

Fr. Phillip A. Smith, O.P.
Student Fellowships for Study and Service Abroad
Instructions and Guidelines for Applicants
2018-2019



PROVIDENCE
COLLEGE

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DESCRIPTION OF THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Fr. Philip A. Smith, O.P. Student Fellowships for Study and Service Abroad are awarded on a competitive basis to rising juniors and seniors. The Fellowships enable students to undertake summer study or service at Catholic and Dominican sites outside the continental United States. The Fellowships cover travel, living, and incidental expenses. The Fellowships are made possible through the generosity of several members of the College's Board of Trustees, former and current, and several other donors.

Purpose

The Fellowships are designed to encourage highly motivated students to deepen their acquaintance with the Catholic and Dominican intellectual tradition and the ethos of Christian service, as well as introduce them to the breadth and richness of the universal Church. They are also intended to act as a leaven within the College community.

Criteria for Selection

Proposals from rising juniors and seniors are considered on the basis of: a) the aptness of the proposed course of study or service, given the purpose of the Fellowships; b) the demonstrated ability and readiness of the student to undertake what is proposed; and c) the feasibility and timeliness of the proposal. Although study and service undertaken as a Fellow may contribute to ongoing interests and scholarship, study or service for credit is excluded.

Timeline

Each year an announcement of the Fellowships is made in mid-September, to be followed by several informational meetings that take place in late September or early October. A letter of application, with a preliminary description of the proposed course of travel, study, or service, is due on the Friday before the Thanksgiving Break. This should be accompanied by a completed Application Form. After reviewing each letter of application, the Committee then communicates with each applicant about how to proceed with the drafting of the formal proposal, which is due the Friday following the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday in January. Fellows will be announced in early to mid-February.

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee consists of three persons: Fr. James Cuddy, O.P., Vice President of Mission and Ministry, Mr. Robert Pfunder '09, Associate Vice President of Mission and Ministry, and Ms. Heidi Fraitzl '14, Director of Smith Fellows and Campus Minister and a 2013 Smith Fellow, all appointed by Fr. James Cuddy, O.P. Consultants to the Selection Committee include Ms. Marifrances McGinn, Esq., College Legal Counsel and Ms. Gail Dyer, Esq., Associate Legal Counsel. Fr. Peter Martyr Yungwirth, O.P., College Chaplain and Director of Campus Ministry, serves as a *peritus* to the Selection Committee.

Expectations of Fellows

Fellows must be full-time undergraduates in good standing. Three letters of recommendation are required, which are to be submitted with the formal proposal in January, at least one of these letters must be from an ordinary member of the Providence College faculty. Fellows agree to give a presentation about their experience during the semester following their return.

Fellows will commit to and prioritize formation meetings with the Director and with the 2019 Smith Fellows throughout the spring semester. Unfortunately, this means students studying abroad during the spring 2019 semester are not able to apply for a Summer 2019 Fellowship.

Fr. Philip A. Smith, O.P.

Fr. Philip A. Smith, O.P. was the 11th President of Providence College (1994-2005). A native of Prince Edward Island, Canada, Fr. Smith graduated from Providence College and entered the Dominican Order in 1961. A philosopher by training and a specialist in bioethics, Fr. Smith also served as President of the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC; as a member of the Provincial Council of St. Joseph Province of the Dominican Friars; and as a delegate to the 1995 General Chapter of the Dominican Order in Caleruega, Spain. In gratitude for his many years of service to the Church, the Order, and to the students of Providence College, these Fellowships are named in his honor.

