

# **UNCF/MELLON PROGRAMS**

*SCHOLARS TRANSFORMING THE ACADEMY*

## **GUIDELINES, OPPORTUNITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

**A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO NAVIGATING THE UNCF/MELLON MAYS  
UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

# CREATED FOR THE UNCF/MELLON FELLOWS

## ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

*Congratulations! You are now a part of an elite group of scholars, collectively known as the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows. The UNCF/Mellon Fellows join undergraduate Mellon fellows throughout the country and South Africa as members of one of the most prestigious Ph.D. pipeline programs in the country- **The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program (MMUF)**. We welcome you to this very distinguished community of scholars.*

*This manual was created to assist you over the next two years as you navigate and complete your undergraduate fellowship requirements. It is designed to ensure that you are fully aware of the expectations and opportunities associated with the UNCF/Mellon Undergraduate Fellowship Program. Although most of the information and forms that you will need as you matriculate as a fellow are included in this document, you and your mentor will receive e-mail reminders prior to the deadline dates of each opportunity. At the end of most pages, you will find a checklist. This is to ensure that you have not omitted an important step or piece of information when submitting items to the Programs Office or other offices. This manual also includes important information on Mellon Mays affiliate programs with which you will need to acquaint yourself as you journey toward the Ph.D. Information in this document on the Institute for Recruitment of Teachers (IRT), Leadership Alliance, the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) and the various opportunities provided by these affiliate programs comes directly from the websites of these Programs. Website addresses are provided. You will be introduced to representatives of these programs during the Summer Institute.*

*Please retain this document and refer to it when you have questions about the expectations of the Program and the responsibilities and opportunities available to you as a UNCF/Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow.*

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# UNCF/MELLON UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

## General Statement and Purpose

The UNCF/Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program is supported by a generous gift from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Participation in the program is open to students at four-year institutions that are members of the United Negro College Fund and Hampton University.

The purpose of the program is to increase the number of talented undergraduates who choose to enroll in Ph.D. programs in the humanities and social science disciplines. The eligible fields are:

- *Anthropology and Archaeology*
- *Area/Cultural/Ethnic/Gender Studies*
- *Art History*
- *Classics*
- *Geography and Population Studies*
- *English*
- *Film, Cinema and Media Studies (theoretical focus)*
- *Musicology and Ethnomusicology*
- *Foreign Languages and Literatures*
- *History*
- *Linguistics*
- *Literature*
- *Performance Studies (theoretical focus)*
- *Philosophy and Political Theory*
- *Religion and Theology*
- *Sociology*
- *Theater (non-performance focus)*
- *Interdisciplinary Studies: Interdisciplinary areas of study may be eligible if they have one or more Mellon fields at their core*

It is important to stress that students with interests in law, engineering, early or secondary education or other professional degree programs **are not eligible** for this program and therefore should not be nominated by their home institution. Students with these interests should not accept membership in the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program.

The program will provide work-study compensation for research activity during the academic year. In addition, it provides summer stipends; a mentor support system; a Summer Research Institute following the sophomore year; sponsored independent activity in the post-junior summer; advice and assistance in applying to graduate schools; and assistance with selected undergraduate loan repayment for participants who pursue Ph.D. study in one of the specified fields. **If selected, the Fellow will be required to participate in the UNCF/Mellon Programs Summer Institute, June 1 - June 30.**

## Undergraduate Student Stipends\*\*

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| • Summer Institute Summer Stipend         | \$3,900.00 (minus room and board)    |
| • Academic Term Stipend                   | \$1800.00/semester (\$3,600.00/year) |
| • Junior Summer Stipend                   | \$3,900.00                           |
| • Fellows Travel Allowance                | \$600.00 per year                    |
| • GRE Preparation (Seniors only)          | \$600.00 per senior fellow           |
| • Research Fund (Seniors only)            | \$400.00 per senior fellow           |
| • International Research (limited awards) | Up to \$3000.00 (limited awards)     |

**\*\*NOTE: The IRS regards stipends as earned income; therefore, you will be expected to pay taxes on your stipends. You will receive a 1099 form at the beginning of the calendar year. Please consult your accountant for questions regarding stipend taxation. All fellows must be registered with UNCF in order to receive stipends.**



## MEMBER INSTITUTIONS BY REGION AND ENTRY YEAR\*

### Northeast (10)

Amherst College '17  
Bowdoin College '92  
Brown University '92  
Connecticut College '08  
Dartmouth College '89  
Harvard University '89  
Smith College '00  
Wellesley College '89  
Wesleyan University '89  
Williams College '89  
Yale University '96

### New York City (6)

Barnard College '96  
Brooklyn College '89  
City College of New York '01  
Columbia University '96  
Hunter College '88  
Queens College '89

### International (3)

University of Cape Town '01  
University of the  
Western Cape '08  
University of the  
Witwatersrand '07

### Mid-Atlantic (6)

Bryn Mawr College '88  
Cornell University '88  
Haverford College '00  
Howard University '17  
Princeton University '89  
Swarthmore College '88  
University of Pennsylvania  
'88

### South (6)

Duke University '96  
Emory University '00  
Rice University '92  
UNCF Consortium '89  
University of Puerto Rico, '15  
University of Texas at  
Austin, '14

### Midwest (7)

Carleton College '88  
Grinnell College '09  
Macalester College '00  
Northwestern University '08  
Oberlin College '88  
University of Chicago '88

Washington University  
of St. Louis '92

### West Coast (10)

California Institute  
of Technology '96  
California State University  
Consortium '17  
Claremont Colleges  
Consortium, '14  
Heritage University '00  
Stanford University '89  
University of California  
at Berkley '08  
University of California  
at Los Angeles '08  
University of  
California at Riverside, '14  
University of New Mexico,  
'14  
University of Southern  
California '92  
Whittier College '08

\* Total: 51 Institutions

## UNCF MEMBER COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

There are 102 historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) across the nation. In Title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965, Congress officially defined an HBCU as: an institution whose principal mission was and is the education of black Americans, is accredited and was established before 1964. The first HBCU, Cheyney University in Pennsylvania was founded in 1837. All HBCUs play a critical role in the American higher education system. For most of America's history, African Americans who received a college education could only receive it from an HBCU.

While the 102 HBCUs represent just three percent of the nation's institutions of higher learning, they graduate nearly 20 percent of African Americans who earn undergraduate degrees. HBCUs, because of their unique sensibility to the special needs of young African American minds, remain the institutions that demonstrate the most effective ability to graduate African American students who are poised to be competitive in the corporate, research, academic, governmental and military arenas.

The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) consortium supports primarily students of African descent attending 37 private institutions.

- [Allen University](#)
- [Benedict College](#)
- [Bennett College for Women](#)
- [Bethune-Cookman University](#)
- [Clafin University](#)
- [Clark Atlanta University](#)
- [Dillard University](#)
- [Edward Waters College](#)
- [Fisk University](#)
- [Florida Memorial University](#)
- [Huston-Tillotson University](#)
- [Interdenominational Theological Center](#)
- [Jarvis Christian College](#)
- [Johnson C. Smith University](#)
- [Lane College](#)
- [LeMoyne-Owen College](#)
- [Livingstone College](#)
- [Miles College](#)
- [Morehouse College](#)
- [Morris College](#)
- [Oakwood University](#)
- [Paine College](#)
- [Philander Smith College](#)
- [Rust College](#)
- [Saint Augustine's University](#)
- [Shaw University](#)
- [Spelman College](#)
- [Stillman College](#)
- [Talladega College](#)
- [Texas College](#)
- [Tougaloo College](#)
- [Tuskegee University](#)
- [Virginia Union University](#)
- [Voorhees College](#)
- [Wilberforce University](#)
- [Wiley College](#)
- [Xavier University of Louisiana](#)

## UNCF/MMUF SUMMER INSTITUTE

**Dates: June 1 - June 30**

**Location: Emory University, Atlanta, GA**

The Summer Institute takes place during the first summer following your acceptance into the UNCF/Mellon Programs. **PARTICIPATION IN THIS PROGRAM IS MANDATORY**. Some of the goals of the Summer Institute include, but are not limited to

- expanding students' knowledge of the MMUF Program
- honing students' research and writing skills
- introducing students to techniques for more engaged disciplinary scholarly reading, inquiry, analysis and discussion
- exposing students to interdisciplinary thinking and learning
- developing a prospectus
- inspiring a greater commitment within students to attain the Ph.D. and teach in higher education

Your stipend for the summer is \$3,900.00. **You will receive an advance of \$1,950.00 prior to your arrival at the Summer Institute.** This advance on your summer stipend is to assist you with your plans as you prepare to attend the Summer Institute at Emory University. The cost of your room, food and transportation will be deducted from the remaining \$1,950.00 of your summer stipend. The balance of your stipend will be distributed once all expenses incurred during the Summer Institute are settled (late September).

