

ARCHIVES EXPLORATORY RESEARCH GRANTS

Announcement of funding opportunities for research in the SSC, CA, or MRBR

The Archives Concentration is offering 4 grants of \$500 each to faculty members for exploratory research in our Special Collections to identify materials that could be incorporated into new or existing courses. We especially encourage faculty teaching first year seminars to apply for support.

Faculty members who use archives in their courses report students' excitement about doing hands-on work with primary documents, yet also acknowledge that identifying collections that support and complement their curricular interests takes some lead time. The grants are meant to enable faculty members new to our archives to do exploratory research in a short yet intensive period. The grant supports two weeks of intensive research, meeting with an archivist to identify potential collections of interest, and an introduction to using finding aids effectively.

To apply to the Director of the Concentration, Carrie Baker, interested faculty members should identify a course (or courses), topics of interest to explore in the special collections, and the dates you intend to spend in the archives. Interterm and summer are both appropriate; during the academic year is not. Recipients of the grants are expected to schedule a consultation with an archivist at the beginning of their research. Special Collections staff is eager to assist at all stages and would be happy to consult on development of the application.

Kathleen Nutter, Sophia Smith Collection (women's history collections)
Nanci Young, College Archives (College history collections)
Karen Kukil, Mortimer Rare Book Room (literary and other manuscripts)

A brief report to the Director of the concentration will list the Collections you explored, and a summary of potential materials you might use, as well as questions you have or areas you want of research further.

We also encourage recipients of these short-term grants and others interested in using archives in their teaching to apply for archival curricular development support over a longer period through the Rappaport fund (which requires an interdisciplinary approach; adding archival sources to an existing course usually has this effect) and to the Jill K. Conway fund (which supports the development of curricular materials about women's experience, a natural fit for both the Sophia Smith Collection and the College Archives.) Both funding sources are in the Money Book and have the expectation of developing a module for a new or existing course and teaching the new course within a year of the grant.