2019 Mellon Institute Call for Proposals

The Mellon Initiative Steering Committee is pleased to invite applications for the Mellon Institute program at Trinity University. The Mellon Institute is a multidisciplinary summer research program enabling faculty–student research teams from different disciplines to carry out interrelated research projects around a central topic. While similar to the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows (SURF) program, the Mellon Institute differs primarily in its collaborative and multidisciplinary research process.

Program Details

- Proposals for the Mellon Institute will be accepted from teams of three faculty members from at least two Arts and Humanities departments to carry out interrelated research projects around one central topic. One Institute proposal will be selected annually.
- Faculty participating in the Mellon Institute will each receive a $2,000 stipend.
- Students participating in the Mellon Institute—up to four students—will each receive a $4,200 stipend and may live on campus during the 10 weeks for free.
- An additional $5,000 will be available per project. These funds may be used to enable travel, to bring in speakers in the semester before the summer research term, other pre-summer research activities, or to provide other resources needed to accomplish the research project(s).

Requirements

- Students must commit to work full-time on the project for the entire summer research period, present their findings (to date) at the Summer Undergraduate Research Conference to be held at the end of July, and participate in appropriate summer program activities (e.g., weekly group meetings).
- Faculty mentors may serve on only one research team per year.
- Teams may not include seniors graduating in May 2019.
- Faculty may be called upon to share their summer mentorship experience in the Collaborative, making undergraduate research a year-round activity and part of Trinity’s institutional culture.

Proposal Timeline

Please notify Chad Spigel (cspigel@trinity.edu) by December 7, 2018 if you are thinking about applying for the Mellon Institute. Members of the Mellon Initiative Steering Committee will work with applicant teams to develop their proposals. Final proposals are due February 13, 2019. Application materials, which will be provided after the initial meeting, should be submitted to Chad Spigel (cspigel@trinity.edu).