

Mentorship Guidelines: Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme Post-MFA Researchers in Creative Arts/Postdoctoral Researchers

The Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme is the gateway to integrated arts and humanities at The Ohio State University. Global Arts + Humanities facilitates, supports and leads innovative trans-institutional collaborations and cross-disciplinary research, experiential learning and community partnerships that enhance the university's capacity to foster cultural understanding and advance social change.

Global Arts + Humanities will facilitate your mentoring as a post-MFA researcher in the creative arts/postdoctoral researcher. Mentoring is a key aspect of these positions. It will:

- ✓ Help you establish contacts and find potential collaborators at OSU
- ✓ Provide feedback on setting goals for research and creative practices, teaching, and other scholarly activities
- ✓ Navigate the broader OSU campus, community and resources
- ✓ Provide sound advice on how best to achieve your own creative and/or scholarly ambitions and meet the expectations of being at Ohio State.

Establishing the Mentoring Relationship:

The researcher should have a mentor identified at the time of hire (often, the chair of the search committee). If a faculty member has not been identified, then we recommend that the researcher identify a mentor during their first semester and complete and submit a [mentoring agreement](#) to GAHDT program manager, Puja Batra-Wells (batra-wells.1) by January 15 of Spring semester.

Tips for Identifying a mentor:

- ✓ We encourage you to seek advice from your department chair, colleagues, GAHDT faculty director Wendy Hesford (Hesford.1), in identifying potential mentors based on the specific needs you have identified. Puja Batra-Wells (Batra-Wells.1) curates the list of GAHDT affiliated faculty and is also happy to help in identifying potential people. It is also helpful to think about what you hope to gain out of the relationship in advance of asking for potential mentors. For example, you might consider whether you would like to have a mentor to help you think about time management, community connection, exhibition or performance planning, and/or advise on talking to acquisition editors about book publication.
- ✓ Once you've identified a potential candidate, be sure to meet individually before making an official ask. It's important that you feel comfortable with your mentor, and that there is some connection between you. It's also important that the person understand GAH's expectations of mentors. *We have a document that provides guidance for mentors ("Guidance for GAHDT Mentors," see [GAHDT resources](#)).* *Feel free to share this.*

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- ✓ Once you have identified your mentor, please email Puja Batra-Wells (Batra-Wells.1) with the following information: Name, position, unit affiliation, email, areas of expertise.
- ✓ In conversation with your mentor, please complete the mentoring agreement we've provided, and share with Batra-Wells.1 by January 15 (Spring Semester). **This agreement must be revised and submitted to our office annually.**

Frequency of Meetings with Mentors:

We encourage you to initiate mentoring meetings to make the most of this relationship while also respecting your mentor's commitments and using their time judiciously. They will have a lot to offer, so don't be shy!

Recommended Timeline:

- **Semester I (Fall):**
 - **Attend GAHDT Orientation (to meet GAHDT affiliates and leadership)**
 - **Identify a mentor (if one has not already been identified)**
 - **Meet with Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (for resources) (optional)**
 - **Share a creative/visual or research profile that will be featured on the GAHDT website.**
- **Semester II (Spring):**
 - **Complete and submit an annual mentoring agreement to GAHDT office (batra-wells.1)**
- **Ongoing:**
 - **Meetings with your mentor**
 - **Attending research sharing events for post-MFAs and postdoctoral researchers hosted by GAHDT**