

The King's College London Georgian Papers Programme Mount Vernon Fellowship 2020-21

Further Particulars

Duration of the Fellowship

The fellowship will normally be awarded for a period of one month, but may be extended to up to two months in exceptional circumstances. The GPP reserves the right to award the fellowship for a period shorter than that applied for should the project not seem to require the period requested. The timing of the fellowship is a matter for the fellow to arrange with the Washington Library; it will depend partly on the availability of accommodation (see below).

Eligibility

Applications for a King's College London Mount Vernon Fellowship are welcomed from permanent and temporary academic staff (including those on teaching only contracts), postdoctoral fellows, and current PhD students. Applications are also welcomed from visiting scholars associated through King's with the Georgian Papers Programme on summer fellowships. Where two equally worthy projects are proposed, preference will normally be given to a King's candidate.

The research projects that can be supported by the fellowship should reflect the priorities of the Washington Library and Georgian Papers project. Topics exploring George Washington and/or King George III in an international or comparative context would obviously be particularly welcome. However, applicants might also wish to pursue research related to broad themes and historical problems of the British Empire, Colonial America, the Revolutionary Era, and the Early Republic, as well as the history of the arts, material culture, and society which might shed light on the greater legacy of George Washington and/or his era. The Library would also welcome projects concerning Comparative Leadership and Statesmanship. The Washington Library enjoys good working relationships with many of the libraries and institutions found in the greater Washington, D.C. area. It encourages fellows to explore these repositories, but expects them to be largely in residence at the Library. It is not, however, assumed that all fellows will conduct research in the Library's archive; applications are welcomed who would approach the fellowship as a writing residency or time to develop a digital humanities resource.

What the fellowship will fund

The Georgian Papers Programme will fund outward and return journeys to the Washington Library using the College preferred travel agents and economy class only. Receipts must be presented for all other transport costs incurred in the US. Travel to other archives beyond the D.C. metro area will not be funded unless agreed in advance and essential to the project being undertaken.

The Programme will also support maintenance at Mount Vernon. Fellows intending to stay for one month will receive a £1,200 stipend to contribute towards everyday costs for food, transport costs and other incidental expenditures associated with the project.

Accommodation at Mount Vernon



The fellow will be accommodated free of additional charge in a private room in the Richard and Helen DeVos Scholars' Residence, located just 150 feet from the Washington Library entrance. The building provides accommodation for eight scholars, a small kitchen, and a combination living/dining area. Accommodation is provided on a first come/first served basis, so the successful applicant is advised to make arrangements with the Library as soon as possible once the Covid-19 emergency allows plans to be made as the Library

announces its reopening.

Academic resources and fellowship opportunities

Fellows enjoy unparalleled access to extensive resources housed in the 45,000 square-foot Library, and benefit from the support of Library staff who can connect them with other invaluable research resources. The Washington Library safeguards a large and growing collection of original Washington books and manuscripts and materials from the founding era. Researchers also have access to the facility's General Collections, Special Collections, and Archival Collections, which include books, e-books, e-resources, periodicals, newspapers, pamphlets, information files, microfilm, audio-visual material, manuscripts, maps, and vertical files. The library's special collections highlight the lives of George and Martha Washington, as well as the Washington and Custis families. The collection includes letters to and from George and Martha Washington; ledgers, farm books, and account books related to Mount Vernon; family collections such as: the Peter Family Archives, Bushrod Washington Family Papers, Eleanor Parke Custis Papers, and Lawrence Lewis

Papers; and a rare book collection including volumes from George Washington's library. Some idea of the electronic resources available to fellows can be obtained [here](#).

Living and working on George Washington's estate, fellows enjoy the opportunity to connect and collaborate with Mount Vernon's on-site experts in early American history, preservation, archaeology, decorative arts, landscapes, digital humanities, and other relevant fields, as well as other scholars visiting the Library to deliver lectures, research, and to participate in educational and leadership programmes. Fellows participate in numerous special events on the estate and play a major part in building a rich atmosphere of scholarly debate and conversation at the Library.

Fellows' responsibilities

It will be the responsibility of the fellow to ensure that they have acquired all the documentation required to enter the United States for research purposes. Members of the College who wish to take advantage of the Travel Insurance arranged by the College need to consult their Head of Department. Travel should be arranged through the normal College processes.

The fellow will be expected to participate in events and academic workshops associated with the Georgian Papers Programme on both sides of the Atlantic as appropriate, and to give presentations on their research and its progress at programme events. Any publications which arise from the work undertaken for the project should acknowledge the support of the programme, and fellows will be expected to deposit a copy of this work on Pure, and to inform the Project of any impact activity to which it gives rise.

Application Process

Applicants should submit a copy of the application form accompanied by a CV and project outline as specified on the form by 20 May 2020 either in hard copy or by email to Professor Arthur Burns, Academic Director of the Georgian Papers Programme. Candidates will be informed of the outcome by 20 June 2020.