

Cutting Edge Research Opportunities for the Arts and Humanities

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Introduction

Research in the **Arts and Humanities** is a very important and viable area of scholarship for **development**. And Covenant University needs our contribution to achieved its **ReCiTe** goals. Research Opportunities exist in the arts and humanities in terms of *innovative research initiatives and collaborations and research funding opportunities*.

Innovative Research Initiatives & Collaborations

Research activities in the arts and humanities have enjoyed fruitful collaboration and cooperation with other disciplines. Hence, interdisciplinarity has since become a selling point for many research endeavours in the arts and humanities. For instance, the recent emphasis on “**big data**” and the growth of “**digital humanities**,” have given new insights to a significant synergy between technology and the arts.

- In linguistics for example, research works in **cognitive linguistics, psycholinguistics, corpus linguistics, forensic linguistics, computer-mediated discourse analysis, or neurolinguistics** etc. has enjoyed collaborations from biological sciences, computer science, neurosciences, forensic sciences, law, and media communications among others.

Research Funding Opportunities

There are several research funding opportunities for researchers in the arts and humanities by government /international agencies, research institutes and foundations within and outside Africa. I will talk about **three** of these briefly

African Humanities Program (AHP)

- AHP is funded by the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) and is open to applicants from **Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania** and **Uganda**. They must be residents of and affiliated to an institution in either of these countries. Funding is available for **thesis/dissertation completion** (in the final year of writing) and for **postdoctoral research fellowship**. A post doc applicant must have completed his PhD for not more than 8 years.

CODESRIA

- Since 1973 CODESRIA (***Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa***) has funded and promoted research activities specially by “African and Diaspora scholars in the Social Sciences and Humanities that can contribute to a better understanding of Africa and its place in the world. This is done in the belief that sound knowledge of the continent is invaluable to efforts to make Africa a better place for its peoples and societies.” Currently there is a “**Special Humanities Call**” for “**Meaning-making Research Initiatives**” (MRI) for individuals and research clusters. Closing date for this opportunity is **September 15th, 2017**. *Visit the website for details.*

Alexander von Humboldt (AvH) Research Fellowships

AvH provides funding for independent research of the researcher's choice in Germany with the support of an academic host. This promotes academic cooperation between scientists and scholars from abroad and Germany.

- **“...unique in that it not only provides individual sponsorship for outstandingly qualified researchers but also integrates them in a world-spanning network of excellence during their entire lifetime. This “Humboldt Family” connects the world’s academic elite with Germany.”**

Two Types of Fellowships:

- **Georg Forster Research Fellowships for Postdoctoral Researchers.** For early careers academic within 4 years post PhD. Focuses on topics on social development.
Duration is 6-24 months plus a subsequent 12 months Return Fellowship at home. A renewed research stay in Germany is possible every 3 years.
- **AvH Fellowship for Experienced Researchers** (usually from the rank of Senior Lecturer and above with PhD of 6 years old and above. Duration is 6-12 months).
Significantly, the AvH fellowship is for a life-time.

Thanks for Listening

Covenant University

2017/2018 Executive Advance

Theme:

ReCiTe – Approach for the Attainment of Vision
10:2022 (Citation and Industry Partnership

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