SOCIETY OF FELLOWS GRADUATE TEAM DISCOVERY FELLOWSHIPS

2022-2023 Theme: Archival Imagination

DEADLINE: February 15, 2022

The Graduate Team Discovery Fellowship is a financial award given by the Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme to recognize the cross-disciplinary aspirations and academic accomplishments of graduate students in the Division of Arts and Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences. This program brings together a cohort of graduate students whose projects match with our **Society of Fellows**' annual theme: **Archival Imaginations**, and it awards each student a year-long fellowship. The fellowship is open to students whose projects engage cross-disciplinary critical and/or creative practices as well as students who seek to foster the development of participatory networks with local Columbus communities. Graduate Team Fellows may be at any phase of their dissertation research or terminal degree project.

Society of Fellows 2022-2023 Theme: **Archival Imaginations** defines the concept of the "archive" as a mode of inquiry, invention, and knowledge production. Archival Imaginations asks how the study of existing, emergent, or imagined archives can help us to better understand critical societal challenges. In this context, "critical" can mean urgent, pressing or necessary, but it also points to a methodological orientation or process of invention that focuses on how contingent historical processes, embodied knowledges and forms, and struggles over meaning shape present understandings.

Archival Imaginations will trouble static notions of context and singular histories and interrogate established canons, conventions, and norms that sustain certain archives and ways of knowing, remembering, and narrating. Archives and curatorial and display practices are places where official narratives and records cast certain genealogies, narratives, and peoples to the foreground. Archival Imaginations therefore will highlight not only dominant configurations of historical memory and knowledge production but also how archives reveal the gaps, fissures, and incompleteness of the record, enabling more diverse understandings of the past, present, and future.

Archival Imaginations will investigate how archival practices and disciplinary methods function as mechanisms of power and foreground the value attributed to taxonomies, categories, and classification systems as part of its investigation. The methodological focus highlights the formation of public archives and political struggle as rich sites for cross-disciplinary scholarship and creative practice. We hope to bring together graduate students working from a range of disciplinary and methodological perspectives to support scholarship, creative work, and projects that rebuild knowledge and community. We are particularly interested in projects that advance conversations about decolonizing public history; multi-voiced and community collections; the politics of memorialization, erasure, and recovery; the ethics of representation; governmentality and surveillance in documentation.

Archival Imaginations is not limited to the study of historical records but also considers social practices such as spoken language, gesture, and rituals, as dynamic parts of cultural and historical memory. In this way, the theme aims to engage modes that expand existing archives and compel the creation of new ones. We invite graduate students who engage with these and other topics related to Archival Imaginations through any humanistic or artistic approach.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A GRADUATE TEAM FELLOW?

In addition to focusing on their own research (as mentored by their department faculty advisor), Graduate Team Fellows convene as a cohort in order to support each other's evolving research, to develop cross-disciplinary methodologies and to generate a collective, public-facing project (like a podcast, website or conference presentation). In this work, Graduate Team Fellows will be mentored by one of our GAHDT Faculty Fellows with expertise in cross-disciplinary arts and humanities methods and practices.

AWARD CONDITIONS

The GAHDT Graduate Team Discovery Fellowship offers three consecutive semesters (autumn, spring, summer) of tuition and fees and a monthly stipend of $ $2,535. The award includes travel and research support up to $500. Support also includes payment of general/instructional fees, tuition, and any learning/technology fee. Special fees, such as COTA, recreational facility, Student Union and study activity fees are not included. Graduate Team Fellows may not hold any other type of employment or appointment during the time of the fellowship.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Must be a doctoral student or student in a three-year terminal degree program (e.g., MFA) in the Division of Arts and Humanities of the College of Arts and Sciences.
2. Must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.6 for all Ohio State graduate courses.

FELLOWSHIP OBLIGATIONS

The Graduate Team Discovery Fellowship Program requires Graduate Team Fellows to meet with each other and an assigned faculty mentor once a month during the semester to help advance cross-disciplinary understandings and to contribute to the GAHDT. Fellows will be able to identify their own individual contribution to the team in consultation with the GAHDT-assigned faculty mentor. This contribution may include (but is not limited to) research presentations in a format of their choosing or the organization of related campus events or the creation of public-facing projects. Graduate Team Fellows are required to apply for extramural (non-Ohio State) funding during the fellowship period and will be guided through this process by a faculty mentor.

HOW TO APPLY

All proposals must be **submitted online**, where applicants will be guided through the submission process for their proposal type. For more information, visit the **Funding page** on our website: go.osu. edu/gahdt-funding.

SUBMIT ELECTRONIC COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS:

1. A complete curriculum vitae.
2. A brief statement (two single-spaced pages) that
    a. Describes the student's creative or scholarly project,
    b. Specifies how much of the project the student has already completed,
    c. Describes how the project engages in cross-disciplinary dialogue relevant to our Society of Fellows' annual theme of Archival Imaginations,
    d. Describes the work that the fellowship will allow the student to complete.

3. A letter of support from the student's advisor that conveys the advisor's appraisal of the project's progress and cross-disciplinary significance, relevance of the project to the field of study, student's unique contribution and value of the fellowship to the student's overall graduate pursuits.

4. If the student's project involves a community partnership, it is highly recommended that the student provide an additional letter of support from the community partner.

5. A current transcript and/or academic advising report.

NOTE: No ancillary materials, such as DVDs or CDs, will be accepted. Web addresses linking to ancillary materials may be included as appropriate in the research statement.

EVALUATION PROCESS + CRITERIA

1. Applications will be evaluated by a sub-committee of the GAHDT Advisory Committee, which is comprised of senior members of the graduate faculty.

1. The advisory committee will consider all the required information presented in support of the application. Evaluation will focus on the cross-disciplinary reach and quality of the research or creative project proposed; the project's potential to link with the Society of Fellows annual theme: Archival Imaginations and the student's ability to undertake the dissertation or degree project within the fellowship tenure as evaluated primarily by scholars outside the nominee's area of study.

TIMELINE

+ **Fellowship call issued**   November 1, 2021
+ **Application deadline**   February 15, 2022
+ **Fellowships announced**   April 1, 2022
+ **Fellowship award period**   Begins autumn 2022

CONTACT

Applicants may email questions to GAHDT Program Manager, Puja Batra-Wells (batra-wells.1@osu.edu).