Boston College Postdoctoral Association (BCPDA)

KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION PROGRAM

Purpose

The BCPDA Knowledge Dissemination Program (KDP) aims to support the dissemination of the independent and original scholarly work of its members to promote their professional development and facilitate their transition to an independent career.

Program

The BCPDA offers knowledge dissemination grants to Boston College postdoctoral fellows for presenting their scholarly work in conferences or academic journals. Scholarly work includes posters, oral presentations, or papers.

Dates and Conditions

There are three cycles per year to apply for an award. Each has specific guaranteed-review deadlines to be announced each cycle, as well as a rolling application period that will remain open until funds are fully spent for the cycle:

- Fall cycle: for activities to be done in October, November, December, and January (guaranteed-review deadline TBA; usually in November)
- Spring cycle: for activities to be done in February, March, April and May (guaranteed-review deadline TBA; usually in January)
- Summer cycle: for activities to be done in June, July, August, and September (guaranteed-review deadline TBA; usually in June)

The maximum amount for a KDP grant is $750.00. The BCPDA has a yearly budget dedicated to the KDP; one third of the budget is planned to be spent at each program opening, which means that 6-10 grants can be distributed at each opening.

It is absolutely essential that interested postdoctoral fellows apply for funding during the application period of KDP cycle that covers the date of the funding. There are strict procedures to observe to ensure that recipients receive their grant; the BCPDA Board of Representatives will instruct recipients on these rules upon attribution of the grants.

Eligibility Criteria

The applicant must:

- Be a postdoctoral fellow at Boston College; preference will be given to those postdocs who have attended at least one BCPDA event in the past 6 months

_____

- Be planning to do one of the following during the period covered by the current opening (see Dates and Conditions):
  - Present at a conference (including, but not limited to, symposia, papers, talks, flash talks, and posters)
  - Attend a professional course or workshop
  - Submit a paper or other publication requiring funding
  - NOTE: If you are unsure whether an expense or event qualified for KDP funding, please contact bcpda.admin@bc.edu or simply apply anyways
- If the grant is to cover the presentation or publication of scholarly work, the BC postdoctoral fellow must be the principal presenter or first author of the scholarly work, which must be the postdoctoral fellow's original work. Preference will be given to work that differs significantly from the fellow's mentor's work (i.e., principal investigator or supervisor), though work conducted jointly with a mentor is also welcomed.

Eligible Fees

For conferences, the eligible fees include registration, prints, housing, meals, and transportation. To receive payment of the grants, recipients will need to provide proof of acceptance to a conference and proof of expenditures.

For papers, the eligible fees include any publishing fees (e.g., open access, proofreading, translation, color print). To receive payment of the grants, recipients will need to provide proof of submission to an academic journal and proof of expenditures.

Grant Attribution Process

Upon closing dates of the application period or on a rolling basis, the BCPDA Board of Representatives reviews all the applications and verifies their eligibility. Grants cannot exceed the budget requested by the BCPDA members in their application form. If the number of applications exceeds the funds available for an opening, the grants will be distributed with preference to BCPDA members who:

- Are a first time applicant for the current fiscal year;

- Are an active member of the BCPDA (have attended BCPDA events; see Charter).

The grant recipients are notified by email and have one week to accept or decline the grants, after which they will be considered to have declined the grant. If grants are declined, they are distributed to the next applicants on the list for the current program opening. If the available budget is not spent entirely, the remaining monies are carried forward to the next program opening within the same fiscal year. If the recipients do not provide the required proofs or if their actual expenditures are below the grant amount, the remaining monies are carried forward to the next program opening of the current fiscal year.

Information to be Collected in the Application Form

- Applicant information (name, postal and email address, Eagle ID, department, mentor);
- Abstract of the scholarly work;
- Brief explanation of how the scholarly work is original and independent from the mentor's work (max. 100 words);
- Conference or journal where the work will be presented/submitted and expected date of presentation/submission;
- Budget (all expenses to be covered by the grant with justification);
- Other grants (received or applied for) for the same scholarly work.