For additional information, please contact:

***Heidi E Fraitzl
Director of Smith Fellows and Campus Minister
Chaplains Office
St. Dominic Chapel Lower Level
hfraitzl@providence.edu
401-865-1944***

HOW TO APPLY

Applying for a Fellowship involves three steps:

Step 1 Letter of Application and Completed Application Form

The first stage in the application process is to submit a letter of application with a completed Application Form to Heidi Fraitzl the Director of Smith Fellows. The letter of application should include a preliminary a preliminary description of the proposed course of travel, a description of your proposed course of study or service, demonstrate an established communication with the potential host site, and your application should aim to answer the following questions:

1. What draws you to the location and ministry/course of study that you have chosen to pursue?
2. How do you hope to grow (spiritually, academically, professionally, etc.) as a result of this opportunity? What challenges might you encounter?
3. How do you see this fellowship as an answer to the Christian call to discipleship?
4. In what ways might your travel experience impact the Providence College community upon your return?

The Letter of Application should be no more than three to five pages on plain white paper with one-inch margins, 1.15 line spacing, single-sided, plus the Application Form.

The completed Application Form provides the Selection Committee with basic information about you, your interests, and contact information.

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018, 4:30 p.m.

Step 2 Communication with the Selection Committee

After reviewing your letter of application and completed Application Form, the Selection Committee will contact you about how to proceed. In most cases it will advise you about what you need to consider going forward, e.g., what additional information you need to gather and provide, who to contact regarding visa, legal, and financial matters, and how to begin thinking about your formal proposal. It will also invite you to meet with individual members of the Selection Committee or the Committee as a whole, and to effectively use the Committee as an ally to help you through the process of drafting and revising your proposal.

In some cases where your interests cannot be served by the Fellowship, or the letter of application and application form indicate that it would be best to defer, the Selection Committee will advise you not to proceed with the application process.

ONGOING: DECEMBER - JANUARY

Step 3 Drafting and Submitting a Proposal

The formal proposal is a comprehensive statement of your interests, proposed project, readiness and expectations, information about the site, contacts, supervisor(s), projected costs, and the like. It also includes three letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a member of the teaching faculty at Providence College. Although the Selection Committee will help you draft the proposal and advise you about what is necessary to include. Please note that this final and formal proposal answers the following questions:

1. What might a “day in the life” look like on site? Demonstrate your research on your proposed site and project.
2. What are the expectations of you as the volunteer or student?
3. What tangible steps will you take, before leaving the U.S., to learn more about your host community’s culture, needs and goals?
4. What are the proposed costs of your travel plans, including housing, meals, incidental expenses, medical requirements, visas and legal documentation/waivers? (This should be included in the appendix rather than narrative body of the proposal.)

For those pursuing service placements:

1. Have you thought critically about your impact on the community?
2. What is the relationship of Christian charity and solidarity, and how will you intentionally approach this immersion experience in a respectful and mutually beneficial way?

The written formal proposal should be from five to seven pages plus appendices. Line spacing should be 1.15, with no title page or binder.

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2019, 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE AND SUBMIT ALL DOCUMENTS TO:

***Heidi E. Fraitzl
Director of Smith Fellows and Campus Minister
Chaplains Office
St. Dominic Chapel Lower Level
hfraitzl@providence.edu
401-865-1944***

SELECTION PROCESS

Proposals will be judged on the basis of: a) the aptness of the proposed course of study or service, given the purpose of the Fellowships; b) the demonstrated ability and readiness of the student to undertake what is proposed; and c) the feasibility and timeliness of the proposal.

The Selection Committee will review all proposals and rank them in order of perceived merit. The number of Fellows that can be sponsored in a given summer will vary according to the availability of funds, with the usual maximum number of Fellowships awarded being ten.

Note that although study and service undertaken as a Fellow may contribute to ongoing interests and scholarship, study or service for credit at this time is excluded.

PLEASE NOTE

Please note that initial proposals and application forms, as well as final proposals, should be submitted in both hard-copy and electronic form to: Heidi Fraitzl, Director of Smith Fellows and Campus Minister. Letters of recommendation, due by January 18, 2019, may be submitted to her either in hard-copy (sealed envelope from the recommender) or electronic form.

