Humanities Center

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The humanities consider how we understand and record human experiences. Encompassing a wide range of disciplines including philosophy, history, literature, religion, visual arts, music, and language, humanistic study teaches us how to think creatively and critically about our own identities and our connections to others—whether they live across the street or across the world, whether they lived long ago or will live in the futures we imagine. The Humanities Center at Lehigh University is thus vital for building community both on and beyond our campus. The Humanities Center creates interdisciplinary intellectual opportunities for students, faculty, and staff engaged in humanistic inquiry across departments and programs. Through talks, reading groups, conferences, research grants, and informal gatherings, the Humanities Center fosters a broad community rooted in vibrant, rigorous, and creative inquiry into what it means and has meant to be human. The Humanities Center organizes year-long seminars to address specific interdisciplinary topics. Recent topics have included Foucault at 40, Public Humanities, Digital Humanities, Trans* Studies, and Gender, Justice, and Power. These seminars often co-ordinate with course offerings for graduate and undergraduate students.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

The Humanities Center fosters interdisciplinary research activity in several ways. Faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates may apply for funding to support reading groups, colloquia, conferences and visiting speakers. Graduate students may apply for modest financial support to enable them to travel to present research at academic conferences. Summer, Individual and Collaborative Research Grants are available for faculty and graduate students. The objective of these grants is twofold:

1. to strengthen the intellectual community of Lehigh’s scholars in the Humanities and
2. to provide support for faculty to pursue a humanistic research project or creative activity and for graduate students to finish their dissertations.

For more information visit the Humanities Center website http://humanitiesctr.cas.lehigh.edu/ (http://humanitiesctr.cas2.lehigh.edu/) or contact the Director, Suzanne Edwards at the Humanities Center, 224 West Packer Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18015 or by email at sme6@lehigh.edu.