



NEH Summer Stipends Internal Review and Nomination



College of Humanities
and Social Sciences

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Summer Stipends

Internal Review and Nomination

- Two university nominations may be submitted.
- University nominating official is CHSS Dean Ann Ardis
- Internal Review Process handled by CHSS since 2015
- About 7 internal applications/year
- Internal applicants follow NEH guidelines and submit (by 7/15/21):
 - Project Narrative (not to exceed 3 single-spaced pages)
 - Bibliography – not to exceed one single-spaced page
 - Resume – not to exceed 2 pages
- Review committee made up of previous summer stipend awardees, convened by ADR

What do Reviewers Look For?

Review Process

- Reviewers read and rank proposals (individually)
- Follow NEH review criteria and make comments on a sheet for applicants
- Come together to discuss and group determines top two nominees

NEH Review criteria (p. 15 of NOFO).

1. Intellectual significance, including its value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both;
2. The quality (conception, definition, organization, and description) of the project and **clarity of expression**;
3. The feasibility and appropriateness of the proposed plan of work;
4. The quality or promise of quality of the applicant as an interpreter of the humanities;
5. The likelihood that the applicant will complete the project, including, when relevant, the soundness of the dissemination and access plans.

What are the humanities?

The term 'humanities' includes, but is not limited to, the study and interpretation of:

- language, both modern and classical;
- linguistics;
- literature;
- history;
- jurisprudence;
- philosophy;
- archaeology;
- comparative religion;
- ethics;
- the history, criticism and theory of the arts;
- those aspects of the social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and
- the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life.“
- <https://www.neh.gov/about>

National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act, 1965, as amended

Timeline

Internal Review & Submission to NEH

July 15

- Internal proposals due
- Submit by email to Judy Herbert (jherber3@gmu.edu),

August

- Reviewers read proposals, use review criteria for comments
- Reviewers meet no later than August 14

August 20

- Messages to applicants, two nominees notified
- Comments, feedback, narrative suggestions, OSP help

September 22

- Submission to NEH

Review Wrap-up

- 5 Summer Stipend awards out of 12 nominations since 2015.
- For those not nominated, feedback on their proposals and conversations about other funding sources are viewed as helpful.
- Reviewers have also found being part of a review panel interesting and a wonderful opportunity to learn about colleagues' scholarly work.
- Thank you to all those in attendance today, and very best wishes on your research, scholarship and creative works!