**Smith Fellowship 2018 Presentations
Abroad for Christ in the Company of St. Dominic:**
Open to all; light refreshments served

Tuesday, October 2, 2018 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm – Moore Hall Room 125
Wednesday, October 3, 2018 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm – Moore Hall Room 120

Smith Fellowship 2019 Information Sessions
Open to sophomores and juniors.

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 from 7:00 to 7:45 pm – Moore Hall Room 125
Wednesday, October 10, 2018 from 9:00 to 9:45 pm – Moore Hall Room 125

POSSIBLE SITES, CONTACTS, AND VENUES FOR SERVICE:

**Please note that the blogs of previous Smith Fellows are available on the Providence College Smith Fellowship website and can be referenced for more in-depth information into the ministries available and to serve as inspiration for future site exploration. The ministries described are merely suggestions, and not exhaustive of all potential opportunities in each location. Students are encouraged to research new location opportunities with Dominican communities around the world!*

ARGENTINA

Ministry Opportunities Include:

1. **San Miguel de Tucuman** (Dominican Sisters of the Most Holy Name of Jesus) – teaching English classes at various grade levels in the community
 - Primary contact: Sr. Cynthia Folquer, O.P.: cfolquer@gmail.com

AUSTRALIA & THE SOLOMON ISLANDS – opeast.org.au

Ministry Opportunities Include:

1. **Sydney, Australia** (Dominican Sisters of Eastern Australia) – St. Lucy’s Special Needs Catholic Primary School
 - Primary Contact: Sister Rose Mary Kinne, O.P.: rkinne@netspace.net.au
2. **Honiara, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands** (native Dominican Sisters and Friars) – various Dominican and Diocesan ministries, working with Archbishop Chris Cardone, O.P. ‘80
 - Primary Contact: Sister Rose Mary Kinne, O.P.: rkinne@netspace.net.au

PERU

Ministry Opportunities Include:

1. **Chimbote** (Grand Rapids, Michigan Dominican Sisters) - Centro de Obras Sociales Maternidad de María Maternity Clinic
 - Primary Contacts: Sr. Lillian Bockheim, O.P.: lbchdoms@yahoo.com and Sr. Margaret Mary Birchmeier, O.P.: cos.chimbote@speedy.com.pe

SOUTH AFRICA – www.zaop.org

Ministry Opportunities Include:

1. **Springs** (Dominican Friars of the Vice Province of South Africa) – St. Martin de Porres Development Project, a community based organization offering psychosocial support to orphaned and vulnerable children.
 - Primary Contact: Fr. Brian Mhlanga, O.P., brian@zaop.org
2. **Pietermaritzburg** (Dominican Friars of the Vice Province of South Africa) – The Sinomlando Project – an organization supporting mental resiliency in children affected by HIV/AIDs.
 - Primary Contact: Fr. Martin Badenhorst O.P.: mbadenhorst@zaop.org
3. **Montebello** (Dominican Sisters of Montebello) – Montebello Primary and Secondary Schools and the John Vianney Home for Children
 - Primary Contact: Sr. Spongimpilo Mdabe, O.P.: sbphumuza21@gmail.com

TRINIDAD**Ministry Opportunities Include:**

1. **Port-of-Spain** (Etrépagny Dominican Sisters) – Shalom Youth Centre
 - Primary Contact: Sr. Arlene Greenidge, O.P.: agreenidge2000@yahoo.com

ZAMBIA**Ministry Opportunities Include:**

1. **Ndola** (Dominican Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart) – Hospital assistance and ministering to families in the village
 - Primary Contact: Sophie Palopoli: spalopol@friars.providence.edu

There are many other Dominican communities around the world...reach out to the Friars, Sisters and Campus Ministers on campus to find insights and connections that go far beyond this application. Also, feel free to research online!

Health Concerns/Needs Relevant to Foreign Travel _____

Next of Kin/Emergency Contacts

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

I certify that the information I have provided here is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return this form to:

Heidi Fraitzl
Director of Smith Fellows and Campus Minister
Chaplains Office
St. Dominic Chapel Lower Level
hfraitzl@providence.edu
401-865-1944