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Call for Proposals from Rhodes Faculty

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CALL FOR PROPOSALS FROM RHODES FACULTY

STUDENT RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

Funding will be available again during the 2010-2011 academic year for Rhodes faculty to hire student research assistants. This program is designed to support new or ongoing research and creative work by Rhodes faculty, and to bring talented students into contact with important research and production methods in their major fields. While fostering mentor relationships between Rhodes students and faculty is one of its goals, the program is designed primarily to fund projects in which an advanced undergraduate could assist, but not actively collaborate. Typically students hired for these positions are rising Juniors or Seniors who have declared a major in the faculty member's discipline; ideally this work will complement the student's program of studies.

Guidelines

The Research Assistant's time may be spent in any activity related to the research or creative work of their faculty mentor. For example, a Research Assistant might conduct on-line library and database searches, gather or organize materials, screen primary or secondary research literature, compile annotated bibliographies, record or enter data, prepare reports on relevant background issues, etc. Student time will be subject to the following limitations:

- All work performed by Research Assistants must have a direct bearing on the faculty mentor's research project, as specifically defined in that faculty member's proposal. A student's time may not be spent on any other aspect of their faculty mentor's college or personal business.
- No substantive amount of the Research Assistant's time will be devoted to purely secretarial tasks such as data entry, filing, or photocopying.
- Research Assistants will meet with their faculty mentors each week to discuss their work, receive new assignments, report on their findings, etc.
- Assistantships carry no course credit.

Student Research Assistants will work **5 hours per week** while classes are in session and will receive a stipend of **\$550.00 each semester** (an hourly wage of approximately \$9/hr.). Students anticipating work-study positions must make appropriate arrangements with their supervisors.

Eligibility

All full-time Rhodes faculty are eligible. The primary goal of the program is to support scholarly or creative work during academic terms in which the faculty member is actively teaching. Faculty members may apply for funding for one or two semesters, but may not apply for funds to be used during a sabbatical or other leave.

Proposals

Proposals should include the following:

- I. Description of the proposed research or creative project, including expected outcomes (publication, exhibition, performance, etc.). No more than 500 words.
- II. Detailed description of the work the Student Research Assistant will undertake and how it contributes to the faculty member's work.
- III. A statement indicating application for funding for the fall, spring, or both semesters.
- IV. Current faculty *curriculum vitae*.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated by a committee of faculty representing all divisions according to the significance of the proposed project and the educational value of the work proposed for the student.

Proposals due by 5:00 pm on May 3, 2010. Submit electronically to viano@rhodes.edu. Faculty members whose proposals are accepted will be responsible for contacting and hiring a student within their major discipline. Faculty will be notified of acceptance by May 14.

For questions about the Student Research Assistantship Program, please contact Dr. Ann Viano (viano@rhodes.edu), Faculty Fellow for Undergraduate Research.