



MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

2014 CANDIDACY INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION

Completed applications from sophomores due on Monday, February 17, 2014

INCOMPLETE AND/OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

THE MELLON MAYS PROGRAM AT BOWDOIN COLLEGE

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program is designed to help increase diversity in doctoral programs in the humanities and selected social and natural sciences. Bowdoin is looking for future scholars with academic promise who will benefit from a rigorous intellectual program, faculty mentorship, and research opportunities that will lead to a doctoral degree and a career in academia.

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Students are required to apply during the second semester of their sophomore year. Applicants must have acquired a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0, and must be American citizens or have a Permanent Resident Visa Status in the United States. The Bowdoin Mellon program seeks students who:

- Possess intellectual and academic promise from traditionally marginalized groups [and non-minority candidates that have shown or demonstrated adequate interest in studies aimed at eliminating racial inequalities qualify for the support].
- Demonstrate abilities and potentials for successful graduate studies leading to a Ph.D. in one of the Mellon-designated fields in the humanities, or selected group of disciplines in the sciences and social sciences.
- Be committed to obtaining a PhD and plan careers in research and teaching at the college or university level.

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Prospective applicants are expected to fulfill the requirements stated below:

- Complete and submit an annual online survey to the Mellon Foundation.
- Commitment to engage in research over the course of two years, and enrolling in a Ph.D. program in one of the Mellon-designated fields within three years of graduation from Bowdoin College.
- Enroll in two mandatory fast-paced, challenging, and exciting MMUF Summer Research Programs [usually held June/July].
- Participate in approximately eight two-hour mandatory semi-monthly seminar meetings and other MMUF programming designed to prepare students for doctoral study.
- Meet regularly with a faculty mentor for the duration of the two-year fellowship.
- Design and complete an independent research project in consultation with a faculty mentor. This project may be related to a senior honors thesis. Be prepared to discuss and present research findings during bi-weekly seminar.
- Develop and submit progress reports each semester [August, October and December], signed by the mentor. Progress reports are due two weeks prior to each pay period.
- Meet with the Dean for Academic Affairs.
- Co-author articles with faculty, where possible, and publish a full-length academic paper in the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Journal.
- Be in residence at Bowdoin for the first semester in the program before undertaking any study abroad plans, which should not extend beyond one semester.
- Attend at least two regional MMUF conferences and consider presenting at one of the conferences.
- Actively apply to the Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers, which supports and provides assistance with graduate school preparation.
- Actively participate in the recruitment of next year's cohort of Mellon Mays Fellows.
- Maintain regular contact with the MMUF program office and adhere to program rules and regulations.
- Inform the program director if you are no longer interested in an academic career.
- Successfully complete undergraduate education at Bowdoin College.

Initial: _____

Date: _____



MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

2014 APPLICATION FORM

Please complete all sections

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____ SU#: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Campus Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Citizenship[(required for eligibility)] U.S. Citizen Permanent Resident

Identify your race/ethnicity (please check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> African-American/Black | <input type="checkbox"/> Afro-Caribbean |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicano, Mexican-American | <input type="checkbox"/> African |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic, Latino, Latino-American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian [non-Hispanic, Latino] | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Asian-American [please specify]: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native American, Alaskan Native [please specify]: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please specify] _____ | |

PARENT INFORMATION

	MOTHER	FATHER
Race/ethnicity		
Education level attained		
Employment status		

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

In spring 2014, will you have second-semester sophomore status? Yes No

List your cumulative GPA: _____

Intended Major(s): _____ & _____

Intended Minor(s): _____ & _____

LIST ANY HONORS, AWARDS, OR NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

Honor/Project/Award	Description	Date(s) Received

LIST EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, VOLUNTEER OR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Activity	Description (include leadership position)	Date(s) of Participation

MENTOR INFORMATION

Name: _____ Department: _____

Campus Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Reason for selecting your mentor: _____

Proposed research project: _____

FACULTY INFORMATION

Name: _____ Department: _____

Campus Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Reason for selecting your recommender: _____

PLANS FOR GRADUATE STUDIES AND PROFESSIONAL ASPIRATIONS

What is the highest degree you plan to pursue [select all that applies]?

J.D. M.D. M.A. M.P.H. M.F.A. MSW. MA Ph.D.

What is your preferred field of graduate study? The preferred field of graduate study must be consistent with the Mellon-designated field of studies. Check your field of study.

- Anthropology/Sociology/Demography/Area Studies/Political Theory
- English/Literature/Classics/Ethnomusicology/Musicology/Foreign Languages/History/Art History/Philosophy/Religion
- Mathematics/Physics/Computer Science/Earth Science/Geology/Ecology

What are your professional aspirations? Please specify how MMUF will assist you in achieving this goal?

