

**Five Colleges, Incorporated  
Request for Proposals:**

**Five College Digital Humanities Learning Communities  
Five College Digital Humanities Residencies  
and  
Five College Digital Humanities Postdoctoral Fellowships**

**(Proposals Due December 2, 2011)**

With generous support from a five-year grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Five College Academic Deans are pleased to announce new opportunities for faculty members to enrich curricula and student scholarship through projects involving the digital humanities.

Over the course of the five-year program, activities funded through this grant will include:

- learning communities of faculty members and instructional technologists using digital humanities resources either in common topical areas or in common technologies;
- summer travel by teams to support work on digital humanities projects;
- training for mixed teams that include faculty members, instructional technology staff members, and graduate and undergraduate students interested in developing digital humanities projects;
- development and revision of courses that incorporate existing or newly developed digital humanities resources;
- short and long-term residencies by humanities scholars or digital humanities practitioners;
- postdoctoral fellowships for teaching and research by humanities scholars using digital humanities resources and technologies;
- intensive summer training for undergraduates working on digital humanities projects who could support future student and faculty projects in the Five Colleges; and
- technical support for student research incorporating the digital humanities.

This fall, the Five College Deans will name a current faculty member to a half-time position as director of the project. The director, with a steering committee appointed by the Deans, will design and direct the activities supported under the grant over the next five years.

**We are pleased now to issue a REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR LEARNING COMMUNITIES, RESIDENCIES, and POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS.**

Learning Communities, which would meet spring 2012, should be formed of faculty members and instructional technologists with shared interests drawn from at least two campuses; proposals for support should indicate the nature and frequency of the joint activities and the likely benefits, including how they will be shared with others not in the learning community group. Support from the grant (up to \$3000) may include incidental costs, visitor expenses and honoraria, and travel by team members.

Residencies or Fellowships, which could begin as early as spring 2012 or as late as fall 2012, should bring expert users or creators of digital humanities resources to the Five Colleges with the goal of spreading knowledge of the possibilities these resources afford for teaching and for student scholarship. Residencies may be short-term (one to several weeks) or for as long as a semester; postdoctoral fellowships should be year-long. Proposals should come from teams that include both faculty members

and instructional technologists. Team members may be from a single campus, but the proposal should outline a clear plan for connecting the Resident or Postdoctoral Fellow with students and faculty members from multiple campuses. Such plans might include combinations of public talks and demonstrations, workshops, or guest-teaching in courses, etc. Typically, semester-long residencies will include teaching a course. And the Deans hope postdoctoral fellows will teach two courses, each on a different campus. But in either case an exceptionally rich plan involving workshops and support of course development or resources development could justify a reduction in the teaching obligation, especially if workshops include undergraduate student researchers.

**Proposal Preparation:** For advice or comments at any stage of proposal preparation, contact Nate Therien, Five College Director for Academic Programs ([ntherien@fivecolleges.edu](mailto:ntherien@fivecolleges.edu)) 413-256-8316.

**Submittal:** Proposals (no more than 5 pages as a single document, formatted as a searchable PDF) should be submitted via email by December 2, 2011 to [sharrison@fivecolleges.edu](mailto:sharrison@fivecolleges.edu) with the following subject line: **Five College Digital Humanities Proposal.**

Proposals should include:

- the names and institutions of the proposal's major authors and other likely collaborators;
- description of the work to be accomplished and for sharing it across the campuses;
- a home campus for any visitor and a plan for integrating the visitor on that campus;
- a plan for connecting any visitor with students and faculty members on multiple campuses;
- description of the impact of the project on teaching, student learning, or student scholarship;
- time frame;
- endorsement by the appropriate supervisor of the participation of any IT staff members; and
- budget

Visitors proposed for short residencies should be named and their credentials should be described. In the case of proposals for semester-long residencies or postdoctoral positions, it is less likely that a candidate will already be identified and instead the proposers will be seeking permission to search to hire a candidate with a particular set of skills and credentials.

Additional deadlines will be announced over the course of this year for other rounds of proposals for residencies, learning communities and postdoctoral fellowships and for proposals for funding under other aspects of this Five College Digital Humanities Program.