2018 Announcement

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Anne Firor Scott Research Award

"Teaching is not principally a matter of imparting information, but at its best is a way of encouraging students to think about their own thoughts, ask their own questions, and find out how to look for answers to those questions."

– Anne Firor Scott

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The Award

Under the leadership of Dara DeHaven (T’73, G’74, L’80), numerous former students and friends joined together to create an endowment honoring one of Duke’s most committed teachers and renowned scholars. Dr. Scott is W. K. Boyd Professor Emeritus of History at Duke, where she taught from 1961 to 1991. She was a pioneer in the expanding field of women’s history, and she has served as president of the Southern Historical Association and the Organization of American Historians. Throughout her career, she has encouraged the idea that the best way to learn the historical craft is to work with primary sources. The award created in Dr. Scott’s honor helps students engaged in research in women’s history to spend time in archives and resource centers where they can make thorough use of original historical materials.

These are one-time awards for graduate students working on seminar projects or dissertations on any aspect of women’s history, and undergraduates who plan to take the History Senior Honors Seminar. The award may be used for travel, living expenses, direct costs incurred in collecting and analyzing information, or as a means of recognizing outstanding research work. Winners will be asked to report on the use of these funds and their work. Undergraduate and graduate student projects will be evaluated separately. Recent graduates may also be considered.

Student Initiated Projects: Students, graduate or undergraduate, who have a well-defined research project that they wish to pursue on their own are encouraged to apply for this award to conduct independent research. Applicants should include the name of a faculty member who can be contacted as a reference.

Student/Faculty Initiated Projects: Undergraduates with an interest in graduate school in the social sciences or humanities and graduate students seeking to work in close collaboration with a faculty mentor are encouraged to apply for this award. The student will work with a faculty member in a faculty-initiated project for the year. The award recognizes that some students have not developed a research project and invites them to participate in a faculty member’s work, while recognizing the distinct contribution that the student makes to the overall research endeavor. Applicants should provide a detailed letter from the faculty mentor that describes the overall research project of which the student’s work will be a part, as well as an assessment of the student’s abilities to contribute to the project.

Application Procedure

The application consists of the following including the completed application form: 1) a proposal of 2-3 pages addressed to the Anne Scott Award Committee and 2) current curriculum vitae or resume. The proposal should describe the student’s overall project or the specific resource materials for study, as well as the reasons undertaking the project; the status of work already in process; a budget for requested funds; and explanation of other funds available to the student.

Deadline

Applications are due by noon on Friday, March 30, 2018 to Carla Ivey at carla.ivey@duke.edu. The Scott Award is administered by the Duke History Department and Women’s Studies. A faculty committee from the two departments will select the winners of the award. Applicants will be notified by mail the week of April 09, 2018. Winners will report on the use of these funds and their work by Friday, September 7, 2018.