Russell G. Mawby Fellowships in Philanthropic Studies

$5,000 Fellowship Opportunity for Research Teams of One Faculty Plus Two Students

Request for Proposals

All members of the Grand Valley State University faculty, including teaching Administrative Professional staff and Affiliate Faculty, are invited to submit a proposal for the 2024-2025 Mawby Fellowships in Philanthropic Studies.

This fellowship honors long-time president and CEO of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and co-founder of the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy, Dr. Russ Mawby. One faculty member is selected annually to conduct research focused on the intersection of philanthropy and their field of study. The fellow selects two undergraduate student fellows as research assistants.

Proposal Submission

The proposal process is designed to honor the multi-faceted lives of faculty, and the impact that quality research partnerships have on the academic, professional and personal growth of students. Proposals of up to four pages will be considered. Partnerships within GVSU are welcomed and encouraged. Faculty proposals should include a description of the applicant’s proposed original research question and research methodology, information regarding the applicant’s primary area of study, and a discussion of the project’s relevance to philanthropy and/or nonprofit management. Proposals that highlight faculty partnerships, collaborate in the generation of ideas, seek support for administrative oversight, leverage resources for student development and support and those that highlight philanthropic exposure and engagement are encouraged.

The faculty fellow and undergraduate fellows are required to produce an original, tangible product — such as a research paper, a creative work, or a thoughtful essay — as a result of their project. This product should advance the public’s understanding of the philanthropic and/or nonprofit sector, or the general understanding of academia. **All such products must be co-authored by all three fellows and should be submitted for publication and/or presentation in an appropriate venue.**

Submitted proposals should also include a description of the final product, a plan for the publication of research findings, and an itemized budget. The proposal must be approved by the dean of the college in which the faculty member has their appointment.
All GVSU faculty are encouraged to apply.

Proposals are due April 5, 2024. The award is expected to be announced in May 2024. To submit, please send the following items to laramora@gvsu.edu or jcp@gvsu.edu with the subject line “Mawby Fellowship."

1. An original proposal, up to four pages, including all information described above.
2. Written confirmation of approval from the dean of your college.
3. Curriculum vitae and/or resume with your contact information.
4. A simple bio and/or resume of each student research assistant, with their contact information.

Selection

The faculty fellow will be chosen by a Johnson Center for Philanthropy selection committee. As we work to understand, strengthen, and advance philanthropy, innovative proposals and opportunities for accessible knowledge sharing are encouraged. We aspire to make quality research accessible and informative for all GVSU students, community members and stakeholders throughout the philanthropic ecosystem.

After the faculty fellow is notified of the award, the fellow should confirm the two Mawby undergraduate fellows. The faculty fellow will enter into a working and mentoring relationship with the students, in which they will serve as research assistants and also co-authors of any published research.

Fellowship Award

An individual stipend of $5,000 for the faculty fellow will be paid (typically as an overload contract) in two installments: $2,500 to be paid upon notification of award; $2,500 paid upon the completion of the project. Undergraduate fellows will be paid for actual hours worked at an agreed upon rate up to a total of $2,000 per year ($1,000 for each of the two fellows). The fellowships begin in August, at the beginning of the fall semester.

The fellowships are expected to last one year, although in some exceptional cases they may be extended over two years. Based on the quality of the proposal, and number of proposals received, additional resources may be awarded to cover additional costs, including those for meetings, supplies, and general project travel. Up to an additional $2,000 may be available if needed to support travel to present findings at an appropriate professional conference.
Questions?

Please contact Aimée A. Laramore at laramora@gvsu.edu or jcp@gvsu.edu. Ph: 616-331-7033.