The Institute for Humanities Research at Arizona State University invites applications for our IHR Fellows program for 2018-2019. The theme will be **Urban and Rural**. Proposals are due by 11:59 pm MST on Monday, February 19, 2018.

The ASU IHR Fellows program provides funding for tenured or tenure-track faculty (either individuals or teams) to engage in a year of research related to the annual theme, share their research with the academic community (via lectures, a conference or symposium), and produce a strong application for an external grant. Eligibility may be extended to other faculty eligible for a research release.

Successful proposals for the Fellows program will outline a rich scholarly project with a central humanities or interdisciplinary focus that seeks to produce transdisciplinary results, in keeping with the IHR mission. Our definition of transdisciplinarity can be found [here](#). Fellowships provide funds toward one course buyout (in the spring semester) for each faculty member as well as research funds: **$2,500** for individuals and **$6,000** for teams.

**Theme Description: Urban and Rural**

As long as there have been cities, they have existed in complex relationship to the countryside; bound together in networks of trade and migration, politics and warfare, they have also been pitted against each other. From Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s condemnation of cities as centers of female-led corruption to Karl Marx’s dismissal of the idiocy of rural life, city and countryside have been strategically defined with and against each other and have worked as complex signifiers in myriad social, cultural and political debates. Humanities research into urban and rural areas around the world has helped us understand how both urban and rural societies have functioned over time, the complex interactions between the two, the ways in which the “urban” and the “rural” have been mobilized to make larger comments about modern life, and the extent to which urban and rural geographies have generated sites of aesthetic experience and production. Cities and countryside are also locations in which and through which bodies move, as laborers, migrants, refugees and tourists; they are complex sites for the negotiation of individual and collective identities, places of community and places of conflict.

The Institute for Humanities Research invites scholars from ASU to propose research projects related to the theme “Urban and Rural” for the 2018-2019 academic year. Fellows’ projects may focus on the urban, the rural, or the relationship between the two, and may approach the theme from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives in the humanities. Cross-disciplinary teams are also encouraged to apply. The theme is purposely-broad in order to encompass multiple approaches.

Possible research topics might include (but are not limited to):

- Theorizing the urban and/or the rural
- Urbanism, urbanity, rurality
- Rural and urban bodies and selves
- Resilience in the city and/or the countryside
• Resources, labor, economies
• Globalization in city and countryside
• Urban and rural environmentalism
• The lived experience of cities and countryside
• Urban and rural spaces
• Urban and rural identity and belonging
• Privacy, anonymity and community
• Exclusions and inclusions
• Humane Cities
• Megacities
• “Dying” Cities
• The in-between: ex-urban, suburban, towns, and villages
• The city and/or the countryside in art
• The city and/or the countryside in literature
• Architecture and the built environment
• Histories of the urban and the rural
• Politics and urban/rural space
• Language, dialect and the urban/rural
• Urban and rural subcultures
• Urban and rural migration, travel, trade
• City, countryside and the nation-state
• Urban and rural in colonial/neocolonial/postcolonial frameworks
• Social justice in city and countryside
• Sacred spaces in city and countryside
• Private/public space

FELLOWSHIP DETAILS

The IHR Fellows program provides annual funding to: 1) engage in research related to the annual theme for a calendar year, starting in May 2018; 2) meet regularly (weekly in the fall and spring semesters) with other Fellows to identify and develop areas of common interest; 3) share their research with the academic community (via lectures, a conference or symposium); and 4) produce a strong application for an external grant.

Applicants can be individuals or teams (of two faculty members per team). Awards provide funds toward one course buyout per scholar (in the spring semester) plus $2,500 in research funds for individual projects and $6,000 for team projects. These funds may be used to support on-campus or off-campus consultants and scholars who can contribute to the project, travel by team members for research-related purposes, or other appropriate research-related expenses. Fellows are encouraged to leverage IHR funding by requesting support from their home departments and other units in the form of
co-sponsorships for invited speakers or events. Additionally, the IHR will provide and fund graduate student research assistance for all fellows.

Faculty selected for the ASU Fellows Program are expected to **collaborate and coordinate activities** during the 2018-2019 academic year, **generate scholarly publications and/or presentations**, and with support from the IHR, **produce strong applications for external funding** significantly larger than that provided by this award. Research teams should produce high quality proposals of substantial size. The external funding should enable the fellows to continue their collaboration for at least a year beyond the term of the ASU award. Submitting applications for external funding and producing scholarly publications are important deliverables for ASU Fellows. IHR personnel will assist Fellows with the grant development, submission, and implementation phases.

### PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

#### Eligibility/restrictions:
- Fellows must be **tenured or tenure-track faculty** and may come from any ASU campus (eligibility may be extended to other faculty eligible for a research release). In the case of collaborative projects, **at least one researcher must be from the humanities**. Team members from non-humanities units must clearly demonstrate that 1) their proposed project is rooted in humanities concerns and methods and 2) they possess the training and knowledge necessary to execute their proposed project successfully.
- **Scholars from outside of ASU** are welcomed as consultants, but are not eligible for IHR funds beyond travel to ASU and/or honoraria as invited speakers.
- **Preference will be given** to faculty who have not received an IHR Fellowship within the past three years.
- **Past recipients** of IHR Seed Grants and/or Fellowships, regardless of award date, will not be eligible for further support until they have met their prior **obligation to pursue external funding**.

