

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Tim Marshall, Dean

RE: Research, Scholarship, Creative Practice Opportunities

The New School and Parsons acknowledge the need to support full-time faculty creative practice and scholarship, and to encourage our faculty to seek research and development opportunities. In an effort to advance faculty participation in these areas, Parsons will continue its commitment to funding faculty research, scholarship and creative practice in 2007-2008. The Deans Office will approve funding after the Research, Scholarship and Creative Practice Committee (RSCP) reviews and makes recommendations based on requests for these competitive funds.

RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE PRACTICE FUNDING

The primary goal of this fund is to provide financial support for a range of projects and initiatives that make a contribution to the creative and scholarly research culture of Parsons. The RSCP budget includes three different competitive funds with the primary aim of promoting a breadth of activities around research and it is expected that the outcome/s will be disseminated within the institution and/or the public sphere. In addition to the three categories listed below, a Major Initiatives fund will be introduced in Fall 2008, with applications submitted and reviewed in Spring 2008. The following funds seek to address different constituencies and differently scaled projects. The funds are intended to support expenses related to the following types of proposals, activities, and forms of dissemination:

Category A: Project Funding: award limit of \$1,500

This fund is to support the development of work-in-progress.

The fund supports the generation of research, allowing applicants to submit applications before they have any confirmation of a formal venue for dissemination. Successful grantees will be assigned a mentor and will be required to present their work to the School community and share reflections on their research experiences and future goals—in the process developing their research capacity. (Examples of appropriate proposals include, but are not limited to, financial support for project materials and contractor expenses for creative research and travel to do archival research).

New or emergent researchers are encouraged to apply for this fund. Workshops will mentor faculty new to research.

Category B: Dissemination Funding: award limit of \$3,000

This fund is for researchers who have a project ready for public dissemination.

The fund supports the various ways we publish, present, and/or exhibit our creative practice and research projects. In addition to public dissemination of the research successful grantees will be required to share their research with the School community. This process may include a visual exegesis or presentation for an exhibition, presenting a draft paper for critique in advance of a conference, or talking to the salient highlights of a conference with respect to one's research topic. Examples of appropriate proposals for this fund include, but are not limited to, financial support for: conference presentations/exhibition presentation and promotion expenses/publishing expenses.
Researchers whose work contributes to Parsons national and international reputation are encouraged to apply for this fund.

Category C: Attendance-only Funding: award limit of \$2,000

This fund is for individuals to attend professional and academic conferences.

The fund recognizes the value of faculty attending and networking with professional* and academic communities. Attendees would not be presenting, but are there to learn from the workshops and seminars as well as playing an ambassadorial role. Typically applicants would be an individual representing a program, department, or college, with the simple requirement to informally report back to their peers the insights, trends, and contacts gained from the conference. Examples of appropriate proposals for this fund include, but are not limited to, financial support for: AICAD and NASAD conferences, professional national conferences like AIGA and 'directional' conferences (such as Radical Craft at Art Center).

Applications from faculty who can demonstrate how their attendance would inform their teaching practice and promote the program and school are encouraged to apply.

*Programs are encouraged to fund attendance at conferences hosted by professional associations or technology expos, as attendance-only does not support faculty dossiers for promotion.

NEW CATEGORY: 2008/2009 INITIATIVES

Proposals to be submitted by April 31, 2008

Category D Major Initiatives: award limit of \$15,000

This fund is for collaborative initiatives, specifically high profile projects that will make a significant contribution nationally and/or internationally.

The fund supports the production, promotion and/or publication of widely disseminated books, symposia/conferences, grant projects and major exhibitions. Typically applications to this fund will be for joint projects submitted by a research team, professional domain, or college. The research budget may often include items not tied to the generation of knowledge but to promotion of the event or project—items that will directly maximize the contribution the research makes within the public domain. The committee will assess on a case-by-case budget which of these items would be offered as seed funding and what form of internal report is appropriate. Examples of appropriate proposals for this fund include, but are not limited to, financial support for: hosting conferences, exhibition catalog expenses, copyright expenses, or travel for collaborators..

Research teams from within the school, the university and external partnerships whose work significantly contributes to Parsons' reputation are encouraged to apply for this fund.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Proposal Information

The proposal description should speak to the following three areas:

Description: The category you are applying to and a brief description of what the project is (photographs, installation, written paper, hybrid visual essay) and how you intend to share the work with others (conference presentation, book chapter, exhibition, panel discussion, poster presentation).

Contribution: The relevance of the work for the professional, creative and/or academic communities indicating the context of the presentation (college, international exhibition, peer-reviewed conference, invited keynote address).

Relevance: How this project intersects with your individual practices, and where appropriate with the practices and /or vision of your College, School, and/or University (for example: how this might advance your teaching, leadership expertise, qualifications or how the project furthers our collective understanding of collaborative projects or interdisciplinary practices, our University's commitment to sustainability, a colleges engagement with humanitarian projects etc.).

Supplementary Material: In addition to the one-page proposal you can submit print literature or correspondence that supports the proposal.

Application Material

All proposals must be submitted on the Request for Faculty Funding forms (this includes proposal budget information) accompanied by a one-page description of the proposal. Faculty who submit applications are required to have their supervisor support the request with a signature on the submission form. Please note that all travel and expense reimbursements must comply with university policies as stated on The New School webpage under Resources.

Application Deadlines

Applications are reviewed 8 times per year. Upcoming meetings for 2008 year are:

Jan. 24th

Feb. 28th

Mar. 27th

Apr. 24th

May 22nd (Tentative)

Please note the deadline of April 30, 2008 for the Major Initiative Deadline for the 2008-2009 academic year.

For applications to be reviewed in a timely manner please submit to Leoni McLeod, Administrative Assistant, Faculty Affairs, one week prior the scheduled meeting. You will be advised of the decision within one week of the meeting. This allows for a two-week turnaround from submission to decision.

The committee will not review applications submitted after the event/project expenses have been incurred.