

WFF Seed Grants

The Yale Women Faculty Forum is pleased to announce our first round of seed grants. We offer these grants to identify innovative ways to support the WFF mission by investing in the diverse work of faculty and student scholars at Yale. We extend this program to support our tripartite mission of fostering gender equity throughout the University via policy initiatives and research; promoting scholarship on women and gender across the university; and promoting mentorship, collaboration, and networking. We aim to expand research in areas of gender study and build visibility for issues and policies relating to gender in higher education.

While any project related to the goals and mission of the WFF is eligible, we will give preference to work that engages our theme of “representation and appropriation.” In the last few years, we have seen a campus-wide debate about ideas of “representation” in all its facets, from the way in which campus iconography reflects (or does not reflect) the contemporary student and faculty body as well as how faculty and students represent Yale to the world, to how communities in the US respond and react to representations of violence, misogyny, and racism in media and government. There has been robust, public debate about these issues. Significant too, in this moment particularly, are the ways in which representation changes depending on the contexts of its adoption, creation, or delivery. While we focus on representation, the dynamics of appropriation, ally-ship, assimilation, and performance of identities are also important. The different ways in which diverse members of a community take on and spread ideas are at the core of addressing disparity, power, and struggle in higher education. Our theme this year is produced in response to and in reflection with those voices, disciplines, and movements that have insisted that any “representation” is powerfully differentiated, depending on who presents it, and how, or when.

Eligibility: Faculty, postdoctoral, graduate, and undergraduate scholars at Yale University are eligible to apply. We will give preference to seed grants leading to other projects and to applicants without access to other sources of funding. We welcome projects in all disciplines, without restrictions on methodologies or formats.

Criteria for Review: Applications will be reviewed by committee and selected according to the following criteria:

1. Relevance to WFF mission and theme;
2. Productive distribution of grant funds, with preference for projects where WFF funds will make it possible to complete work that would otherwise be difficult;
3. Quality and originality of the proposal.

Grantees commit to presenting their work at a WFF workshop on May 2nd, 2018.

Amounts: We expect to award up to 15 grants over the year, in amounts ranging from \$200-\$2000.

Allowable Expenses: We make no explicit exclusions to legitimate research expenses. Please keep in mind, however, that funding is extremely limited and we will privilege

applications where WFF seed funds will have significant impact. Researchers are expected to comply with university policies regarding human research participants and acceptable research expenses.

Deadlines and Notification: We have five target application cycles throughout the year with the following deadlines: October 1, 2017; November 1, 2017; December 1, 2017; February 1, 2018; and April 1, 2018. Applicants will normally be notified of award status within two weeks following each deadline. Applications submitted for each cycle will be kept on file and may be considered in successive rounds; you need only apply once within each academic year.

Application Procedure: Please include the following items in your application.

1. Cover Sheet: Please complete attached application template.
2. Project Description: Provide a maximum of one-page description of your project. Please outline the aims, scope, methods, work accomplished to date, and how the project relates to the goals and mission of WFF (also, if applicable, to our 2017-18 theme of “representation and appropriation”).
3. Project Abstract: Provide a short abstract about your project and its relationship to the WFF mission (150-200 words). Grant recipients’ abstracts will be recognized on the WFF website.
4. Budget: Present the distribution of your requested amount, itemizing expenses. Please indicate what other sources of support you have or for which there are applications pending.
5. CV or Resume.

Applications should be emailed to wff@yale.edu with the subject line “Seed Grant Application.”

In-office Consultation: The WFF staff is available to advise applicants in preparing their project descriptions. Please email wff@yale.edu to make an appointment.