Each proposal should **incorporate humanities methodologies** and **involve at least one humanities scholar**. Most humanities scholars will be located in the CLAS division of the Humanities, but eligible humanists may also be located in the CLAS Social Sciences or Natural Sciences divisions, in art history or other divisions in the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts, and from the West or Polytechnic campuses. For research teams, other members may include faculty from any ASU unit. Faculty and graduate students throughout the campus community may be invited to participate in Fellows’ scheduled activities during the academic year.
Applicants should identify in their proposal:

- How the proposal relates to the theme of “Urban and Rural” as well as to relevant sub-themes;
- How the expertise of the applicant(s) is appropriate to the topic and will enhance research and the likelihood of receiving external funding and producing publications;
- The specific external agencies that fund this type of project, their deadlines, copies of RFPs or similar program guidelines;
- A preliminary calendar of activities beginning in May 2018 through May 2019 (or until the external grant proposals are submitted);

**Financial Guidelines**

Funds will be available from approximately May 15, 2018 through May 14, 2019 and are disbursed through the IHR office.

*Note: The source of funds is a local account. The proposals and the awards are administered by IHR and do not involve ORSPA.*

**Restricted expenses**

- Travel and meal expenses cannot exceed established per diem rates (see [here](#) for U.S. rates and [here](#) for international rates)
- Meals are allowed when related to the Fellow's travel and for consultants visiting ASU
  - food may not exceed 10% of your award (per diem allowances for visiting scholars are exempt from this percentage)
  - individual meals may not exceed $40/person
- Tips of any kind cannot exceed 20% of the service total before taxes

**Ineligible expenses**

- Alcohol
- Graduate student RAs/TAs: the IHR provides Graduate Student Research Assistance as part of the Fellows program.
- Additional salary support

Further guidelines: expense categories

**Honoraria** You may use Fellowship funds toward honoraria for invited speakers/scholars.
*(recommended range: $100-300)*

**Travel** Funds may be used for researcher travel outside of ASU (e.g. to libraries, archives, other research sites) and for travel by visiting speakers and scholars to ASU. Expenses may not exceed the established ASU per diem rate for each destination. These rates may be found [here](#). Note that these rates vary by season, with the highest prices in the Phoenix area occurring January-April.
Public event  In addition to allocating expenses for visiting scholars (travel, honoraria), we suggest that you set aside funds for beverages for a brown bag, light refreshments for a conference, etc. Note that there is no charge for use of the IHR conference room (SS 109).

Operations  Research funds may be applied to project expenses as needed. Please contact the IHR for guidance.

Please Note: Final decisions on award amounts are contingent upon the availability of funds, needs of a project, the number of fundable proposals submitted, and the proposed funding level of external grants. Before deciding whether or not the IHR should support a particular project, the Director, Board, or IHR personnel may suggest changes.

REVIEWERS’ CRITERIA FOR SELECTING ASU IHR FELLOWS

IHR Fellows proposals undergo a rigorous review by the IHR’s Advisory Board. When possible, decisions will be announced within six weeks of the application deadline and notifications will include feedback from the Board. In reviewing proposals, Board members consider the following:

- Does the application clearly define the intended research and the method for carrying it out during the proposed award period?
- Does the proposal present a convincing case for the transdisciplinary significance of this study?
- Is the expertise of the faculty clearly demonstrated in the application?
- Does the application suggest that the research has a strong likelihood of being awarded external funding based on the sources identified and the focus of the project?
- Is the expected outcome clear, e.g. publication, presentation?
- Will the research contribute to the IHR mission and to the humanities generally at Arizona State University? How will this fellow contribute to the interdisciplinary thematic topic of the fellows seminar? Will the research resources of ASU advance the goals of the project?

TERMS & CONDITIONS

During the term of their Fellowship, Fellows will:

engage in intensive summer work (summer 2018) on their project.

participate in weekly seminars with other ASU Fellows during the academic year.

invite other scholars, both ASU faculty and others, who can contribute to the research and strengthen the proposal for external funding.
Extensions cannot be granted. Unspent funds will remain with the IHR.

Requests entailing a significant change to the scope of work require approval and may be referred to the Advisory Board. Contact Jennifer Quincey, the IHR’s Assistant Director, for further information.

Before beginning spending on their award, recipients must meet with the IHR’s Business Operations Specialist. All travel must be cleared beforehand.

Fellows agree to pursue overhead-bearing external funding significantly exceeding the value of their IHR award and to include the IHR as a Center in their allocations on relevant ASU forms when they apply for external funding. Fellows also agree to include a portion of overhead allocation to the IHR (specifically, 1% of the RID) for tracking purposes for all FUTURE grants related to their IHR-funded research. The Research Administrators for IHR/CLAS Humanities will assist with this process.

The IHR must be acknowledged/credited in all relevant publications, funding applications, and activities resulting from the fellowship. Fellows agree to donate copies of any resulting publication to the IHR.

The IHR will provide access to our conference room (SS 109), assistance with publicity for the required public event, and will reserve lodging for invited speakers in some cases. Beyond these services, Fellows must arrange their own logistics (refreshments, written materials, invitations, etc.).

Fellows will receive a full set of terms and conditions in their final award letter and are encouraged to consult with IHR personnel whenever questions arise.

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**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

The application consists of the following components. Narrative prompts and further details are contained in the application form:

- Cover sheet
- Narrative
- Signatures from applicants and unit heads
- Attachments
  - CV for each applicant (4 page maximum each)
  - bibliography (1-2 pages)
  - external funding information
    - program descriptions/requests for proposals
    - feedback from funding agency program officer, if any

We will aim to announce decisions within 6 weeks of the submission deadline.