Andrew W. Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellowships in the Humanities, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 2015–17

The Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, supported by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, seeks to hire a Post-Doctoral Fellow for a two-year appointment commencing Fall 2015.

Application Deadline: Monday, October 27, 2014

The Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Humanities will spend the two-year term in residence at Illinois, will conduct research on the proposed project, and will teach two course per year in the appropriate academic department. The Fellow will participate in the IPRH Fellows Seminar, a yearlong interdisciplinary workshop, and will be encouraged to participate in activities available through IPRH, in the teaching department, and on the Illinois campus. The Post-Doctoral Fellow will give a public lecture on his or her research.

The search for Mellon Fellows is open to scholars in all humanities disciplines, but we seek applicants whose work falls into one of the following broad subject areas:

- Race and Diaspora Studies
- History of Science/Technology
- Empire and Colonial Studies
- Memory Studies

Eligibility
Applicants should have received their Ph.D. in a humanities discipline between January 1, 2012 and no later than May 31, 2015. Only untenured scholars who have not held the title of “assistant professor” are eligible. PhDs are the only terminal degree accepted. Please note that these are external fellowships; current full- and part-time faculty members at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as well as scholars who received their doctorates from the Urbana campus, are not eligible for these awards. Scholars who cannot legitimately anticipate the conferral of their degrees by May 31, 2015, should not apply.

Terms
The appointment will begin on August 16, 2015, and the successful applicant must be on the Illinois campus by that date (or nearest prior business day if it falls on a weekend) for employment processing and orientation. The Post-Doctoral Fellows will be required to live within 20 miles of Champaign-Urbana during the academic years of the appointment.

The fellowship carries a $45,000 annual stipend, a $2,000 research account, and a

Application Guidelines
Applications must be submitted online at this URL: https://my.atlas.illinois.edu/submit/go.asp?id=809. Applicants will be asked to create a password-protected account, to which they can return multiple times. The application system opens September 1, 2014 (and will not be accessible before then). No paper or emailed applications will be accepted. The application portal closes by midnight Central Time on October 27, 2014. All materials, including letters of reference, must be submitted by that time. As IPRH staff will not be available for any trouble-shooting assistance after 5:00 p.m., applicants are strongly urged to submit their applications well prior to the close of business on October 27 (by 4:30 p.m. Central Time). Please be certain that you have reached the final section of the application system and clicked “submit” to complete your application.

In addition to completing the online application form, applicants must submit the following application materials through the online system:

- **A one-page abstract, with current project title** (250-300 words). Note that the project title may often not be the same as the dissertation title. The title should be for the research project the applicant will undertake during the course of the fellowship year.

- **A detailed narrative statement** (2,000 words) describing the research project the applicant will undertake during the term of the fellowship. The narrative statement should explain how the proposed project would make a contribution to the applicant’s research and advance the larger field of study; how the project would articulate with one of the four designated subject areas; and the anticipated outcomes of the proposed research. Applicants must address why the proposed research can be undertaken successfully at the University of Illinois, and should include details about programs, individual scholars, and resources at the U of I that would enrich the project. Upload under “research statement.”

- **A curriculum vitae** (maximum 10 pages).

- **A sample syllabus** for a course (undergraduate or graduate) related to the applicant’s research project that could be taught by the applicant as part of the fellowship. Upload under “other supporting document.”

- **Three (3) letters of recommendation to be uploaded by the applicant’s referees.** If the applicant’s degree has not been conferred at the time of application, one of these letters must be from the dissertation advisor, who should cover in some detail the candidate’s progress toward and likelihood of PhD degree conferral by May 31, 2015. Please note that this means not simply defense or even deposit of the dissertation by May 31, 2015, but that the
applicant’s degree has been awarded by then. In general, the letters of recommendation should come from senior colleagues who are familiar with the applicant’s work and the proposal being made for the fellowship. Letters must address the specifics of the project being proposed for the fellowship, the applicant’s research and teaching skills, and the contributions the proposed project would make to the broader scholarly community. (Only three letters will be accepted.) Because the letters must address the specifics of the proposal and the position being sought, we strongly discourage applicants from sending general dossier files.

We recommend entering your recommenders’ names and emails early in the online application process. The application system will generate an email request for letters of recommendation to those referees whose names and emails you submit, and the email will provide a link to the recipient for uploading the letter. Please note that you must enter your personal contact information first before you can proceed to entering references. Once this information is entered (and one clicks “continue” at the close of the reference-letter section), the designated referees should receive an email requesting their letters and containing a unique link at which they may be uploaded. Reference letters must be submitted via this link. Please be aware that these links expire with the fellowship application deadline; therefore, entering letter requests at the eleventh hour may result in an incomplete application at the time of the deadline. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please maintain communication with referees to ensure they have received the emails with uploading links and are aware of the deadline. Referees should check their junk and spam email folders for letter requests that may have landed there. Please do not have the referees (or dossier service) email reference letters directly to IPRH. The letters should be uploaded at the link provided in the email sent to the referee/dossier service by the application system.

Please note: Applicants choosing to use a dossier service, such as Interfolio, should allow ample time for the service to upload the reference letters to their applications. Requests are not automatic in this case, and can take several business days to process. Last-minute requests to dossier services will likely result in incomplete applications, which will not be considered. It is the responsibility of the applicants to familiarize themselves with the dossier service’s policies and procedures, and to allow ample time for the uploading of their reference letters. (Typically, the email address one should enter for a referee in the application system in order to have his or her appropriate Interfolio dossier letter uploaded to one’s application involves entering something similar in form to “send.name.alphanumericidentifier@interfolio.com.”)
Applications for which all three letters of recommendation have not been uploaded by midnight Central Time on October 27th will be deemed incomplete and will not be considered.

**Deadline**

Online applications must be complete and submitted, including all letters of support uploaded, by midnight on October 27, 2014, after which the application portal closes. The application system can be found at [https://my.atlas.illinois.edu/submit/go.asp?id=809](https://my.atlas.illinois.edu/submit/go.asp?id=809). Deadline extensions will not be granted. The review committee will consider only complete applications. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all documentation is complete, and that referees submit their letters before the deadline.

**Notification**

All applications will be acknowledged via e-mail, and all applicants will be notified when the search has concluded. Please do not contact IPRH about the status of an application; because of the volume of applications IPRH receives, we are unable to answer questions about individual applications.

Go to the application system at [https://my.atlas.illinois.edu/submit/go.asp?id=809](https://my.atlas.illinois.edu/submit/go.asp?id=809), where you will be asked to create an account. The system opens September 1, 2014.

Questions about these fellowships may be addressed to Dr. Nancy Castro, Associate Director of IPRH, at ncastro@illinois.edu or (217) 244-7913.