Smathers Libraries
Undergraduate Fellowship &
Graduate Internship Programs
Smathers Undergraduate Fellowship Program

**Purpose:** The Smathers Libraries Undergraduate Student Fellowship is designed to connect current Smathers student employees with opportunities to learn more about the work of academic libraries while enhancing their personal skills, knowledge and abilities. This new undergraduate fellowship program has been created to offer opportunities to expose students, including those from under-represented groups, to career opportunities in academic and research libraries - with the goal of contributing to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. The paid fellowships provide experiential learning opportunities which take place within library units and are individualized to reflect the interests and aspirations of the awardee student. This is a student-centered, interest and aspiration-driven program. It transforms the library into a career laboratory and professional learning space, and maximizes benefits for students. The program expects that the fellowships will take students outside of their current work area.
Awards & Eligibility

**Awards:** One fellowship will be awarded in 2021. The award is for 8 weeks in the summer (20 hours/week) or 16 weeks if during the fall/spring semester (10 hours/week) at $15/hour.

**Student Eligibility:** Awards will be made to UF undergraduate students who must be actively employed in a unit in the Libraries and in good standing in their academic program, or graduating the semester prior to their fellowship. They must possess the requisite skills, knowledge, and abilities to successfully undertake the specific fellowship plan. They must be eligible to work within the parameters of the award as described above, and must have submitted a completed application for the fellowship prior to the posted close date.
Nominate a current student worker in the Libraries; Nominations due April 1

Library personnel submitting nominations should work closely with the student worker:

• Cover sheet (provided)

• Statement of interest by the student: discuss their experience in libraries or elsewhere, their career aspirations, how this fellowship could further their goals, and their experience or interest in furthering diversity, equity, and inclusion (750-1,000 words)

• Reference letter of support by the nominator (1-2 pages)
Review of Nominations

- The Internship Committee and the Co-Chairs of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) Committee will review all nominations and provide a recommendation to the Dean of University Libraries.
  - The Dean will ultimately determine if the fellowship is approved.
  - Notification of awards will take place in April/May.
Fellowship Plan

• Representatives of the Committee will engage with the nominator, the awardee and the Chair of the host department. Through these discussions, the team will determine the core interests of the awardee and discuss possible opportunities in the Libraries and arrive at the fellowship plan. The team will also determine the Fellowship Director and named support team for the Fellow.

• The fellowship plan will be oriented to the Fellow’s success, and includes the elements listed at the end of this document.
Fellowship Plan, 1 of 2

Abstract: 150-300 words

Fellowship Plan Overview/Description: 2 Pages. Describe the fellow’s experiences, activities and responsibilities addressing each of the following:

• Learning Objectives
• Deliverables, in terms of accomplishments and/or skill attainment and experiential learning by the Fellow
• Activities, learning-centric, interest and aspiration-driven for the Fellow
• Any additional academic evaluation elements including course credit, etc.
• Please include notes on flexibility, with the understanding that new opportunities will arise that may be a best fit for the student experience

Benefits/Broader Impacts to the Fellow

• Explain the benefits to the Fellow.

Roles of the Fellowship Director and team members

• Explain the roles of the Fellowship Director and team members. Roles may include support from the DEIJ Committee and DEI Librarian. Please include the expected time commitment for the library faculty/staff member.
Fellowship Plan, 2 of 2

Plan of Activities for the Semester. 1 page.

• Presentation by the Fellow, reflecting on academic and professional outcomes.
• Appropriate opportunities for Fellows, which may include attending a presentation on jobs in academic libraries, Curator Talks, and others as appropriate.
• Meetings with relevant groups, as with the DEIJ Committee and DEI Librarian
• Opportunities for regular assessment and feedback for the Fellow. Examples:
  • The Fellowship Director and Fellow will meet weekly for assessment.
  • The Fellow will assess benefits in their semester report.
  • The Fellowship Director will assess and document learning outcomes in their semester report.
• Note if the student will utilize the fellowship to satisfy an academic requirement in their program (e.g., internship, fieldwork requirements, or other for financial aid implications).

Resources and Impacts

• Notes if the Fellowship will be undertaken as remote work; any resources needed and committed to complete the fellowship (e.g., equipment, supplies, travel, space, & VPN, other); any impacts on other departments (e.g., Facilities, Library IT, Preservation, Cataloging, HR/Training, other)
Program to Date

• Pre-history
  • Smathers Graduate Internship Program success led to new questions/opportunities for growing support for undergraduates

• Fall 2019:
  • Two students nominated

• Spring 2020:
  • Two students awarded for spring 2020 (Social Media and HSCL)
  • Both students started on campus, and finished remote with the pandemic

• Fall 2020:
  • Program award cycle delayed with pandemic

• Spring 2021:
  • Open for second award cycle; nominations due April 1
Libraries Graduate Student Internship Program

Designed to maximize benefits for graduate students, libraries, and teaching department collaborators.
UF Libraries Graduate Student Internship Program
Newspapers capture the day-to-day life of communities and their people. They provide a unique window into the past. Until recently, libraries and archives only kept original copies of newspapers or reproductions on microfilm, which required researchers to travel to use collections. Today, the George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida and the Library of Puerto Rico are engaged in a collaborative newspaper digitization project to provide permanent, free access to historic newspapers published in the United States and its territories between 1690 and 1922. The goals of this project are to encourage more widespread use of historical newspapers. Outreach efforts associated with the project have resulted in classroom presentations, poster sessions at conferences, and collaborations on museum exhibits.
UF Libraries Graduate Student Internship Program

Students in IDH 3931: Exploring 3D with Building, Modeling, and Printing, taught by librarian Dr. Sara Gonzalez, built this Jellybox 3D Printer from scratch.
UF Libraries Graduate Student Internship Program
UF Libraries Graduate Student Internship Program
UF Libraries Graduate Student Internship Program

- Innovative Library Technologies
- Visual Anthropology
- Florida and Puerto Rico Newspaper Project
- Bioinformatics
- Science Fiction Portal
- Exhibit on Black Education in Florida
- Architecture Archives
- Online Exhibitions
- Myers Briggs Collection Bibliography
- Public Relations Campaign for Libraries
- Moveable and Toy Books
- Preservation, resources in Spanish & English
- Cuban Bibliography

- Digital and-as Public Humanities
- Library Publishing, Online Journals
- New Tech: 3D printing, Arduinos, Pis
- Data Management
- Government House, Archives
- Literary Manuscripts
- Collaborative Grant Seeking
- Assessment
- Digital Library of the Caribbean:
  - Digital Pedagogy
  - Digital Scholarship
  - Instructional Design
  - Children’s Literature
Hiring Process & Orientation

Process and key contacts in HR:

• Joe Piazza
• Cynthia Digby
Thank you!

Graduate Internship, Program information: https://committees.uflib.ufl.edu/committees/graduate-internship-program/

Awarded internships, with proposals: https://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00037247/00028

Slides: http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00037247/00030