### **Summer Institute Faculty and Staff**

Dr. Cynthia Neal Spence, UNCF/Mellon Programs Director

Dr. Vincent Willis, Co-Director, Summer Institute

Dr. Leroy Davis, Associate Director, Summer Institute

(Please see your Summer Institute Syllabus for a more complete list of all faculty and staff.)

## THE UNCF/MELLON UNDERGRADUATE MENTOR

**The faculty mentor is a central figure in the Program. The mentor has four general responsibilities.**

**First**, the mentor is to help the fellow prepare for graduate school. This may involve helping the fellow identify useful sources of information or directing the fellow to a person on campus who maintains files on graduate programs.

**Second**, the mentor is responsible for overseeing the fellow's research project. The project should acquaint the fellow with the disciplinary research methods and applications that scholars follow in a selected discipline. The project should not duplicate the work required in a course, nor should it interfere with the fellow's academic progress. **The project should require intense engagement with the work of leading scholars within the disciplinary field of inquiry.**

**Third**, the mentor provides opportunities for the fellow to develop teaching skills through practice teaching.

**Fourth**, the mentor is to be the liaison between the UNCF/Mellon Programs and the fellow. The mentor is also responsible for assisting the fellow with the preparation of reports needed by the program.

### 1. HELP THE FELLOW PREPARE FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL

- a) Assist the fellow in selecting courses; serve essentially as a faculty advisor to the fellow
- b) Help the fellow identify an area of interest and the programs and scholars in that field
- c) Aid the fellow in compiling information on graduate departments and fellowship programs
- d) Ensure that the fellow keeps track of deadlines for programs and any applicable examinations, e.g. the Graduate Record Examination
- e) Discuss with the fellow the nature of graduate study

### 2. SUPERVISE AND GUIDE THE FELLOW'S RESEARCH PROJECT

- a) Assist the fellow in conceiving a project, planning it, and carrying it out
- b) Schedule regular periods of contact for review of the project
- c) Evaluate the project
- d) Assist fellow with the development of a scholarly bibliography and reading list related to the selected topic



**3. THE UNCF/MELLON PROGRAMS SEEK TO FOSTER BOTH TEACHING AND RESEARCH SKILLS. MENTORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO:**

- a) Allow the fellow to tutor a class, present a lecture, or develop a section of class
- b) Create opportunities for the fellow to observe the mentor's teaching strategies
- c) Discuss various roles and responsibilities of faculty members

**4. SERVE AS A LINK BETWEEN THE UNCF/MELLON PROGRAMS, THE FELLOW AND THE HOME INSTITUTION**

- a) Maintain information on the requirements of the Program
- b) Inform the Director and/or Campus Coordinator of any questions or problems that arise from Program requirements
- c) Alert the Director and/or Campus Coordinator of changes in the fellow's status
- d) Assist the Program in monitoring the progress of the fellow and in evaluating activities
- e) Attend the UNCF/Mellon Mentors and Coordinators' Conference, scheduled for early-to mid October
- f) Submit a progress report during the course of the academic year
- g) Submit a final report at the end of that year

## THE UNCF/MELLON PROGRAMS OFFICE

The Programs Office may be contacted either by mail, phone, fax, or e-mail.

### **General Contact Information**

UNCF/Mellon Programs  
Spelman College  
350 Spelman Lane  
Box 333  
Atlanta, GA 30314

Phone: (404) 270-5685

Fax: (404) 270-5687

Website: [www.uncfmellon.org](http://www.uncfmellon.org)

### **Specific Contact Information**

**Cynthia Neal Spence, Ph.D.**  
**Director, UNCF/Mellon Programs &**  
**Associate Professor of Sociology, Spelman College**

Phone: (404) 270-5684

Fax: (404) 270-5687

E-Mail Address: [cspence@spelman.edu](mailto:cspence@spelman.edu)

**Ada Jackson**  
**Senior Administrative Assistant**

Phone: (404) 270-5685

Fax: (404) 270-5687

E-Mail Address: [ajackso3@spelman.edu](mailto:ajackso3@spelman.edu)

## PROGRAMS OFFICE CHALLENGES

The Programs Office is in the process of collecting data on the UNCF/Mellon Fellows who have preceded you, in an attempt to update our Program statistics. We face numerous challenges as we attempt to contact our UNCF/Mellon Alumni, as their contact information changes and they neglect to keep us updated. Please note therefore, that it is **CRUCIAL** that you keep the Programs Office updated on any changes to your contact information. We want to keep in touch with you so that we can continue to inform you of opportunities that you will be eligible for even after you have graduated and also so that we can continue to update our statistics. We also need to be able to provide the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation with correct, updated contact information for you. **We initially obtain your contact information from the MMUF Profile Form that you complete once you have been accepted into the program.** We are asking that each semester, you refer to this checklist, so that you can be certain that you are keeping us up-to-date!



### Checklist!

- Yes       No    Has your **current** mailing address or telephone number changed?  
If so, please contact the Programs Office to update your information.
- Yes       No    Has your **permanent** mailing address or telephone number changed?  
If so, please contact the Programs Office to update your information.
- Yes       No    Has your e-mail address changed?  
If so, please contact the Programs Office to update your information.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. Are there funds available to, for example, purchase books, pay for the GRE or supplement the Travel Stipend to attend a Conference with my Mentor?**

*You should plan your stipend spending in advance. You may choose to use a portion of your semester stipend to help defray the costs of books and research materials. Senior Fellows are also allotted \$600.00 for GRE preparation and \$400.00 for research funds.*

- 2. My prospectus has changed. Do I have to inform the Programs Office?**

*Yes, once your research topic has changed and your Mentor has approved the new prospectus, please forward the new topic to the Programs Office. Please get in the habit of sharing updates with the Programs Office as they occur.*

- 3. My mentor and I are unable to continue working together? What should we do?**

*You and your Mentor are required to submit, in writing, the reasons for this development. Your new Mentor must be identified in this correspondence. If there is a coordinator on your campus, the Coordinator should assist with the identification of a new mentor. In addition, your new mentor must make contact with the Programs Office to complete important documents.*

- 4. What is the appropriate use for my Junior Summer Stipend?**

*The Junior Summer stipend can be used on a project or projects that will help to facilitate a fellow's research and/or graduate school research activities. Fellows may use their stipends for travel to different states to conduct interviews or graduate school visits. Fellows may also use their stipend to participate in study abroad programs related to their research. Fellows may even opt to complete summer school courses (for example, intensive research related language courses), but they may not take any courses that can be taken during the academic school year. Fellows may also use the stipend to purchase books and other research materials and to conduct research related experiments.*

- 5. I am unable to graduate on the date that I indicated on my MMUF Profile Form. Will I remain in the Program until I have graduated?**

*You must contact the Programs Director, Dr. Cynthia Neal Spence, to discuss the reason you are unable to graduate on the date indicated, and the possibility of remaining in the Programs for another semester, or year. The Programs Director will make the final decision.*

- 6. I have to miss a semester of school? What will happen to my Fellowship?**

*You must contact the Programs Director, Dr. Cynthia Neal Spence, to discuss your reason for missing a semester. Your Fellowship support will cease until you inform the Programs Office of your return to school. In most cases, your Fellowship will be reinstated. The Programs Director will make the final decision.*

## CAPE TOWN MMUF JANUARY PROGRAM

The MMUF January Program introduces undergraduates to the history, culture and intellectual space of the New South Africa through a curriculum that is interdisciplinary in nature. The on-site experiential learning program is intended to broaden the fellow's understanding of the South African socio-eco, racial, cultural, historical and environmental landscape through critical enquiry and debate. The selection committee welcomes applications from undergraduates whose research proposals for this program are comparative in nature (e.g. the U.S. and South Africa, or the Caribbean and South Africa, or West Africa and South Africa) and which address a specific aspect of the culture, history and interdisciplinary analysis of social organization of the African Diaspora, the Black Atlantic World, or South Africa.

The Mellon Foundation offers awards for eligible undergraduates. The award includes one round trip ticket from Atlanta to Cape Town, a \$600.00 travel stipend, board and lodging.

Undergraduates selected to participate in the Cape Town January Program are required to attend all of the instructional components and to participate fully in all program activities.

The Cape Town MMUF January Program takes place every January.

A list of past participants and the application checklist are on the following pages.

