MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

2012 APPLICATION

CANDIDACY INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION

Completed applications must be submitted no later than Monday, February 20, 2012, at noon.

INCOMPLETE AND/OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

Please complete all sections

THE MELLON MAYS PROGRAM

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program is designed to help increase diversity in doctoral programs in the humanities and selected social and natural sciences. Bowdoin is looking for future scholars with academic promise who will benefit from a rigorous intellectual program, faculty mentorship, and research opportunities that will lead to a doctoral degree and a career in academia.

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Students are required to apply during the second semester of their sophomore year. Applicants must have acquired a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0, and must be American citizens or have a Permanent Resident Visa Status in the United States. The Bowdoin Mellon program seeks students who:

- Possess intellectual and academic promise from traditionally marginalized groups (and non-minority candidates that have shown or demonstrated adequate interest in studies aimed at eliminating racial inequalities qualify for the support)
- Demonstrate abilities and potentials for successful graduate studies leading to a Ph.D. in one of the Mellon-designated fields in the humanities, or selected group of disciplines in the sciences and social sciences
- Plan careers in research and teaching at the college or university level
PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Prospective applicants are expected to fulfill the requirements stated below:

• Commitment to engage in research over the course of two years, and enrolling in a Ph.D. program in one of the Mellon-designated fields
• Enroll in two mandatory fast-paced, challenging, and exciting MMUF Summer Research Programs (usually held June/July)
• Participate in approximately eight two-hour mandatory semi-monthly seminar meetings and other MMUF programming designed to prepare students for doctoral study (i.e., peer review of the projects, group activities and community engagement, scholarly film reviews, workshops and lectures by renowned scholars, poets, and educators, which may occur outside of the semi-monthly seminar meeting schedule).
• Meet regularly and nurture a strong and meaningful relationship with a faculty mentor for the duration of the two-year fellowship
• Design and complete an independent research project in consultation with the faculty mentor. This project may be related to a senior honors thesis. Be prepared to discuss and present research findings during bi-weekly seminar
• Meet regularly with the program director and faculty advisory committee and be prepared to receive feedback and evaluation of overall academic performance at the end of each semester
• Co-author articles with faculty, where possible, and publish a full-length academic paper in the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Journal
• Be in residence at Bowdoin for the first semester in the program before undertaking any study abroad plans, which should not extend beyond one semester
• Attend at least two regional Mellon conferences and consider presenting at one of the conferences
• Actively apply to the Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers, which supports and provides assistance with graduate school preparation
• Actively participate in the recruitment of next year’s cohort of Mellon Mays Fellows
• Maintain regular contact with the MMUF program office and adhere to program rules and regulations
• Successfully complete undergraduate education at Bowdoin College
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2012 APPLICATION FORM

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: (last) ________________________________ (first) ________________________________

Birth Date: ________ / ________ / ________

Gender: □ Male □ Female

Permanent Address (number and street): _______________________________________________________

(city) __________________________________________ (state or country) _______________ (ZIP) ________

Permanent Phone: _____________________ E-mail Address: ________________________________

Status in U.S. (required for eligibility) □ Citizen □ Resident Alien

Identify your race/ethnicity (please check all that apply):

□ African-American/Black □ Afro-Caribbean
□ Chicano, Mexican-American □ African
□ Puerto Rican □ Hispanic, Latino, Latino-American
□ White/Caucasian (non-Hispanic, Latino) □ Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander
□ Asian/Asian-American (please specify):____________________________________________________
□ Native American, Alaskan Native (please specify): ________________________________
□ Other (please specify) ________________________________________________________________

PARENT INFORMATION

Identify the race/ethnicity (using the criterion above):

Mother ________________________________ Father ________________________________

Level of education obtained:

Mother ________________________________ Father ________________________________

Employment status:

Mother ________________________________ Father ________________________________
**BOWDOIN CONTACT INFORMATION**

Student Union Number: _______ Preferred E-mail: ____________________________________________

Campus/Local Address: _________________________________________________________________

(city) __________________________________________ (state or country) __________ (ZIP) _______

Campus/Local Phone: ___________________________ Cell Phone: _____________________________

**ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

In spring 2011, will you have second-semester sophomore status?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Expected date to obtain your bachelor’s degree: __________________________

Major GPA: _______ Cumulative GPA: _______ Term credits: _______ Total credits completed: _______

Intended Majors/Minor: ___________________________________ / ___________________________

**PLEASE LIST ANY HONORS, PROJECTS, AWARDS, OR NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS AT BOWDOIN**

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**PLEASE LIST ANY EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, VOLUNTEER WORK, OR COMMUNITY SERVICE AT BOWDOIN**

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**MENTOR INFORMATION**

Name: ___________________________________ Department: ________________________________

Campus Phone: ______________________ E-mail: ___________________________________________

Reason for selecting this faculty mentor: __________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

Proposed research project with faculty mentor: ____________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________
FACULTY INFORMATION

Name: ________________________________  Department: ________________________________

Campus Phone: _____________________  E-mail: _______________________________________

Reason for selecting this professor as a recommender: _______________________________________

PLANS FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

Specify preferred field of graduate study: ________________________________________________

The preferred field of graduate study must be consistent with the Mellon-designated field of studies. Check your field of study.

