional collaborators. Awards will provide salary for one year in the range of USA \$45,000 – \$50,000, including benefits. Awards may be renewed for another year based on research outcomes and HCS needs. Supported projects will be expected to begin at the start of the academic year and run for one calendar year.

Administrative Management

The HSC project has its own lab within the Department of Conservation and Preservation which is housed in Krieger Hall, home to the Whiting School of Materials Science and Engineering. The Director for the HSC Project and the Department of Conservation and Preservation is Sophia K. Jordan-Mowery. Post-Doctoral Fellows will report directly to the Senior Project Conservator, Bill Minter. Fellows will collaborate with conservation staff, scientists from the Homewood Campus, and will have access to laboratory equipment across the campus. A partial list of equipment that may be available for research is located on the website. Finally, the applicant is expected to participate in interdepartmental and inter-institutional colloquia relevant to the research, provide monthly progress reports to the Director, publish and/or present research for dissemination prior to completing the Fellowship.

Research Themes

The 2009 HCS seeks proposals for breakthrough research within the six broad research themes. Within each of these themes, a number of compelling research topics is described. Research projects which combine several different scientific and engineering concepts into the work in order to produce outcomes that are helpful to conservators in the field are preferred.

EXAMPLE:

Solvents in complex media

Solvent effects are well known in all chemical systems. In the field of heritage conservation science, where these effects are involved in the mass and individual treatment of book and paper products, the effects on storage, appearance, function and longevity are yet to be fully

characterized. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals that bear on these subjects. Of particular interest are proposals that include research on:

Adhesives, paper, dyes, pigments, brighteners, coatings, fillers, textiles, paper board, cellulose fibers, synthetic fibers, processing conditions, tide lines, conservation treatment solvents, (with a variety of polarities), complex mixtures of media (adhesives on paper and other combination) and deacidification (mass and individual). Studies that include effects on appearance, function and longevity are preferred.

In addition to the primary research proposal, Fellows will participate in other small avenues of research exploration as may be revealed through the course of the primary research project or discussed in scheduled staff meetings with the Director of the Project, the Senior Project Conservator, and collaborating scientists.

Evaluation Criteria

The 2009 HSC seeks ambitious, innovative proposals that show a capacity to leverage research collaborations across disciplines and institutions. Our interest in collaborations and partnerships with scientists, conservators, researchers and industry who have a track record and a record of commitment to conducting creative research with practical outcomes that can benefit the conservators of heritage collections

Proposals that illustrate this commitment to expand collaboration will receive particular consideration.

HSC will evaluate proposals against five primary criteria:

1. Innovativeness, ambition, and impact in advancing understanding of particular conservation question or ability to provide corrective action for practical intervention by conservators or those charged with the well-being of heritage collections.
2. How well the proposed research addresses the topic outlined in the call for proposals.
3. The research record or standing of the applicant and his/her knowledge of the relevant research in the proposed area of investigation.
4. The strength of the research plan—ability to be completed on time, significance of the research and its outcome.

Eligibility for Awards

To be eligible for an award, the applicant must have completed and received his/her Ph.D. within the last 3 years. Acceptance of the post-doctoral fellowship implies that Fellows agree to the rules and governance associated with the Johns Hopkins University Intellectual Property Policy. Please refer to: http://jhuresearch.jhu.edu/JHU_Intellectual_Property_Policy.pdf

Proposal Guidelines

Proposals must be submitted in English via the online Proposal Submission Form. The form is a word file that will accommodate entry of information where needed. Once the Proposal Submission is completed it should be sent as a pdf to heritageconservsci@jhu.edu. Please report any problems to the same email address.

Proposals should be no more than 10 pages in length for submission and should include any appendices or other attachments as necessary. Please use Times New Roman, 12 point.

Proposal Content:

- Title of Proposal
- Personal Identification
 - Name of Applicant
 - Physical address and contact information including phone and email
 - Current employment
 - Degree Conferred: Date & Institution
- Project Description (approximately 2,000 words)
 - Brief summary of the research proposed including proposed costs
 - Brief description of the technical approach, with the anticipated tasks stated
 - Address the projects ability to meet specific research goals from the Research Topics described
 - This section should describe the overall methodology and how it will meet the desired attributes and functionality
 - Describe how the proposed work will be used in the field of heritage conservation science
- Broadening Participation (150 words or less)
 - This section should address how the proposed conceptual design or project architecture may support further opportunities for broadening investigations across disciplines, institutions, and conservators
- Research Plan and Schedule (no more than 2 pages)
 - Provide an integrated display for the proposed work
 - Include milestones, goals and deliverables and a timeline for the project.
 - If presenting as a spreadsheet, please provide as separate file, include name and proposal identification.
- Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources (no more than 800 words)
 - Describe key resources & facilities that will be needed in the proposed effort.

- Include specialty instruments that do not appear on the Lab Equipment Resource section of the website.
 - Materials & Supplies (including software)
- Budget & Justification (800 words or less)
 - Include estimated cost of materials & justification
- Description of Deliverables & Schedule of Delivery (approximately 500 words)
 - Provide a detailed list, schedule for delivery, and description of all deliverables proposed under this effort
- Major Milestones for Task and Phase Completion
 - Identify milestones and criteria for completion and timetable
- Related Experience/Qualifications of Performer/Laboratory (400 words or less)
- References/Related Research
- Assertion of Data Rights (150 words or less)
 - Include here a summary of any assertions to any technical data that will be developed or delivered under any resultant award.
- Comments