

GLOBAL ARTS + HUMANITIES DISCOVERY THEME
SOCIETY OF FELLOWS:
OHIO STATE FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS
2025-26 Theme: Creativity | Intelligence | Automation

DEADLINE
February 15, 2025

SOCIETY OF FELLOWS 2025-26 THEME

The technological advances and broad applications of artificial intelligence (AI) have profoundly impacted nearly every aspect of human society. But while AI may offer potential solutions to some of the world's most intractable problems, it also comes with its own perils. Increasingly, the same tools that promise creative innovations, democratic access and economic growth may also reiterate structural inequities, increase corporate influence and jeopardize lives, careers and the environment.

The Society of Fellows 2025-26 theme, Creativity | Intelligence | Automation foregrounds the challenges and opportunities of automation and alerts us to the ethical obligations arising from the simulation of human intelligence. For example: *How might the history of automation inform how we reckon with this new age? How does this moment push us to reimagine the nature of intelligence? How might we hold to account the automation of biases and erasures? Are there intelligences that should not be automated? What happens to artistic life when creative labor is automated? What other intelligences might we turn to beyond doctrines of human uniqueness?*

GAHDT welcomes critical humanistic orientations that bring together an interdisciplinary cohort of scholars, artists and practitioners from a range of fields (arts, architecture, design, engineering, humanities, medicine, social sciences, etc.). The theme focuses on how creativity, intelligence and automation operate across different scales in global contexts and within wider assemblages of biomedical, communicative, cultural, educational, environmental, geopolitical, socioeconomic, carceral and technoscientific forces and relations.

GAHDT invites Society of Fellows proposals for projects that **grapple with the relationship** between creativity, intelligence and automation. We welcome projects that **compel new understandings** of techno-human interdependencies and histories; automation and the politics of labor; theories of personhood; and forms of performativity, communication, learning and cultural expression.

ELIGIBILITY AND RELEASE TIME

Associate and full professors on all Ohio State campuses are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to associate professors for whom this support would facilitate promotion to full professor. Assistant professors who will have passed their fourth-year review at the start of the fellowship period are also eligible. Faculty must commit to being in attendance on the Columbus campus during the fellowship period so that they can participate fully in the monthly seminar, build community and attend related events.

During the fellowship period, and in accordance with college policy, faculty participating in the Society of Fellows will receive a two-course buyout, equivalent to 32% base salary and benefits. GAHDT will transfer these funds to the faculty member's TIU. TIU heads will work with the faculty member to reduce service responsibilities in accordance with college guidelines and in line with unit needs. The fellowship may be taken concurrently with an Ohio State Faculty Professional Leave (subject to OAA approval). In such cases, the 32% release funds will be used to fund a special assignment with no teaching that may be combined with a one-semester FPL.

In addition to the release funds as indicated above, fellows will also receive \$4,000 in research funds to be used during the fellowship year (and no later than August 30, 2025).

SUPPLEMENTAL MENTORING APPOINTMENT

This year, we hope to appoint one SOF faculty fellow as a mentor to work with the SOF **Graduate Team Fellows**. In addition to a two-course release and \$4,000 research stipend as a SOF faculty fellow, the faculty mentors will receive an additional \$5,000 in supplemental pay. The faculty mentors will support graduate fellows in developing their own research and/or creative project, with administrative help from GAHDT staff. We expect to offer seven graduate fellowships. The mentoring program requires that students meet with faculty mentors once per month for 120 minutes during the academic year.

Applicants interested in a supplemental student mentoring appointment should indicate interest by checking the appropriate box on the application form.

HOW TO APPLY

All applications must be **submitted online**, where applicants will be guided through the application process for their proposal type. For more information, visit the Funding Opportunities webpage: go.osu.edu/gahdt-funding.

Submit electronic copies of the following materials:

- 1.** A current curriculum vitae.
- 2.** A list of the leaves and fellowships held in the past three years.
- 3.** A 100-word abstract describing the project (research, creative, public-facing) the applicant will pursue during the term of the fellowship.
- 4.** A brief statement (1,000-1,500 words) describing how your project engages the annual theme, your interest in participating in a multi-disciplinary research community and the specific contributions you would hope to bring to the cohort. The statement should also describe the cross-disciplinary dimensions of your project.
- 5.** A sample of professional achievement (or scholarship or creative activity) related to the fellowship theme (one published article, book chapter or multimedia/video documentation of artistic practice).
- 6.** A brief supporting letter from the department chair committing to adjust the applicant's teaching and service responsibilities during the fellowship period. This letter should be submitted as part of application materials through via the application webform.
- 7.** Applicants interested in a supplemental student-mentoring appointment should indicate interest by checking the appropriate box on the application webform.

EVALUATION PROCESS

Proposals will be evaluated by a sub-committee of tenured faculty from the GAHDT Advisory Committee.

TIMELINE

+ Call for proposals issued	October 1, 2024
+ Application deadline	February 15, 2025
+ Fellowships announced	April 1, 2025
+ Research funds released	August 1, 2025
+ Fellowship appointment begins	August 15, 2025

CONTACT

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