



February 12, 2015

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

MICHIGAN-MELLON DESIGN FELLOWS IN EGALITARIANISM AND THE METROPOLIS 1-YEAR POST-PROFESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

What is the Michigan/Mellon Project

The Michigan/Mellon Project on Egalitarianism and the Metropolis is a 4-year academic and research initiative focused on architecture, urbanism and humanities research in Detroit, Mexico City and Rio de Janeiro, is made possible by a \$1.3 million grant from the A. W. Mellon Foundation. The project allows theory and practice to inform and be informed by questions of social justice, social movements and transformative creative arts movements - both past and present. The emphasis on cities and their specificity will focus humanists on linking theories of human interaction and collective life with the physical space of a city and its histories. The increased expertise in urbanism allows for humanists to better understand the market forces and economic constraints that inform design decisions that directly affect human life. Designers benefit from direct engagement with humanities scholarship that can more amply critique the structural inequalities driven by, for example, racial or socio-economic disparities (arising out of ideological biases) that have been impediments to urban development. The project, launched in Fall 2014, includes lecture and seminar courses, research fellowships, symposia, colloquia and films, exhibitions and publications.

Michigan/Mellon 2015-16 Design Fellows

Design Fellows are expected to pursue independent research projects at the intersection of architecture, urbanism and the humanities, with particular emphasis on the role of egalitarianism in shaping metropolitan regions. Fellows' research work should also address aspects of one or more of the focus cities (Detroit, Mexico City DF and/or Rio de Janeiro). Through faculty mentorship, colloquia and symposia, Fellows will join an intellectual community in which work in progress is shared and interrogated by a community of designers and scholars. Design Fellows will teach two design studios per term in the Michigan Architecture Prep Program - a semester-long architecture enrichment program for high school juniors in the metro Detroit area. Each Fellow will receive work space at the Michigan Research Studio, a 3,700sf space in midtown Detroit. Fellows are encouraged to seek support from external agencies if it appears that their scholarly and creative work will be enhanced by such grants. At the end of each fellowship year, Fellows are required to submit a written report on their activities and are encouraged to present their work to a public audience.

Qualifications

The University of Michigan invites applications from graduates of accredited professional degree programs in architecture who possess high levels of proficiency in architectural and/or urban design, fluency in contemporary visual culture and contemporary practices, and fluency in aspects of humanities discourses that impact architectural thinking. Applicants should also possess an interest in teaching and evidence of a demonstrated commitment to cultural and disciplinary diversity. Fellows are expected to be in the early stages of their academic or professional careers. Candidates must be within 4 calendar years from receipt of their highest degree. This appointment is not tenure-track.

Appointment Dates

1-2 Design Fellows are appointed for one calendar year, extendable to a maximum of 2 years. Each Fellow should designate interest in a 1-year or 2-year fellowship term. The appointment is from August 1, 2015 to August 1, 2016.

Compensation/Benefits

Design Fellows will receive a \$45,000 in compensation that includes fringe and health benefits. Fellows are eligible for participation in the University health, dental and life insurance programs. Each Fellow will receive a research stipend of \$1,500 per calendar year that may be used for research-related expenses.

Application Materials

Application Documents must be submitted via email as a single PDF file of moderate size.

1. Cover Letter
2. Curriculum Vitae (including degrees earned, experience, and honors)
3. Research Project Statement (max. 1 page)
4. Teaching Interest Statement (max. 1 page)
5. Diversity Statement (max 1 page describing evidence of commitment to cultural diversity)
6. Portfolio of Visual and Design Work (max. 15 pages)
7. Recommendation Letters (2)

Submission Deadline:

April 3, 2015

Submission Information:

Submit Application Materials via email as PDF files to:
Kate Grandfield (grandk@umich.edu)

Contacts / Questions:

Program Questions :

Milton S. F. Curry (msfcurry@umich.edu)

Project Director and Associate Dean, Taubman College

Derek Collins (dbcollin@umich.edu)

Project Director and Associate Dean, College of Literature, Science and the Arts

Application Questions :

Kate Grandfield (grandk@umich.edu)

*The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity / affirmative action employer.
Offers of employment are contingent upon successful completion of background checks.*