

Mellema Program in Western American Studies Scholarship and Course Development Grants

Please submit applications via email to wkaterbe@calvin.edu as an MS Word document or PDF. If you have any questions about a project or about the application process, contact me. Research proposals and course development proposals are due by March 15, 2024, with awards being announced by mid-April.

SCHOLARSHIP

The Mellema Program in Western American Studies invites applications for research assistance grants on any subject in its area of coverage, namely the North American continent west of the Mississippi River. This may include Western Canada, Alaska, the Mexican-American border region, and interaction with peoples and societies along the Pacific Rim. Awards for research/travel expenses typically will be in the amount of up to \$3,500 in total, for research and travel expenses or library purchases. They are intended for well-defined research projects underway, not as startup grants for projects that are in the initial planning and defining stages.

The Mellema Program also is interested in promoting student scholarship. Applications that involve a student researcher can receive larger awards, to support payment for student work.

Although it is housed in the Historical Studies Department, the Mellema Program supports work in any relevant discipline or interdisciplinary domain—including but not limited to literature, geography, geology, popular culture, music, dance and the visual arts, political science, history, and religion. Any Calvin University faculty member is eligible for an award; preference will go towards those on a regular appointment. Proposals aimed at the completion of terminal degree requirements cannot be considered. **Proposals should include a 2-3 page statement of purpose and method, a CV, a budget, and a schedule for completion of the project.**

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

The Mellema Program invites applications for course-development grants. Grants are for the creation of a new course which focuses primarily on North American land, life, or experience west of the Mississippi River. This may include Western Canada, Alaska, and the Mexican-American borderland region. Such a course may be offered in a regular term or a summer intensive term and may come from within or across disciplines. Previous awards have gone to geology, history, literature, and religion. Preference will go to courses likely to be repeated on a regular basis. **Proposals should include a statement of course objectives, methods and areas of study, a tentative syllabus or course outline, and a budget.** Awards typically will be made in amounts up to \$2,500 in total, for research and travel expenses and pedagogical and library materials.