

## **Kelmer Roe Research Fellowships in the Humanities Guidelines**

Established by the family of Kelmer Roe in 2003, the Kelmer Roe Research Fellowships support collaborative student-faculty research in the humanities. This endowment offers funding for joint scholarly projects that bring “the wisdom of the humanities disciplines to bear on enduring human questions and the contemporary problems of our time” and honors Dr. Roe, who was a faculty member in Greek and Religion at PLU from 1947-67.

Each fellowship is awarded to a faculty member and their student collaborator to be used during the following fiscal year. One or two fellowships are offered annually based on funding availability. As requested by the donors, at least one annual fellowship is awarded to a Religion faculty member if an application is submitted that meets all qualifications.

### **Eligibility**

The faculty member must be appointed to, and the student must be a declared major in, one of the following PLU programs:

- English, Chinese, French and Francophone Studies, Hispanic and Latino Studies, Philosophy, or Religion (programs housed in the Division of Humanities at the creation of the award); or
- An interdisciplinary program that uses humanistic methods.

The faculty member must be employed by, and the student must be enrolled at, PLU for the academic year of the award.

### **Awards**

Each faculty-student team receives an award of \$8,500 to support their collaborative scholarly work during the fiscal year (June 1 – May 31) following the date of the award notification. Each fellowship will typically be distributed as follows:

- Faculty stipend: \$3,250 (less FICA and worker’s compensation) paid in installments;
- Student award: \$4,250 paid as a grant in one or two distributions;
- Supply/equipment/research expense reimbursement: \$1000 (purchases for which are subject to the same rules that govern the Regency Advancement Awards: <https://www.plu.edu/faculty-resources/scholarship/regency-advancement-award/>).

Other expenses, FICA, and worker’s compensation are not provided. All fellowship funding must be expended within the fiscal year following the date of the award notification (June 1 - May 31). Award amounts are subject to change, depending on performance of the endowment in the previous year.

### **Application Process**

The faculty member and student will complete a joint online application form, available on the fellowship website, to be submitted by the faculty member: <https://www.plu.edu/liberal-studies/kelmer-roe-research-grants-and-opportunities/>.

Applications open: February 17, 2026  
Application deadline: March 30, 2026, at 5:00 pm  
Recipient notification: by April 15, 2026

## **Selection Criteria**

A committee that includes the unit heads of the humanities programs listed above will choose between eligible proposals based on the following standards:

- Project merit;
- Applicants' academic and research records;
- Appropriateness of student involvement in the project;
- Likelihood of publication, presentation at a professional meeting, or similar product;
- Coherence with the fellowship's intent to bring "the wisdom of the humanities disciplines to bear on enduring human questions and on the contemporary problems of our time"; and
- Promise of a close mentoring relationship and student intellectual development.

Any unit head who applies for an award will recuse themselves from the selection process.

## **Student Commitment**

The student will conduct a meaningful research project, normally amounting to 200-230 hours of work. Specific commitments include the following:

- Participate in program administration and evaluations promptly, including using email regularly for program correspondence, responding to scheduling requests, filling out and returning questionnaires, and attending debriefing meetings;
- Attend and participate in all scheduled program-related meetings and events;
- Present formal or informal talks on the research in appropriate venues as scheduled; and
- Write a final research report or other appropriate concluding document or artifact to be submitted to the dean of the College of Liberal Studies no later than May 31 of the project year.

## **Faculty Commitment**

The faculty member will serve both as a mentor to and collaborator with the student throughout the research project. Specific commitments include the following:

- Meet formally with the student prior to beginning the research and regularly throughout the project;
- Include students in the authoring of papers or other products that emerge from the project as appropriate;
- Support the student in identifying appropriate presentation venues, such as student research conferences or a student section of a professional meeting, and in proposing and preparing a presentation;
- Participate in events featuring student-faculty research when possible;
- Assist the student in preparing the final research report due to the dean no later than May 31 of the project year;
- Submit a faculty report of activities and findings to the dean by May 31 of the project year; and
- Attend scheduled meetings with the selection committee and/or the dean as needed.

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