CALL FOR FELLOWS
Center for 21st Century Studies

Application Deadline: Thursday, December 12 at 4:30 pm

Background: The Center for 21st Century Studies, (C21), one of the oldest humanities institutes in the US, leads the way in imagining, defining, and creating the multidisciplinary field of 21st century studies. A UW System Center of Excellence, C21 focuses on the intersection of the humanities, arts, and sciences (social and natural) with issues of compelling concern, organizing its research and public programs around themes that change periodically. Nationally and internationally known scholars are brought to campus to address the topic of the year’s research in seminars, lectures, and conferences. Each year the Center constitutes a group of six to eight UWM fellows, as well as two or three external fellows, whose research interests relate to the theme and contribute to C21’s mission to imagine, define, and create the emergent field of 21st century studies.

Research Topic for 2014-15: Humanities Futures

For 2014-15, scholars from the humanities, arts and sciences will join the Center for 21st Century Studies (C21) in addressing the theme, Humanities Futures. This theme is designed to complement UWM’s Year of the Humanities.

In choosing to focus on Humanities Futures for 2014-15, the Center for 21st Century Studies calls for research projects that address Humanities Futures through their innovative use of methodologies and their definition of new research problems. In this sense we mean also to play on the financial meaning of futures as risk or speculation, in that we are especially interested in projects that take chances, that invest intellectual and scholarly resources into areas of study and methodologies that may be untried or experimental. We seek as well projects that imagine or demonstrate a variety of possible futures for the humanities, including but not limited to its engagement with new forms of digital media.

We imagine proposals that address Humanities Futures in relation to:

- The creation and imagination of the future throughout the history of humanistic inquiry, the ways in which the humanities has always been engaged with the future as well as the past

- The appropriation and interrogation of non-humanistic disciplines—e.g., natural and social sciences, arts, engineering, computing—with the scholarly, critical, and analytical tools and methods of inquiry that have marked the humanities for centuries
• Applications of non-humanistic tools and methodologies to areas of research traditionally falling under the rubric of the humanities—literature, philosophy, art, music, language, history, and culture—including but not limited to the digital humanities

• Expansions of the humanities beyond the academy itself, into the public humanities, which aim to bring the traditions of humanities research and scholarship to bear upon real-world problems

• Inquiries about where the future of the humanities lies, and projections about where the humanities should go.

Terms/Eligibility of Faculty for Fellowships: UWM faculty in all departments who hold the rank of assistant, associate, or full professor may apply. Faculty Fellows receive a reduction in their teaching responsibilities sufficient to bring their course load down to one course each semester, as well as being relieved from major committee work. The Center provides each fellow with access to office space on the ninth floor of Curtin Hall and with research assistance (library assistance, duplication, etc.) as resources permit. Each fellow is expected to participate in the Center fellows’ seminar and public programs throughout the year, and to give a public presentation on his or her research no later than the academic year following the fellowship. No one may hold a Center fellowship more than twice in a five-year period. Faculty involved in substantive projects outside of teaching, such as organizing conferences, which will require substantial time away from their research in 2014-2015 are eligible to apply, but must disclose such commitments on the application form.

Terms/Eligibility of Academic Staff for Fellowships: UWM academic staff in all departments may apply. C21 will work with academic staff on a case-by-case basis to provide compensation for participating in the seminar. The Center provides each fellow with access to office space on the ninth floor of Curtin Hall and with research assistance (library assistance, duplication, etc.) as resources permit. Each fellow is expected to participate in the Center fellows’ seminar and public programs throughout the year, and to give a public presentation on his or her research no later than the academic year following the fellowship. No one may hold a Center fellowship more than twice in a five-year period.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY: Master of Liberal Studies (MLS) Fellowship: An additional fellowship may be awarded to a member of the UWM graduate faculty who would offer a seminar related to the Center research theme within the MLS program. This seminar would be scheduled in the spring semester as part of the fellow’s customary reduced teaching load. In addition to the standard Center fellowship application, interested faculty are asked to submit a one-page description of the proposed seminar. Submission of an MLS course proposal is not required as part of the standard application and will not necessarily increase a candidate’s chances of being selected as a fellow. Award of this fellowship is contingent upon acceptance by both the Center and the Master of Liberal Studies program. Applicants for the MLS Fellowship should submit a one-page description of a proposed seminar.

Procedures: Submit a pdf including the following components as an email attachment to c21@uwm.edu

• an application cover sheet (available online at
http://www4.uwm.edu/c21/pages/opportunities/forFaculty.html

• a three- to four-page statement (maximum 1000 words) describing your research project and its relation to the Center’s current theme. Explain how it fits into your past research (if applicable) and future plans for research.
• a curriculum vitae
• two hard copies (or a single electronic one) of a recent offprint, manuscript (article length), or example of artwork

You are responsible for informing the chair of your department (or appropriate supervisor) that you are applying for a 2014-15 Center fellowship to insure that your full participation as a C21 Fellow will be supported by your department.