

HERRENHAUSEN SYMPOSIUM, SEPT 10-12, 2019

POSITIONING THE HUMANITIES

IN THE 2020s

HERRENHAUSEN PALACE, HANOVER, GERMANY

TRAVEL GRANTS AVAILABLE

for Early Career Researchers and Young Professionals

Deadline: May 24, 2019

Apply here: <https://call.volkswagenstiftung.de/submission?id=5>

The Topic

Since the new millennium the humanities in the Anglo-Saxon world as well as the Geistes- and Kulturwissenschaften in Europe have been exposed to manifold constraints, threats, and opportunities. On the one hand they are quite severely affected by paradigm shifts in the value systems of policy-makers and university leaders, thus redirecting resources towards apparently more useful and profit-making units. On the other they are also confronted with an increasing demand for providing their specific knowledge base and expertise in culturally embedded matters such as ethnic and religious conflicts or the changing modes of communication in a digitalized world. It is against this background that the envisaged Herrenhausen Symposium, organized by the Volkswagen Foundation and the German U15 Universities, intends to focus on a sound analysis of the present situation and achievements made. But a particular emphasis will be put on future developments and strategically important opportunities for the respective knowledge domains in the 2020s. Which role will they play in an increasingly instable world? How can they protect their scholarly autonomy and pave the way for a high trust culture of creativity? What bold steps should be taken?

Travel Grants

The Volkswagen Foundation offers travel grants for PhD students and early postdocs interested in addressing research challenges of the humanities in the 2020s. Applicants can apply for one of 30 travel grants to take part in the Symposium "Positioning the Humanities" in Hanover, Germany. Successful applicants will get the chance to shortly present their main arguments in a lightning talk and by actively participating in the panel discussions. Posters on respective projects will be displayed during the symposium. The grants include travel expenses to and from Hanover, visa fees (if applicable), as well as accommodation.

Your Application Should Contain the Following

- A short description of your research focus that explains how you intend to tackle the challenges of the humanities in the 2020s.
- An abstract of your current research project.
- A short C.V.

Selection

Participants will be selected by the steering committee. Acceptance will be based on qualification of the applicant as well as relevance, originality and potential to meet the goals of the conference. We will inform the applicants about the results in May 2019.

Useful Information

Detailed program: <http://www.volkswagenstiftung.de>

Queries: Please contact Anorthe Wetzel, Volkswagen Foundation, at wetzel@volkswagenstiftung.de.

Organizers

GERMAN U15