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

You will receive an e-mail notification that confirms receipt of this application and will be notified formally if you have been selected for an interview with the selection committee. Questions about the program may be directed to the program director, Rosemary Effiom reffiom@bowdoin.edu or program administrator, Anne Clifford acliffor@bowdoin.edu. Applicants are also encouraged to seek advice from the Mellon Mays Faculty Advisory Committee members

- Professor Charles Dorn cdorn@bowdoin.edu,
- Professor Mark Foster gmfoster@bowdoin.edu,
- Professor Roy Partridge hpartrid@bowdoin.edu,
- Professor Enrique Yepes eyepes@bowdoin.edu.

REQUIRED MMUF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Application and supporting materials should be addressed to the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Faculty Committee and submitted on February 17, 2014 to:

Anne Clifford, Program Administrator
Boody-Johnson House, Room 113, 256 Maine Street, Brunswick, ME 04011

E-mail or fax copies will not be accepted UNLESS the applicant is applying while studying abroad spring semester. A complete application packet will contain an original and one copy of the following materials:

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

In 800 words describe how life experiences and encounters have shaped your personal and intellectual development. The following pointed questions are likely to help in developing your thoughts:

- Why do I want to participate in the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship?
- In what ways have my intellectual achievements and aspirations qualified me to enter and take the fullest advantage offered by the Mellon Mays fellowship?
- Why am I attracted to my chosen major field of study? In particular, what issues, questions, and themes seem so easily to attract and sustain my intellectual curiosity and why?
- What basic or fundamental career factors must exist in any college in order to attract my interest? How will a Ph.D. help me advance my career and achieve my ultimate goals in life?
- How will attaining a Ph.D. help me to participate in eradicating racism and social disparities?

ESSAY ON COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

In 500 words prepare an essay in which you:

- Explain how your personal goals reflect the ideals of Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, for whom the MMUF program is named.
- Describe how you have demonstrated your commitment to increasing opportunities for underrepresented minorities, breaking down stereotypes, increasing cross-racial and ethnic understanding, and/or enabling others to better understand persons of different races and ethnicities.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Propose a research theme that will guide your work, if selected as a Mellon Mays Fellow. What are the initial factors that prompted your interest in this research, and how and why? Include a highlight of any coursework or independent study relating to the research theme that you are proposing. Regarding the first MMUF Summer Research Training Program [summer after the sophomore year], include a single-page, preliminary annotated bibliography. The proposal should also include the name of the professor who has agreed to serve as your faculty mentor and the reasons you selected that mentor.

MENTOR STATEMENT

The professor who will serve as your mentor should write this statement. Their area of research should complement the area of interest you have identified in your statement. **Please note:** Every applicant is encouraged to share his/her research proposal with the faculty mentor for critical feedback and to provide the mentor the best possible sense of his/her academic goals. Potential MMUF Faculty Advisor/Mentor must be on campus and not on sabbatical during throughout the duration of your fellowship.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Each applicant should select someone who can discuss his/her potential for a career in one of the Mellon designated areas of study. The recommendation letter should seek to address the following points about the applicant:

- Potential to engage in, and to benefit from, a rigorous and competitive academic program.
- Scope of personal flexibility or pre-disposition to acquire new knowledge and utilize fresh information.
- Personal creativity in regard to the use of language in expressing strongly held convictions—clearly and persuasively in writing and verbally.
- Leadership potentials and ability to work collaboratively with peers in challenging classroom and other diverse learning environments.
- Social adjustment and sense of community service, social justice.
- General work ethic, suggesting promise to complete an academic program within stipulated time.

COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT

This can be an unofficial copy.

WRITING SAMPLE

Submit a graded paper, preferably with comments from the professor that you feel represents your strongest college-level work [10 pages maximum].

PLAN OF STUDY THROUGH SENIOR YEAR

PERSONAL INFORMATION [optional]

In one hundred words or less describe any personal information about yourself or your family that you wish to share with the selection committee.

Waiver

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation monitors the progress of the students they are funding in order to determine the effects of the fellowship. The Profile Form you have completed with your personal and family background serves this purpose, though the Foundation may request additional information. Any reporting of the data by the Mellon Foundation will not refer to specific individuals. Please agree by checking the box below.

I agree to provide any additional information requested of me and I understand that Bowdoin College reserves the right to release my information to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

I wish to be considered for a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship. I affirm that I plan to pursue a Ph.D. in a Mellon Mays designated field and teach at the college or university level. By signing below I affirm that all statements contained in this application is accurate. I have read and understand the program policy and agree to the terms, goals and expectations of the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program.

Print name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