**Application Deadline: July 15**

## CAPE TOWN MMUF JANUARY PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

### January Program - - - 2018

Name	Institution	Fellowship Year
Anna Flood	Fisk University	2017-2019
Jordan Mosby	Morehouse College	2017-2019
Bria Paige	Spelman College	2017-2019
Joshua Reed	Morehouse College	2017-2019
Nzali Scales	Spelman College	2017-2019
J. Ruben Diaz-Vasquez	Emory University	2017-2019
Karol Oviedo	Emory University	2017-2019
Christelle Roach	Emory University	2017-2019

### January Program - - - 2017

Name	Institution	Fellowship Year
Kimya Loder	Spelman College	2016-2018
Betanya Mahary	Spelman College	2016-2018
Keith Matier	Morehouse College	2016-2018
Alexis Mayfield	Hampton University	2016-2018
Kristin McFadden	Emory University	2016-2018
Jonathan Peraza	Emory University	2016-2018
Isabelle Saldana	Emory University	2016-2018
Talia Sharpp	Hampton University	2016-2018

### January Program - - - 2016

Name	Institution	Fellowship Year
Nia Bush	Spelman College	2015-2017
Jonathan Carlisle	Morehouse College	2015-2017
Lynette Dixon	Emory University	2015-2017
Endia Hayes	Spelman College	2015-2017
Jeremy Jackson	Wiley College	2015-2017
Makina Moses	Emory University	2015-2017
Clara Perez	Emory University	2015-2017
Samanda Robinson	Fisk University	2015-2017

### January Program - - - 2015

Name	Institution	Fellowship Year
Rami Blair	Morehouse College	2014-2016
Casidy Campbell	Emory University	2014-2016
Kerwin Holmes	Morehouse College	2014-2016
Andrew Kim	Emory University	2014-2016
Bryan Natividad	Emory University	2014-2016
Casey Phanor	Morehouse College	2014-2016
Maya Stephens	Paine College	2014-2016
Rasaan Turner	Tougaloo College	2014-2016

**January Program - - - 2014**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Brittany Botts	Spelman College	2013-2015
Elizabeth Davies	Emory University	2013-2015
Banah Ghabbian	Spelman College	2013-2015
Jovanna Jones	Emory University	2013-2015
Jordan Rutland	Paine College	2013-2015
Ayanna Spencer	Spelman College	2013-2015
Erica Sterling	Emory University	2013-2015
Nia Vaughn	Hampton University	2013-2015

**January Program - - - 2013**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Khadeidra Billingsley	Clark Atlanta University	2012-2014
Christina Cross	Emory University	2012-2014
Katryna Mahoney	Spelman College	2012-2014
Charles Stuppard	Huston-Tillotson University	2012-2014

**January Program - - - 2012**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Leah Barlow	Hampton University	2011-2013
LaShawndra Hooks	Hampton University	2011-2013
Silvia Mejia	Emory University	2011-2013
Perrinh "Tiken" Savang	Emory University	2011-2013

**January Program - - - 2011**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Jonathan Freeman	Lane College	2010-2012
Katherine Matthews	Emory University	2010-2012
Jacinta Saffold	Emory University	2010-2012
Hadiya Sewer	Spelman College	2010-2012

**January Program - - - 2010**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Khytie Brown	Emory University	2009-2011
Jonathan Collins	Morehouse College	2009-2011
Cherrell Denwiddie	Fisk University	2009-2011
Micaela Harris	Spelman College	2009-2011
Jasmine Johnson	Emory University	2009-2011

**January Program - - - 2009**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Rasheedah Alexander	Johnson C. Smith University	2008-2010
Tatiana Benjamin	Clark Atlanta University	2008-2010
Keith French	Tougaloo College	2008-2010
Kenneth Frierson	Lane College	2008-2010
Juliana Partridge	Spelman College	2008-2010
Anni Pullagura	Emory University	2008-2010
Ana' Marie Rector	Clark Atlanta University	2008-2010

**January Program - - - 2008**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Anisah Nu'Man	Spelman College	2007-2009
Julius Fleming	Tougaloo College	2007-2009
Michael Thomas	Paine College	2007-2009
Noelle Gibson	Hampton University	2007-2009
Selah Johnson	Spelman College	2007-2009
Jarvis McInnis	Tougaloo College	2007-2009

**January Program - - - 2007**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Nicole Naar	Emory University	2006-2008
Mia Ellis	Tougaloo College	2006-2008
Gregory Johnson	Tougaloo College	2006-2008
Nile Johnson	Spelman College	2006-2008
Brandy Thomas	Paine College	2006-2008
Jessica Edwards	Spelman College	2005-2007
Antonina King	Hampton University	2005-2007
Marcus McArthur	Morehouse College	2005-2007
Shaeeda Mensah	Spelman College	2005-2007

**January Program - - - 2005**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Meredith Coleman-Tobias	Spelman College	2004-2006
Melody Cooper	Clafin University	2004-2006
Sonia Santamaria	Emory University	2004-2006
Jared Stearne	Morehouse College	2004-2006
Ashley Strong-Green	Paine College	2004-2006

**January Program - - - 2004**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Takkara Brunson	Spelman College	2003-2005
Takiyah Franklin	Dillard University	2003-2005
Irvin Hunt	Morehouse College	2003-2005
Raquel Janeau	Dillard University	2003-2005
Michael Turner	Clark Atlanta University	2003-2005



**January Program - - - 2003**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Fellowship Year</b>
Blake Adams	Morehouse College	2002-2004
Brandon Geter	Tuskegee University	2002-2004
Saida Grundy	Spelman College	2002-2004
Worth Hayes	Xavier University	2002-2004
Jaimie Lee	Emory University	2002-2004

## CAPE TOWN MMUF JANUARY PROGRAM CHECKLIST

Please make sure the following items are completed and that your application is submitted by July 15.

- Statement of Research Intent-** provide a detailed statement describing the focus of your research and how a South African cross cultural analysis will enhance your research. Include some discussion of current scholarship that will help to frame your analysis. (2-3 pages)
- Letter of endorsement from UNCF/Mellon Mentor-** the letter should provide evidence that your mentor is familiar with your proposed expansion of your research and believes that you are well prepared to take your research in the desired scholarly direction.
- Copy of passport and/or copy of passport application**

**Please Submit Completed Application to:**

**[uncfmmuf@gmail.com](mailto:uncfmmuf@gmail.com)**

## SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Southeastern Regional Conference is designed specifically for Junior and Senior Fellows. This event brings together Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows representing Duke, Emory and Rice Universities, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Puerto Rico and the UNCF institutions. Fellows will be able to interact with and present their research to their peers and hear from former MMUF Fellows who have gone on to graduate school and who have completed the Ph.D. Fellows will have the opportunity to interact with these MMUF Alumni to gain a better insight into the professional and personal aspects of the journey through and beyond graduate school. **This year's MMUF Southeastern Regional Conference, which will be hosted by Duke University, will take place during November 2018 in Durham, NC. The Programs Office will coordinate the travel of all fellows. While senior fellows are required to present their research, junior fellows who have well developed research will be allowed to present.**

## JUNIOR YEAR SUMMER STIPEND

UNCF/Mellon Fellows completing the junior year are eligible to receive a summer stipend in the amount of \$3,900.00. The summer stipend can be used on a project or projects that will help to facilitate your research and/or graduate school research activities. In the past, fellows have traveled to different states and countries to conduct interviews, participated in summer research programs<sup>1</sup>, participated in study abroad programs, completed courses in summer school\*, purchased books, conducted experiments, prepared for the GRE and visited graduate schools - the possibilities are virtually limitless! **However, please note that computer hardware and clothing cannot be purchased with these funds.** You are encouraged to work with your faculty mentor to determine the best use of the stipend. To request these funds, you must complete the Junior Year Summer Stipend Request Form **AND** the Project Description Form. At the end of summer, once you have returned to school for the fall semester, you must complete the Junior Summer Project Summary Form.



\* **Note: Qualifying Summer School courses must be directly related to the Fellow's research and must not be courses that the fellow can take during the academic school year. An intensive language course which is directly related to the fellow's research is one example of a qualifying summer school course.**

**Deadline: March 23 (You may request an extension on this deadline)**



### Checklist!

- |                              |                             |  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Has your Mentor seen and approved your project proposal and budget?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Have you submitted your Junior Year Summer Stipend Request Form and the Project Description Form to the Programs Office? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Do you need an extension on the deadline date?<br>If so, please contact the Programs Office to make your request.        |

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that some summer research programs require you to pay to participate. You must use your stipend to cover this charge. You will be informed in advance of any payments that are due once you have been accepted into such a program. You must therefore budget accordingly as you are responsible for making this payment.

