





















Information Session for Potential Fondren Fellows Mentors

Led by

Lisa Spiro

Program Director

Alec Brown

Program Coordinator



Program GoalsWhat are we trying to accomplish?

- → Promote undergraduate and graduate student involvement in inquiry-based projects connected to library collections, spaces, services or skills
- Create mentoring opportunities for staff and faculty
- Deepen students' appreciation for libraries
- → Provide support for library-related projects





What are the benefits of the Fondren Fellows?

★ Benefits for Fellows

- Develop skills for graduate school or future careers
- Possibility for co-publishing
- Gain experience with collaborative projects
- Good pay (\$18/hr)

★ Benefits for Mentors

- Honorarium for min. 20 hrs (\$1000)
- Project funding (up to \$6000)
- Support for project development via student work
- Mentoring opportunities



Program Application Process

How a proposal becomes a project and gains Fellows?

- → Proposals are created by Faculty/Staff and must include:
 - Budget proposal (max \$6000)
 - Note: Student Pay is separate from project budgets
 - Number of Fellows and their roles
 - Skills required for student applicants
 - Project timeline (meant to be completed by May 2025),
 with 200 max hours per student
- → Steering Committee meets and selects proposals to sponsor for 2024-2025 and Faculty/staff gain Mentor status
 - Note: acceptance may be conditioned on budget, or other project changes



Program Application Process

How a proposal becomes a project and gains Fellows?

- → If accepted, project opportunities are then published online via 12twenty and opened to student applications
 - Students self-select and apply for specific projects based on interests and necessary skills as specified in proposals
- → Applications are provided to Mentors who select which candidates to interview and then to hire



Program Guidelines

What makes a project proposal?

- → Projects should be *inquiry-based*
 - Projects should have the potential to create compelling research outcomes
 - Fellows should have a role in shaping the project beyond the traditional responsibilities of a research assistant
- → Projects should involve the library as a focus or partner, such as organizing and describing a collection, developing a digital scholarship or publishing project, exploring open knowledge, etc.
 - ◆ **Library liaisons** will provide this contact point for advice, resource access, and guidance



Program Guidelines cont.

What can be in the budget?

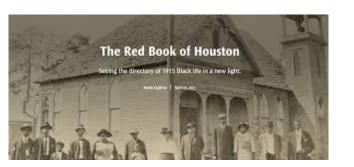
Requested budget items must be in scope for Fellows funding

- Multiple payment methods available
 - Preferably P-Cards or iO disbursement
 - No Prepaid cards, amazon cards, etc.
- Ex. Faculty/staff salary cannot be a line item
- ◆ Conventions, travel, events, etc. allowed
- Miscellaneous spending requiring not allowed
- Separate fund for Fellows' conference travel



Examples of FF projects

What makes a successful project proposal?



RICE MAGAZINE





The Coastwise Slave Trade

"Where is Texas on the SlaveVoyages website?" This question animates findings by recent graduates Katelyn Landry '22, Victoria Zabarte '22 and Ben Schachter 22 along with doctoral student James Myers. Although the SlaveVoyages database is the largest repository of information about the trans-Atlantic and intra-American slave trades information related to Texas' involvement is largely absent from the 20-year project.

As Fondren Fellows, the team dug into archival records to fill in gaps in the narrative of intra-American slave trade into Texas ports. The findings from their yearlong project to reconstruct the 19th- century coastwise slave trade into Texas are on display in a remarkable poster exhibit at Fondren Library. By searching slave manifests filed in New Orleans, Savannah and Mobile between 1827 and 1860, the team discovered records of more than 15,000 enslaved Africans - including their names and other personal details - as well as the names of their enslavers and the ships that transported them.

- Creating an interactive **StoryMap** about Black middle- and upper-class life in Houston using data from the "Red Book of Houston" (1915) (Guthrie, Yarbrough, et al)
- Collecting and analyzing data on the <u>intra-American slave trade</u> into Texas ports
- Creating an exhibit and illustrated study guide for the Comic Art Teaching and Study Workshop



Program Selection Timeline

When should you expect to hear back?

- ★ July 19th, 2024 Proposals due by NOON
- ★ Early August Applicant notification
- ★ August 12, 2024 Post project list online
- ★ Early September 2024 Info Session for Students
- ★ September 5ish, 2024 Deadline for student applications
- ★ Mid- September Projects begin



The Application

How do you apply?

- ★ The link to the submission form will be emailed to all attendees after the information session.
- ★ Project Proposals Submission Form

- ★ Any questions about submitting proposals can be directed to fondrenfellows@rice.edu
- ★ Fondren Fellows Website



Program ExpectationsWhat do we expect of mentors?

- Participate in a brief orientation to the program
- Evaluate applications, including attending interviews
- Mentor the fellow(s) by overseeing the development of a project plan, monitoring their progress, and providing guidance throughout the project
- → Provide feedback on the fellow's work on a regular basis



Program Expectations

What do we expect of mentors?

- → Coordinate with the Fondren Fellows Steering Committee
- → Write a brief report at the conclusion of the fellowship
- → Be willing to set aside *at least one hour* a week to guide fellows
- → Provide feedback on the program via regular check-ins
- → Acknowledge the Fondren Fellows program in project-related outputs, such as papers, presentations, and websites



Tips for Being an Effective Mentor

- Collaborate to set realistic goals-defined scope/timeline
- Schedule regular check-ins
- Update project documentation regularly and keep in a central location
- Break up the project into meaningful chunks and require regular deliverables



Q&A Period



Thanks for attending!

We look forward to reviewing your proposals!