Mellon/ACLS Community College Faculty Fellowships
Information Session

Rachel Bernard & Valerie Popp
Program Officers

Faculty Development @ CUNY
April 13, 2018
Agenda

I. Intro to ACLS

II. Overview of fellowship programs

III. Community College Faculty Fellowships
   a. Application and review process
   b. Tips

IV. Proposal idea exchange and discussion

V. Q & A
American Council of Learned Societies

Federation of 75 scholarly societies in humanities & social sciences

Mission:

The advancement of humanistic studies in all fields of the humanities and social sciences and the maintenance and strengthening of national societies dedicated to those studies
2017-18 Fellowship Competitions

- Over a dozen distinct fellowship programs
- $20+ million in fellowship and grant support
- Nearly 350 fellows
- Approximately 4,000 applications
- Almost 600 peer reviewers
ACLS’s Fellowship Programs
Early Career Programs

• Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships
• Mellon/ACLS Public Fellows program
• Luce/ACLS Dissertation Fellowships in American Art

Field-Specific Programs

• Luce/ACLS Program in China Studies
• Robert Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhist Studies
• Luce/ACLS Program in Religion, Journalism, and International Affairs
• Getty/ACLS Postdoctoral Fellowships in the History of Art

Additional Programs

• Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowships for Recently Tenured Scholars
• ACLS Digital Extension Grants
ACLs Fellowship Program

- 78 awards: $40,000, $50,000, or $70,000, depending on rank
- Support for 6-12 months of full-time work on major scholarly project
- Project Development Grants
- Eligibility requirements:
  - US citizen/permanent resident
  - May be independent scholar or affiliated with any institution in the world
  - PhD conferred at least two years prior to application deadline OR PhD equivalency through teaching and research
Community college faculty:

- Engage in innovative teaching practice and research, from traditional humanities scholarship to research on teaching and learning
- Are committed to equity and educational access
- Teach heavy loads
- Perform significant professional and institutional service
- Seek out resources for research but find them difficult to identify/obtain
Mellon/ACLS Community College Faculty Fellowships

• Stipend: $40,000
• Support for research project engaged with the humanities
• Funds can be used for research expenses, summer salary, course buyouts, etc. between July 1, 2019-December 31, 2020
• Eligibility requirements:
  • Community college humanities or social science faculty
  • MA or PhD in humanities or social science discipline
• Deadline: September 26, 2018
The Application and Review Process
Application Basics

- Online application form
- Proposal (3 pages)
- Budget (1 page)
- Project timeline (1 page)
- Bibliography (1 page)
- Reference letters (2 letters)
- Institutional statement

**TIP:** Read ACLS website, follow instructions, and log into application portal in July!
Peer Review Process

• Multi-stage peer review process
  1. ACLS screens for eligibility
  2. First-round reviewers may be specialists in your field, interests, or methodology
  3. Second round: awardees are selected by multidisciplinary selection committee of peers (community college faculty and others) from across humanities and humanistic social sciences

• The challenge: demonstrating the stakes of your project to a varied audience
Tips

• Read ACLS website, follow instructions, and log into application portal early
• Invest time in every piece of application
• Lay out a project, not just idea
• State your argument
• Substantiate claims, or say what evidence you will use
• Be CLEAR and avoid field-specific jargon
• Choose your references wisely
• Share your application materials with colleagues
• APPLY!
• Serve as a reviewer
• REAPPLY!
Proposal Idea Exchange

Share your project ideas
• Topic; research questions
• How you might spend the funds
• Timeline

In groups of 2-3 with people you don’t know
www.acls.org

email: fellowships@acls.org

twitter: @acls1919