## PAST USES OF THE JUNIOR SUMMER STIPEND

### **JE'LON ALEXANDER MOREHOUSE COLLEGE**

Je'lon used his junior summer stipend funds to participate in the Leadership Alliance Mellon Initiative program at the University of Virginia. He developed a relationship with faculty mentor Dr. Claudrena Harold, and was able to access university resources such as the Julian Bond Papers Collection housed at the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library. In addition, he traveled to the Wisconsin Historical Society to research the Atlanta Vine City Project.

### **CONNIE APPIAH SPELMAN COLLEGE**

Connie participated in the Mellon UCLA Undergraduate Summer Writing and Research Training Program. The program consisted of a writing course, weekly graduate mentor meetings, and weekly graduate school preparation information sessions. She gained a lot of confidence during the program by learning about the importance, power, and benefit of social and cultural capital.

### **XAVIER BONNER MOREHOUSE COLLEGE**

Xavier conducted research in a biophysics laboratory at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (where he will be attending graduate school in the fall). He used his funds to visit other potential graduate schools such as Northwestern and Stanford and to purchase research materials. While at UNC Chapel Hill, he became more functional within the UNIX environment, knowledgeable of how to create Rosetta Scripts, and Pymol. He also became more comfortable with sharing his research and conveying it in an understandable way. He completed several components of his graduate application dossier, including a curriculum vitae and a personal statement.

### **BRENTON BOYD HAMPTON UNIVERSITY**

Brenton conducted research in New Orleans and St. Francisville, Louisiana. Working with faculty members and librarians at Tulane University, he was able to enrich his Mellon Mays project by conducting interviews and amassing resources that will assist him throughout graduate school. He also visited the University of Miami.

### **DAMIESHA BRYANT PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE**

Damiesha conducted research at the University of Arizona with the help of the Mellon Mays junior summer stipend. She worked with a mentor at the UA College of Medicine – Tucson, participating in a quantitative analysis that revealed the effects of obesity on protein expression in the kidney of mice, an important analysis that will provide helpful information regarding the health of underrepresented communities. She was mentored by the Chief of the Division of Endocrinology.

### **JASMINE JOHNSON TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY**

Jasmine visited the Ohio State University and conducted archival research at the Emory University Rose Library. She was able to mine the SCLC records and the writings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for her thesis on black radicalism. Afterwards, she went to South Africa for a research experience that

included visiting the Hector Petersen Museum and participating in a public history project focusing on district 6.

**KIMYA LODER**  
**SPELMAN COLLEGE**

Kimya participated in the Princeton Summer Undergraduate Research Experience through the Leadership Alliance. The summer stipend provided the opportunity to purchase books, other literary materials, and GRE preparation materials. While at Princeton, she worked under the mentorship of Dr. Robert Wuthnow. The summer experience gave her time and support in developing her application materials for graduate school. The program held a number of personal statement and curriculum vitae workshops.

**BETANYA MAHARY**  
**SPELMAN COLLEGE**

Betanya participated in a research program at Brown University with the Leadership Alliance. She was mentored by Dr. Keshia Khan-Perry in the Africana Studies department. She also conducted interviews for her research in Sweden. Because her research focuses on youth political consciousness among Eritrean emigrants, this brought a fresh dimension to her project.

**KEITH MATIER**  
**MOREHOUSE COLLEGE**

Keith participated in a research program at the University of Pennsylvania through Leadership Alliance. He was mentored by Dr. Michael Weisberg in the Department of Philosophy. He also traveled to the Schomburg Center in New York to further his review of literature relevant to his project on justice discourse

**LEWIS MILES**  
**MOREHOUSE COLLEGE**

Lewis used his junior summer stipend in three ways: firstly, to assist in the cost of participation in the Morehouse Pan-African Global Experience program to Bahia, Brazil; secondly, to defray the cost of living in New York City and allow for participation in events related to my research; and thirdly, to pay for a Kaplan GRE preparation course. While in Bahia, he was able to attend a Black Lives Matter lecture and engage with linguist and education professor Dr. Uju Anya from Pennsylvania State University. He interned at New York University's Center for Behavioral Statistics and Study for Motivated Perception.

**TALIA MONET SHARPP**  
**HAMPTON UNIVERSITY**

Talia visited multiple graduate programs during the summer of 2017 at the University of California, Santa Cruz, the University of California at Berkeley, and Stanford University. She conducted archival research with the papers of the Huey P. Newton Foundation at the Cecil Green Library and with the Octavia Butler papers housed at the Huntington Library in Los Angeles, California. Additionally, she conducting interviews with D. Scott Miller, theorist of Afro-Surrealism, that supplemented both her theoretical framework and close reading. At the University of California, Davis, Talia developed relationships with faculty mentors and other HBCU fellows, took a GRE preparation course, and served as a teaching assistant for Dr. Mark Jerng.



## UNCF/MELLON UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

### JUNIOR YEAR SUMMER STIPEND REQUEST FORM

**NOTE: YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM AND SUBMIT IT WITH YOUR JUNIOR SUMMER STIPEND REQUEST. THE FOLLOWING PAGE IS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT THE STIPEND REQUEST SHOULD LOOK LIKE. YOUR STIPEND REQUEST MUST INCLUDE A BRIEF PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF YOUR SUMMER PLANS AND AN ITEMIZED BUDGET. YOUR BUDGET MUST TOTAL \$3,900.00.**

The summer stipend can be used on a project(s) that will help to facilitate the fellow's research and/or graduate school research activities. **Please note that computer hardware cannot be purchased with these funds.** Fellows are encouraged to work with their faculty mentors to determine the best use of the stipend, and **mentors must sign off on your stipend request.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Fellow's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fellow's SS#: \_\_\_\_\_

Fellow's Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fellow's Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fellow's Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fellow's Research Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE: MARCH 23**

Completed forms should be submitted to:  
UNCF/Mellon Programs, Spelman College, 350 Spelman Lane, Box 333, Atlanta, GA 30314  
or faxed to (404) 270-5687



# UNCF/MELLON UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



## JUNIOR YEAR SUMMER PROJECT DESCRIPTION FORM

**DEADLINE: MARCH 23**  
*(Incomplete requests will not be accepted)*

**SAMPLE (PLEASE USE THIS AS A GUIDE TO CREATE YOUR OWN REQUEST)**

**Fellow's Name**

**Sample Description:**

This summer, I will participate in a research program at Northwestern University. The program will give me an opportunity to advance my Mellon research as I work with an esteemed faculty member, Dr. J. Johnson, in the English department. The junior summer research stipend will help to offset some of the expenses related to room and board.

I will also spend time conducting interviews for my research. I will use a portion of my stipend to purchase a digital voice recorder that will assist the interviewing process. I will also spend time furthering my literature review. The purchase of books related to my research topic will be very helpful.

I will also use a portion of my stipend to help offset costs related travel to potential graduate schools. I have been in communication with my mentor regarding my summer plans, and I will continue to communicate with her/him throughout the summer. Please find an itemized budget below.

Item	Cost
Summer living expenses at Northwestern	\$1,050
Books and Materials related to research	\$600
USB Voice Recorder	\$150
Travel, hotel stays and car rental to NYU and UC Berkeley	\$2,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,900</b>



Completed forms should be submitted to:  
UNCF/Mellon Programs, Spelman College, 350 Spelman Lane, Box 333, Atlanta, GA 30314  
or faxed to (404) 270-5687



## JUNIOR YEAR SUMMER PROJECT SUMMARY

Upon completion of the Junior Year summer experience, you are required to submit a 1 ½ page summary of your experience. The following questions should be addressed:

- How did you use your funds to enhance your research experience?
- What were some of the highlights of your experience?
- How will your junior year summer experience help to further prepare you for graduate study toward the Ph.D.?

**Deadline: September 7**



### Checklist!

Have you...

- |                              |                             |  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Completed your Junior Year Summer Project Summary?       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Submitted your completed summary to the Programs Office? |

## TRAVEL, GRE PREPARATION, RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH TRAVEL STIPENDS

### TRAVEL STIPEND

As a UNCF/Mellon Fellow, you may request a travel stipend of up to \$600.00 per year (**NOT per semester**). You may use this stipend to assist with expenses related to traveling to various conferences, institutions, facilities or any other destination, in an effort to supplement your research and facilitate the graduate school selection process. You will need to complete the Travel Stipend Request Form to request these funds.

### GRE PREPARATION STIPEND

As a UNCF/Mellon **Senior** Undergraduate Fellow, you may request a GRE Preparation stipend of up to \$600.00. You may use this stipend to assist with expenses related to preparing for the Graduate Record Examination. You will need to complete the GRE Preparation Stipend Form to request these funds.

### RESEARCH STIPEND

As a UNCF/Mellon **Senior** Undergraduate Fellow, you may request a Research Stipend of up to \$400.00. You may use this stipend to assist with expenses related to your research needs. You will need to complete the Research Stipend Request Form first as well as a budget outlining how you plan to use the Research Stipend.

### INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH TRAVEL FUND

The International Research Travel Grant is a new initiative designed to support the international/global scholarly interests of UNCF/Mellon Fellows and/or participation in intensive language study programs approved by the UNCF/Mellon Programs Office. These grants may be used to supplement pre-existing study abroad plans or to subsidize a summer or fall/spring semester international engagement (for example, attending a conference abroad, conducting research abroad, etc). A limited number of grants of up to \$3,000.00 per Fellow will be awarded each academic year. Fellows must submit a proposal supporting their need to travel abroad in order to advance their scholarly inquiry and a budget depicting how the funds will be used in order to advance their scholarly research development. The deadline for submission of proposals is July 30 of each year. **Fellows are required to submit a final report detailing how they were able to accomplish their international research goals.**

# UNCF/MELLON UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



## TRAVEL STIPEND REQUEST FORM

UNCF/Mellon Fellows may request a travel stipend of up to \$600.00 **per year**. Fellows may use this stipend to assist with expenses related to traveling to various conferences, institutions, facilities or any other destination, in an effort to supplement their research and facilitate the graduate school selection process. Fellows will need to complete this Travel Stipend Request Form to request these funds.

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's SS#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Institution:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Destination:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Request:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REASON FOR REQUEST:**

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**PLEASE INCLUDE A BUDGET WITH COST PER ITEM AND GRAND TOTAL ESTIMATE:**

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Completed forms should be submitted to:  
UNCF/Mellon Programs, Spelman College, 350 Spelman Lane, Box 333, Atlanta, GA 30314  
or faxed to (404) 270-5687



## UNCF/MELLON UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

### GRE PREPARATION STIPEND REQUEST FORM

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**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's SS#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Institution:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Request:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REASON FOR REQUEST:**

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**PLEASE INCLUDE A BUDGET WITH COST PER ITEM AND GRAND TOTAL ESTIMATE:**

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## UNCF/MELLON UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

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As a UNCF/Mellon **Senior** Undergraduate Fellow, you may request a Research Stipend of up to \$400.00. You may use this stipend to assist with expenses related to your research needs. You will need to complete the Research Stipend Request Form first as well as a budget outlining how you plan to use the Research Stipend.

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's SS#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Institution:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Request:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REASON FOR REQUEST:**

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**PLEASE INCLUDE A BUDGET WITH COST PER ITEM AND GRAND TOTAL ESTIMATE:**

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## UNCF/MELLON UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

### INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH TRAVEL FUND REQUEST FORM



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**The deadline for submission of proposals is July 30 of each year.**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's SS#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellow's Institution:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Destination:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Request:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FELLOWS ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A FINAL REPORT DETAILING HOW THEY WERE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH THEIR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GOALS.**

Completed form, proposal and budget should be submitted to:  
UNCF/Mellon Programs, Spelman College, 350 Spelman Lane, Box 333, Atlanta, GA 30314  
or faxed to (404) 270-5687

## THE INSTITUTE FOR RECRUITMENT OF TEACHERS (IRT)

### VISION

By 2020, the growing vanguard of IRT alumni is transforming the American educational experience for students in all quarters.

### MISSION

The Institute for Recruitment of Teachers (IRT) empowers talented underserved and underrepresented future educators to teach and serve as leaders in American education because diversity is essential to excellence.

### CORE VALUES

- **Diversity.** We believe that a diversity of educators, pedagogies, and ideas elevates the quality, expands the scope, and enhances the richness of education. The heart of our mission is therefore to expand educational access for talented underserved and underrepresented students, including students of color, first-generation, and low-income students. Thus, we collaborate with consortium colleges and universities, nonprofit organizations, and networks that seek to promote intentionally diverse and inclusive learning communities.
- **Excellence.** We believe creating a culture of inquiry that seeks to cultivate analytical rigor, high standards and innovation in approaches to teaching and learning as core attributes of our future educators is the most effective way to realize educational excellence in our schools, colleges and universities.
- **Influence.** We invest in the next generation of educators because we know that a quality education provided by an effective teacher is the single greatest influence on student success. We believe that equity and inclusion are fundamental to building a better society. Through this investment, we endeavor to build a legacy of influence for generations of students to come.
- **Empowerment.** We believe that providing diverse students with educational and professional advocacy and mentorship in higher education will expand their career options as well as equip them to inspire more students as teachers, role models, and innovative thought leaders in education. We believe that in implementing our mission, IRT and its alumni can help advocate for positive changes in our educational system and for educational excellence in all communities in order to advance educational transformation.
- **Leadership.** As an organization, we will act with intention and integrity in our decision-making, leadership, and governance. To be supportive of and responsive to the needs of our students, alumni and partners, a culture of adaptability, assessment and introspection, innovation, and fiscal sustainability is fundamental to our purpose.

### PROGRAM HISTORY

The Institute for Recruitment of Teachers (IRT) was founded in 1990 by Kelly Wise, former IRT executive director and dean of faculty at Phillips Academy, with a mission to “deepen the pool of talented minorities entering the teaching profession in our country.” The institute was designed to increase the number of African American, Latino/a and Native American students pursuing advanced degrees for teaching, counseling and administrative careers so the pool of potential faculty members at both the K-12 and university levels will become more diverse. In 2004, the Institute reaffirmed its commitment to eradicating racial disparities at all levels of education and selecting outstanding college

students and recent graduates from all diverse backgrounds, including Asians and Caucasians, who are committed to these ideals.

## PROGRAMS

### **SUMMER WORKSHOP**

Each year, 25-30 Interns are selected by the IRT to participate in an intense four-week *Summer Workshop* at Phillips Academy. During the summer, interns and faculty spend nine hours together each weekday in seminar discussions and activities. The syllabus consists of traditional and cutting-edge theory and cultural criticism in the disciplines of education, the humanities, and social science designed to introduce students to the philosophical rigors associated with the kinds of texts one encounters throughout graduate study. The summer program also includes lectures, writing conferences, debates, films, and presentations by nationally known educators, artists, and poets. Students also prepare for the GRE and begin work on their statements of purpose. In mid-July, the IRT hosts its renowned annual Recruiters' Weekend for all students where over 60 graduate school deans and admissions representatives from IRT consortium institutions are eager to speak with potential candidates about their graduate programs.

*Admission for the summer workshop is highly selective. If IRT is unable to offer you a place in the workshop, you will still be considered automatically for a place in the year-long Associates Program.*

### **ASSOCIATE PROGRAM**

Along with the students who participate in the Summer Workshop, the IRT also selects at least 70 outstanding students to enroll in the *Associate Program*. Associates do not participate in the summer workshop, but, like Interns, are selected through a rigorous application process. The Associate program is geared toward undergraduates and recent college graduates who otherwise are engaged during the summer in research, teaching, or other opportunities. Both Interns and Associates are offered extensive counseling and assistance in negotiating the graduate school application process.

## ELIGIBILITY

- Eligible applicants for the IRT **Summer Workshop** program must be *applying to the IRT* as rising or graduating college seniors.
- Applicants to the **Associate Program** must be rising college seniors, college graduates, or currently or previously enrolled in a Master's degree program.

### ***All applicants must:***

1. For undergraduates, have earned a grade point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale); and for graduate students, have earned a grade point average of 3.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale).
2. In general, have an undergraduate or Master's degree major in mathematics, social sciences, humanities, education or computer science;
3. Demonstrate a commitment to eradicating racial disparities in education;
4. Demonstrate an interest in serving as a positive role model to youth;
5. Submit a complete online application by *April 1*.

<https://irt.andover.edu/>



## GRADUATE SCHOOL VISITATIONS / SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

These are just a few of the many summer program and graduate school visitation opportunities available to fellows. **\*\*Please note: this is not an exhaustive list. \*\***

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### GRADUATE SCHOOL VISITATION OPPORTUNITIES

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- **Duke University** – There is no formal visitation program; however, Duke University will work with our office to coordinate visits for interested fellows.
  - **Contact: The UNCF/Mellon Programs office**
  
- **Purdue University** – The Graduate Diversity Visitation Program (formerly the Historically Black Institution (HBI) Visitation Program, typically held in November)
  - **Contact: The UNCF/Mellon Programs office**
  - Or**
  - Dr. Kathy Dixon** (765) 496 – 1123 or [kgdixon@purdue.edu](mailto:kgdixon@purdue.edu)
  - Visit <https://www.purdue.edu/gradschool/diversity/programs/graduate-diversity-visitation-program/> to learn more about the GDVP
  
- **The University of Georgia** – The Annual Future Scholars Visitation Program (November)
  - **Contact: The UNCF/Mellon Programs office**
  - Or**
  - The Recruitment and Diversity Initiatives** (706) 542-6416.
  - Visit <http://grad.uga.edu/index.php/diversity/future-students/future-scholars-visitation-program/> to learn more about the Future Scholars Visitation Program.
  
