

Mellon Grant for Curricular Innovations

“Embedding Digital Humanities in the Curriculum”–Faculty Director:
Dana Leibsohn (Art History, Smith College)

Current Projects and Grants include:

- Creating a Five College Community of Digital Scholars/Practitioners
- Developing a Digital Humanities Spatial Techniques Workshop
- Pompeii Quadriporticus Project
- Digital Humanities Symposium and Mixer
- Digitizing Historic Maps
- Disability Studies
- Expanding Amherst Mapping Project to Other Institutions and Usages
- Five College Digital Manuscripts
- Online Archive of Dress and Textiles
- Reading, Writing, Looking: New Ways of Knowing in the Digital Humanities
- The Role of Digital Humanities in Gender Studies: From Research to the Classroom

Further information, including Steering Committee members, scheduled events, and a new call for proposals (deadlines: November 30, 2012, March 22, 2013, May 24, 2013) is available at <https://www.fivecolleges.edu/dh>.

"Bridging Liberal Arts and Undergraduate Programs and Graduate and Professional Programs"

The Five Colleges awarded three two-year projects in 2011-12 under this grant from the Mellon Foundation, in architecture, public policy, and sustainability studies. We expect to announce a new call for two or more projects in 2013-14.

Goals of the grant from the Mellon Foundation :

- Clarifying pathways leading from liberal arts undergraduate education to work in the professions;
- Fostering discussion and experimentation that has the potential to improve pedagogy and student learning both in liberal arts and professional programs;
- Exploring new possibilities for curricular and programmatic collaborations across the liberal arts/professional education divide, possibly including new kinds of graduate programs that build more fruitfully on the values and preparation of students entering professional study from liberal arts backgrounds.

Architectural Studies and Architecture

- creation and delivery of a team-taught foundational course for beginning undergraduates that will rotate among the campuses and will include faculty members from the University's professional program,

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practitioners, and a studio component co-taught by a graduate student (also related non-credit skills workshops).

- two graduate level team-taught integrated studio courses, one in Architecture, one in Landscape Architecture, that will include specialists in architectural theory and history from the colleges
- A lecture/consultancy series in topical areas of common interest to the liberal arts and professional curricula (sustainability, material culture, perception theory, performance studies, new media and technologies, design entrepreneurship).

Public Policy and Social Innovation

- Ongoing faculty seminar (beginning with intensive planning retreat summer 2012) to focus on pedagogy, articulation, disciplinary differences, etc.
- collaborative course development and implementation: a gateway course and undergraduate course in non-profit management (multiple, transportable modules)
- Team-teaching
- Faculty exchanges
- Consultancies
- Graduate student mentorship of undergraduates (especially via the Smith School for Social Work and the Isenberg School);
- Supervised co-curricular projects supporting social entrepreneurship.

Environment and Sustainability Across the Campuses

- Faculty professional development, including site visits, with focus on pedagogical issues, knowledge gaps, articulation agreements with professional programs
- Team-taught graduate level courses (at least 3)
- Graduate student participation in liberal arts courses (coupled with intensive mentoring by liberal arts faculty members)
- Additional course development