- Anthropology/Sociology/Demography/Area Studies/Political Theory

- English/Literature/Classics/Ethnomusicology/Musicology/Foreign Languages/History/Art History/Philosophy/Religion

- Mathematics/Physics/Computer Science/Earth Science/Geology/Ecology

Waiver

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation monitors the progress of the students they are funding in order to determine the
effects of the fellowship. The Profile Form you have completed with your personal and family background serves this
purpose, though the Foundation may request additional information. Any reporting of the data by the Mellon Foundation
will not refer to specific individuals. Please indicate, by checking below, that you will provide any additional requested
information and that Bowdoin College reserves the right to release information about you from its records to the Andrew
W. Mellon Foundation.

- I agree to provide any additional information requested of me and I understand that Bowdoin College
reserves the right to release my information to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

I wish to be considered for a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship because I am interested in pursuing a doctoral degree
in a Mellon Mays designated field. By signing below I affirm that all statements contained in this application are complete
and correct, and that I have read and understand the program policy and agree to comply with the goals and
expectations of the Mellon Program.

Print name: ___________________________  Signature: ________________________________  Date: ________
MMUF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (required)

A complete application packet will contain an original and one copy of the following materials. E-mail or fax copies will not be accepted UNLESS the applicant is applying while studying abroad during the spring semester.

Application and supporting materials should be addressed to the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program and delivered (by noon, February 20, 2012) to:

Anne Clifford, Program Administrator
Boody-Johnson House, Room 113
256 Maine Street
Brunswick, ME 04011

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
Typed double-spaced (and must not exceed three pages): The candidate explains how life experiences and encounters have shaped his/her personal and intellectual development. In addition, the candidate is expected to clearly articulate those minute details going into the development of one’s entire worldview.

The following pointed questions are likely to help in developing thoughts on the statement of the purpose:

- In what ways have my intellectual achievements and aspirations qualified me to enter and take the fullest advantage offered by the Mellon Mays fellowship?
- Why am I attracted to my chosen major field of study? In particular, what issues, questions, and themes seem so easily to attract and sustain my intellectual curiosity and why?
- What basic or fundamental career factors must exist in any college in order to attract my interest? How will a Ph.D. help me advance my career and achieve my ultimate goals in life?

RESEARCH PROPOSAL
Typed double-spaced proposal that must not exceed two pages. Propose a research theme that will guide your work, if selected as a Mellon Fellow. What are the initial factors that prompted your interest in this research, and how and why? Include a highlight of any coursework or independent study relating to the research theme that you are proposing. Regarding the first MMUF Summer Research Training Program (summer after the sophomore year), include a single-page, preliminary annotated bibliography. The proposal should also include the name of the professor who has agreed to serve as your faculty mentor and the reasons you selected that mentor.

MENTOR STATEMENT
The statement should be written by the person who will serve as your mentor. The mentor’s area of research should complement the area of interest you have identified in your statement. Please note: Every applicant is encouraged to share his/her research proposal with the faculty mentor for critical feedback and to provide the mentor the best possible sense of his/her academic goals.
LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION
Each applicant should select someone who can discuss his/her potential for a career in one of the Mellon designated areas of study. The recommendation letter should seek to address the following points about the applicant:

- Potential to engage in, and to benefit from, a rigorous and competitive academic program
- Scope of personal flexibility or pre-disposition to acquire new knowledge and utilize fresh information
- Personal creativity in regard to the use of language in expressing strongly held convictions—clearly and persuasively in writing and verbally
- Leadership potentials and ability to work collaboratively with peers in challenging classroom and other diverse learning environments
- Social adjustment and sense of community service, social justice
- General work ethic, suggesting promise to complete an academic program within stipulated time

COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT
This can be official (from the Registrar) or unofficial (printed off Bearings).

WRITING SAMPLE
Submit a graded paper, preferably with comments from the professor, that you feel represents your strongest college-level work (10 pages maximum).

SPRING 2011 ACADEMIC SEMESTER SCHEDULE

PLAN OF STUDY THROUGH SENIOR YEAR (optional)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE
You will receive an e-mail notification that confirms receipt of this application and will be notified formally if you have been selected for an interview with the selection committee. Questions about the program may be directed to the program director, Rosemary Effiom reffiom@bowdoin.edu or program administrator, Anne Clifford acliffor@bowdoin.edu. Applicants are also encouraged to seek advice from the Mellon Mays Faculty Advisory Committee members Charles Dorn cdorn@bowdoin.edu, Enrique Yepes Eyepes@bowdoin.edu, H. Roy Partridge hpartrid@bowdoin.edu, and Mary Lou Zeeman mlzeeman@bowdoin.edu via e-mail.

We appreciate your interest in the Bowdoin MMUF Program.