- **The University of California, Berkeley** – There is no formal visitation program; however, our Mellon contacts at The University of California, Berkeley will work with fellows to coordinate visits for those interested.
  - **Contact: The UNCF/Mellon Programs office**

## SUMMER PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

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- **The Leadership Alliance Summer Research - Early Identification Program (SR-EIP)** provides undergraduates with training and mentoring in the principles underlying the conduct of research and prepares them to pursue competitive applications to graduate schools. Students work for eight to ten weeks in the summer under the guidance of a faculty or research mentor at a participating Leadership Alliance institution. Through one-on-one collaborations, students gain theoretical knowledge and practical training in academic research and scientific experimentation. All SR-EIP participants make oral or poster presentations of their research at the Leadership Alliance National Symposium.
  - **Who:** Students who have completed at least two semesters and have at least one semester remaining of their undergraduate education by the start of the summer program.
  - **Contact:** The Leadership Alliance Executive Office, sreip@theleadershipalliance.org or 401-863-1474  
<http://www.theleadershipalliance.org/programs/summer-research>
  
- **Middlebury College Language School HBCU Scholarships**
  - **Who:** Open to any student currently enrolled full-time at a Historically Black College or University, regardless of citizenship.
  - **Contact:** The UNCF/Mellon Programs office or email Elizabeth Karnes Keefe at [karnes@middlebury.edu](mailto:karnes@middlebury.edu). To learn more about the program, visit <http://www.middlebury.edu/ls>
  
- **The Schomburg-Mellon Humanities Summer Institute (June - July)**
  - **Who:** Rising seniors with an interest in African-American and African Diasporan studies
  - **Contact:** The UNCF/Mellon Programs or email [sdiouf@nypl.org](mailto:sdiouf@nypl.org). To learn more about the Institute, visit <http://www.nypl.org/help/about-nypl/fellowships-institutes/schomburg-mellon-humanities-summer-institute>
  
- **The Moore Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (MURAP) at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill**
  - **Who:** Students with interests in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Fine Arts
  - **Contact:** The UNCF/Mellon Programs office or email Ms. Marissa Garcia, Program Coordinator at [murap@unc.edu](mailto:murap@unc.edu). To learn more about the Program, visit <http://murap.unc.edu/>

- **African American Literatures and Cultures Institute**
  - Who: Students with an interest in learning more about what it takes to become a Professor of African American literary and cultural studies
  - Contact: The UNCF/Mellon Programs office or email Dr. Joycelyn Moody, AALCI Director at [joycelyn.moody@utsa.edu](mailto:joycelyn.moody@utsa.edu) . To learn more about the Program, visit <http://www.utsa.edu/aalci/>

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### *Get published!*

This is an opportunity for **MMUF Fellows** to share their work with the MMUF community. As an MMUF Fellow, you can have your work published in the Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship Journal! The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Journal is an annual collection of scholarly works by participants in the MMUF program. You are encouraged to submit works that were the culmination of research conducted under the Mellon Programs, the introduction to a thesis or any larger work, or a paper for a favorite class. The Call for Papers usually goes out in May each year. It will be emailed to you.

### **Guidelines:**

- Submissions may be up to 8 pages and double-spaced.
- Submissions must be reviewed and edited by your mentor.
- Submissions must then be **e-mailed** to the Programs Office, at which point we will forward your submission to the editor of the journal. **Hard copies of your work will not be accepted.**



### **Checklist for Submission:**

Submissions must include the following:

- Name
- E-mail Address
- Mailing Address
- College/University
- Date of Graduation
- Major
- Faculty Mentor/Advisor
- Plans for graduate school (if possible)
- A description of the work you are submitting

The Programs Office will then submit all entries to the Journal Office for consideration. **The Journal Office staff will not accept submissions that you email directly to them.** Therefore, please note that submissions have to be received by the Programs Office prior to the Journal deadline.



### **Checklist!**

- Yes       No      Has your mentor reviewed and edited your work?
- Yes       No      Have you e-mailed your submission to the Programs Office?  
(Submission deadline to be announced)

## UNCF/MELLON PUBLICATIONS IN THE MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP JOURNAL

### 2016

**Ariana Brazier, Spelman College:** "Homelessness in Children's Television: The Necessary Delinquent Sentenced to Social Death"

### 2015

**Kerwin Holmes, Jr., Morehouse College:** "The Gospel of Slavery: A Study of Antebellum Southern American Christian Thought on African Slavery following the Second Great Awakening –Scholarship On Black Christianity in 19th Century American South"

**Hadiya Layla Jones, Spelman College:** "Resisting the Matrix: Black Female Agency in Issa Rae's Awkward Black Girl"

**Madison Nelson-Turner, Hampton University:** "The Madwoman is Out of the Attic: A Literary Analysis on Contemporary Anthologies' Construction of the "Madwoman" in Nineteenth-Century British Women's Literature"

### 2014

**Lauren Highsmith, Hampton University:** "Bloodlines: The Significance of Blood in the Battle Royal"

### 2013

**Leah Barlow, Hampton University:** "What a Life! Sexual Identity as Necessary in *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz"

**Mack Curry, Hampton University:** "*Weapons of Mass Creation*"; a poem

### 2012

**Leah Barlow, Hampton University:** "The Subaltern Speaks: The Colonized Voice Found in *The Lying Days*, *Disgrace*, *None to Accompany Me*, and *Coconut*"

**Jonathan Freeman, Lane College:** "Tools of Resistance: The Involvement of the Militant Wing of the African National Congress in the Dismantling of Apartheid"

**Marla Goins, Johnson C. Smith University:** "Juan Antonio Alix, Dominicanidad and Afro-Acceptance"

**LaShawndra Hooks, Hampton University:** "Revolving Door: Assessing the Relationship between Recidivism, Environmental Factors and Parental Incarceration among Minority Female Youth"

**Chelsea Johnson, Spelman College:** "Identity, Role, and Self-Representation: The Spelman Experience and Performing for a Gender-Specific Audience"

**Alexia Williams, Spelman College:** "The Color Line, a Female Problem: Sensational Domesticity in Du Bois' *Dark Princess*"

**Valerie Williams, Johnson C. Smith University:** "The Effects of Salinity and Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on the Standard Metabolic Rate (SMR) of Clams (*M. mercenaria*)"

## 2011

**Hadiya Sewer, Spelman College:** "Beauty Standards and Beauty Rituals: An Ethnographic Examination of the Social Implications of Skin Color and Hair Texture on the Black Identity in Morocco"

## 2010

**\*\*Christiana Betts, Hampton University:** "The Show Much Go On! Creating a Place in Maxine Hong Kingston's *Tripmaster Monkey: His Fake Book*"

**\*\*Kimberly Love, Tuskegee University:** "Remembering *Beloved* and Discovering *A Mercy*: The Roles of Patriarchy, Capitalism, and Race During Slavery"

**Juliana Partridge, Spelman College:** "Multiracial Racial Identity in Contemporary America: An Overview"

**Alonzo Vereen, Morehouse College:** "One's Heritage Does Not Define Oneself: An Analysis of Factors that Contributed to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Writings and Speeches"

## 2009

**Darius Scott, Morehouse College:** "For the People, By the People: Secondhand Shopping Spaces"

## 2008

**Priscilla Alexander, Paine College:** "The Line Integral and Its Application"

**Mia Ellis, Tougaloo College:** "From Blackface to Bling Bling: Tracing the Images of African American Women and Men in Minstrel Shows and Rap Music Videos"

**\*\*Selah Johnson, Spelman College:** "Liberation on the Brinks: A Comparative Study on the Goals and Achievements of the Cuban Revolution, the Civil Rights, and Black Power Movements in the United States"

**\*\*Jarvis McInnis, Tougaloo College:** "A 'Long Black Song' in Verse"

**Ebone McFarland, Hampton University:** "Deconstructing Blackness: Analyzing the Characterization of the Black Middle Class Construct in Sarah Phillips by Andrea Lee"

**\*\*Jameliah Shorter, Paine College:** "Our Mothers' Gardens"

**Adam E. Smith, Tougaloo College:** "Traditional Sub-Saharan African Music: An Investigation of Its Inherent Complexities through Theoretical and Mathematical Reasoning"

### 2007

**Essence Caleb, Johnson C. Smith University:** "Loving My Blackness: Racial Passing and the Dark Skin Perspective"

**\*\*Jessica Edwards, Spelman College:** "How Fiction Informs History: Women in the Modern Civil Rights Era (1954 - 1965)"

**\*\*Glenn Holtzman, University of Cape Town Langarm:** "The Social Dance and Music of the Coloured People of South Africa"

**\*\*Calista Kelly, Paine College:** "Looking at Black English and Its Use in the Historically Black Institution"

**Marcus McArthur, Morehouse College:** "The More Peculiar Institution"

**\*\*Brandy Thomas, Paine College:** "A Comparative, Exploratory Study of the Role and Place of African American Women in the Struggle for Civil Rights and South African Women in the Struggle against Apartheid"

### 2006

**Maurice Pogue, Tuskegee University:** "Sutpen the Half Human"

### 2004

**Brandon Geter, Tuskegee University:** "The Birth of *Soul* and the African American Vernacular Tradition"

**\*\*Kim Green, Claflin University:** "Bronze Muses: A Comparative Analysis of the Social Protest Poetry of Frances Ellen Watkins Harper and Sonia Sanchez"

**\*\*Derrick Spires, Tougaloo College:** "*Invisible Man*: The Quest for *His-story*"

**\*\*Kamauru Johnson, Morehouse College:** "Aristotelian Excellence in Three Plays?"

### 2003

**Tomiko Ballantyne-Nisbett, Spelman College:** "The Origins and Influence of Women's Organisations in Ghana"

**\*\*Sabine Cadeau, Xavier University:** "Jean Jacques Rousseau: Essentialist of Anti-essentialist"

## 2001

**\*\*Deidre Wheaton, Dillard University:** "Defying Definition and 'Creating Something Else To Be': A Critical Study of Selected Autobiographies by Women of Color"

## 2000

**\*\*LaRose Davis, Hampton University:** "'Spoken Like a Man': Voice and Power in *Agamemnon*"

**Ayana Free, Spelman College:** "A Lacanian analysis of Senghor's *Femme Noire*"

**Kenitra Hairston, Tougaloo College:** "The Manacles of Freedom: Theorizing Existentialism through Jean-Paul Sartre's *The Flies*"

**Jeffrey Jones, Paine College:** "Male and Female Perspective on Slave Life: Examining the Narratives of Frederick Douglas and Harriet Jacobs"

**\*\*Tanya Huelett, Spelman College:** "Instances of the Use of Obeah in Jamaican Slave Society"

**\*\*Michael Ralph, Morris Brown College:** "Education and Scribal Training in Ancient Kemet: A Philosophical and Philological Analysis"

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\*\* Fellows who have earned the Ph.D.



## SSRC - THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL- GRADUATE INITIATIVES PROGRAM

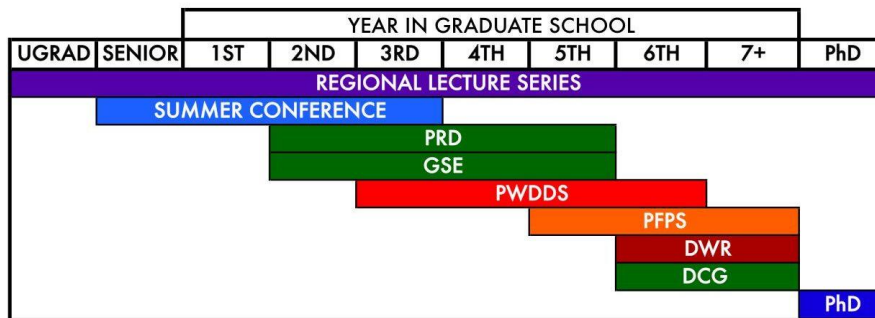
The SSRC-Mellon Mays Graduate Initiatives Program aims to address, over time, the problem of underrepresentation in the academy at the level of college and university faculties. Funded by grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the program provides support for scholars from all backgrounds with a demonstrated commitment to this goal. To date, over 700 fellows have received doctoral degrees and nearly 700 fellows are in Ph.D. programs.

The Graduate Initiatives Program builds upon the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program (MMUF) by supporting MMUF fellows from the early stages of graduate school to the post-Ph.D. years. **It is only open to Ph.D. students who were selected as Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows.** Fellows must enroll in doctoral programs within 39 months of receiving their undergraduate degrees, and they must be in one of the fields listed below.

For information on all programs administered by the SSRC, please visit their website at:

<http://www.ssrc.org/programs/mellon-mays-graduate-initiatives-program/>

### SSRC-MELLON MAYS GRADUATE INITIATIVES ELIGIBILITY TIMELINE



- RLS ..... Regional Lecture Series
- SC ..... Graduate Student Summer Conference
- PRD ..... Predoctoral Research Development Grant
- GSE ..... Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant
- PWDDS ..... Proposal Writing and Dissertation Development Seminar
- PFPS ..... Preparing for the Professoriate Seminar
- DWR ..... Dissertation Writing Retreat
- DCG ..... Dissertation Completion Grant
- PhD ..... Postdoctoral Fellows Retreat

#### MELLON MAYS REGIONAL LECTURE SERIES

In addition to supporting our fellows through various stages of the doctorate, the Mellon Mays Graduate Initiatives Program aspires to foster and strengthen relationships among all members of the Mellon Mays community. To that end, the Regional Lecture Series brings together undergraduates, graduate students, coordinators, and faculty in each region for intellectual engagement and

community-building. Each lecture allows a Mellon Ph.D. the opportunity to speak on their research or a current topic, and fellows and coordinators gather afterwards for a reception. To date, lectures have taken place in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, Boston, Los Angeles, Baltimore, and Atlanta.

#### **SSRC - MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM STUDENT SUMMER CONFERENCE**

The Summer Conference is the flagship component of the SSRC-Mellon Mays Graduate Initiatives Program. Targeted towards graduate students in years one through three, it provides a forum for skills exchange, cohort-building, and the development of professional proficiencies such as maximizing research resources.

- Open to graduating seniors accepted into a doctoral program and graduate students in years one through three
- Fellows may now attend as many times as they want during their period of eligibility
- Provides the tools and skills for managing the early years of graduate school
- Includes panel presentations of fellows' research, thematic workshops, presentations by senior scholars, and other activities that expose early-stage graduate students to a broad range of institutional and intellectual issues
- Advanced graduate student fellows and Mellon Ph.D.s serve as workshop leaders, panel discussants, and moderators

#### **MMUF PREDOCTORAL RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM**

The Graduate Initiatives Program offers three predoctoral grant opportunities: the Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant (GSE), the Predoctoral Research Development Grant (PRD), and the Dissertation Completion Grant (DCG). **These grants are only open to Ph.D. students who were selected as Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows.**

Applications for the **Predocctoral Research Grants** are open from **May 1 to November 1**. Click [here](#) to apply!

The following guidelines refer to all three predoctoral grant opportunities:

- Fellows may apply for one grant per year
- Applicants must be Mellon fellows enrolled in a doctoral program in an [eligible field of study](#)
- Each fellow may receive a maximum of \$5,000 in GSE and PRD funds; DCG funds do not apply toward this total
- The grants cannot be used for tuition and fees or living expenses
- Grants are disbursed on a first-come, first-served basis
- Accepted applications may take five to six weeks to process
- August 1 is considered the start of the academic year

#### **Graduate Studies Enhancement (GSE) Grant**

- Fellows must be in their second to fifth years of graduate school; students at South African universities are eligible to apply in the first year of their Master's programs
- Fellows that have begun the sixth year of graduate study are not eligible
- Available for up to \$1,500 per academic year
- May be received up to four times
- Funds travel, equipment, books, journal subscriptions, and software

### **Predoctoral Research Development (PRD) Grant**

- Fellows must be in their second to fifth years of graduate school; students at South African universities are eligible to apply in the first year of their Master's programs
- Fellows that have begun the sixth year of graduate study are not eligible
- Available for up to \$3,000 once during a fellow's graduate school career
- Funds small-scale, preliminary research and other activities
- Requires a letter of support from an adviser or committee member

### **Dissertation Completion Grant (DCG)**

- Fellows must be in their seventh year or beyond and must provide a feasible timeline for completion of the dissertation within 12 months
- Available for up to \$2,500 once during a fellow's graduate school career
- Funds travel, equipment, books, journal subscriptions, and software that support the completion of the dissertation
- Requires a summary report six months after receipt of the grant
- A competitive award based on the feasibility of timely completion
- Fellows may not have participated in the Preparing for the Professoriate Seminar

## UNCF/MELLON PROGRAMS LOAN REPAYMENT

MMUF Fellows entering PhD programs in Mellon Designated Fields within 39 months of graduation from their undergraduate institution are eligible for repayment of their undergraduate loans up to a maximum of \$10,000. MFAs **may be** eligible for up to \$5,000 in loan repayment. In order to qualify, an MFA program must be research-based or theoretical as opposed to performance-based (i.e., leading to a faculty career rather than a performing career). Only undergraduate debt accrued through Perkins, Stafford, or college loan programs qualify for repayment.

### CONDITIONS OF LOAN REPAYMENT (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY):

Fellows in the UNCF/Mellon Undergraduate Fellowship Program are eligible to have repaid **up to \$10,000.00** of their undergraduate educational loans under the following conditions:

- **The fellow is pursuing full-time graduate work toward the Ph.D. degree in one of the following fields:**  
*Anthropology and Archaeology, Area/Cultural/Ethnic/Gender Studies, Art History, Classics, Geography and Population Studies, English, Film, Cinema and Media Studies (**theoretical focus**), Musicology, Ethnomusicology and Music Theory, Foreign Languages and Literatures, History, Linguistics, Literature, Performance Studies (**theoretical focus**), Philosophy and Political Theory, Religion and Theology, Sociology, Theater (**theoretical focus**), Interdisciplinary Studies: **Interdisciplinary areas of study may be eligible if they have one or more eligible fields at their core***
- **The fellow must enter graduate school no later than 39 months after receiving the undergraduate degree.**

For fellows who fulfill the above conditions, the Mellon Foundation, through the UNCF/Mellon Undergraduate Fellowship Program, will repay one-eighth of their total undergraduate loan indebtedness (up to a maximum of \$1,250.00 per year) for each of the first four years of graduate study toward the Ph.D.) The remaining balance of their undergraduate loan indebtedness (up to \$5,000.00 will be repaid after the receipt of the Ph.D., which should be completed within six years from the start of graduate school.)

\*As of 2002, as an enhancement to the MMUF Program, loan repayment has been approved for **graduate students who have completed the Ph.D.** who have not used the loan repayment allocation to repay undergraduate loans, but who have taken out designated educational loans from recognized lenders for graduate study. A letter from your dissertation committee chair, confirming completion of the Ph.D. is required. Please also complete the attached Loan Repayment Agreement form, and submit with the letter of confirmation.

### PROCEDURES FOR LOAN REPAYMENT

At the end of each of the first four years of graduate study, fellows must request a **transcript showing full-time graduate study** and a **confirmation from their graduate department** that normal progress is being made toward the Ph.D. degree. At the same time, fellows should **alert the lender of the loan that a check will be awarded** through the Mellon Foundation Grant to reduce their indebtedness. They should **request a statement of their total loan indebtedness from the lender** of the loan so that a check can be issued.

Fellows must send the following to the UNCF/Mellon Programs Office:

- The loan repayment agreement form (attached)
- The transcript showing full-time graduate study
- The letter from their graduate department confirming satisfactory progress
- The statement of total loan indebtedness from the lender (with name and address of the lender)
- **The lender** must complete a UNCF Vendor Information Form and W9 which should then be faxed to the Programs Office. Please contact the Programs Office for a copy of these forms.

A check will be sent from the Program Account directly to the holder of the loan. A receipt in the form of a reissued statement of the account will be then sent to the fellow for his or her own records. If a fellow borrowed from both Stafford/GSL and Perkins/NDSL programs, it is to the fellow's advantage to choose to repay the Stafford/GSL loan first because of the higher interest.

After receipt of the Ph.D., proof of a valid degree is required to release the remainder of the available funds. Again, fellows must provide the name and address of the holder of the loan to be repaid and a statement of its current status.

If a student has undergraduate debt totaling less than \$10,000, the remaining loan repayment funds may be used to repay graduate students loans. Graduate students loans may only be repaid upon completion of the PhD. The total amount of loan repayment funds will not exceed \$10,000 and may only be used toward designated educational loans from recognized lenders for graduate study.

## LOAN REPAYMENT AGREEMENT

I have read the terms of the Loan Repayment, and I agree to the terms of the loan repayment plan as outlined in the **Terms of Loan Repayment for Fellows in the UNCF/Mellon Undergraduate Fellowship Program**.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SS#: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe below your plans for the academic year:

**\*\*PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN SUBMITTING THE OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS\*\***

## THE MMUF ONLINE SURVEY

You received the MMUF Profile Form with your award letter. You were asked to complete this form, and return it to the Programs Office. This form is kept on file in the Programs Office. However, you must also complete the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's on-line profile form. The Programs Office sends the names and e-mail addresses of all UNCF/Mellon Fellows to the Mellon Foundation. Fellows will then receive an email from the Mellon Foundation with their user ID, password, and instructions for completing the online Profile Form. **All new fellows must complete and submit the Profile Form in order to become an official member of the MMUF program.** Continuing students in the program will receive an email reminder each year with instructions for completing the online Annual Update Form. **It is required that all participants in the MMUF program complete and submit an annual online survey to the Mellon Foundation. The Annual Update Form is required of all students, regardless of whether they pursue graduate school.** For statistical and assessment purposes, it is imperative that the Foundation keeps ongoing records of all students in the program. The web address for the online survey is <https://www.mmuf.org/survey>.

**IT IS CRUCIAL THAT YOU COMPLETE THE ON-LINE SURVEY FORM. IF YOU DO NOT, YOU WILL NOT BE RECOGNIZED AS AN MMUF FELLOW!**

Please do not accidentally delete the e-mail from the Foundation! For those of you who have filters on your e-mail accounts that will automatically place e-mails from unknown sources in a "Junk E-mail Inbox," please look carefully through your junk e-mail for the e-mail from the Foundation.



### Checklist!

Have you....

Yes       No      Completed the MMUF Online Survey?



### Please note!

Each academic year, you will be required to complete an Annual Update for the Mellon Foundation.

You will receive an e-mail from the Foundation reminding you to do so.

## TRANSCRIPTS

At the **end of each semester (every December and every May)**, once your final grades for that semester have been recorded on your transcript, please be sure to send a copy (official or unofficial) to the Programs Office.



### Checklist!

Have you....

- Yes       No    Sent a copy of your transcript to the Programs Office?



## ANNUAL REPORTS (JUNIOR FELLOWS)

At the **end of your Junior year** in the Program (every May), you and your mentor are required to submit the following information to the Programs Office so that we can follow your progress as you advance through the Program.

- **Mentor's Statement (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE MENTOR):** A brief statement from the mentor that might include, among other things, a description of the activities that you and your fellow shared, the nature of your mentoring arrangement, successes and problems, and suggestions for future mentors
- **Fellow's Statement (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE FELLOW):** A brief statement from the Fellow describing the mentor-fellow relationship
- **Transcript:** Your most recent transcript, official or unofficial
- **Research Narrative:** An update on the progress of your research or your research paper as it is at this point.



### Checklist!

Have you...

- |                              |                             |  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Completed and submitted your Fellow's Statement? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Completed and submitted your Transcript          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Submitted your Research Narrative?               |

Has your...

- |                              |                             |  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Mentor Completed and submitted his/her Mentor's Statement? |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|

## ANNUAL REPORTS (SENIOR FELLOWS)

At the end of your Senior year in the Program (every May), you and your mentor are required to submit the following information to the Programs Office.

- **Mentor's Statement (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE MENTOR):** A brief statement from the mentor that might include, among other things, a description of the activities that you and your fellow shared, the nature of your mentoring arrangement, successes and problems, and suggestions for future mentors
- **Fellow's Statement (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE FELLOW):** A brief statement from the Fellow describing the mentor-fellow relationship
- **Transcript:** Your most recent transcript, official or unofficial
- **Research:** Your completed research paper



### Checklist!

Have you...

- |                              |                             |  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Completed and submitted your Fellow's Statement? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Completed and submitted your Transcript          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Completed and submitted your Research Paper      |

Has your...

- |                              |                             |  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Mentor Completed and submitted his/her Mentor's Statement? |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|

### Post-baccalaureate Plans

- |                              |                             |  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Have you informed the Programs Office about your plans following graduation? |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|

If you are continuing to graduate school, please let us know which institution you plan on attending, what degree you are pursuing and in what field. If you are taking time off to work, please let us know where. Once you go on to graduate school, or even if you take time off to work before going on to graduate school, we need to know what you are doing, so that we can account for all of our Fellows!

## **A STATEMENT ABOUT STIPENDS AND TAXES**

Under the Internal Revenue Code, scholarship and fellowship income are generally included as gross income for federal income tax purposes. Therefore, you will be expected to pay taxes on your stipends. You will receive a 1099 form at the beginning of the calendar year. The UNCF/Mellon Programs office does not provide tax advice; you should consult your personal tax advisor with any questions or concerns.