The Herbert and Blanche Henry Weaver Summer Fellowship Awards
Guidelines for Application

Herbert and Blanche Henry Weaver Summer Fellowship Awards will be awarded each year to graduate students in history. The award honors Herbert Weaver, Professor of U.S. History and chair of the History Department from 1952 to 1954 and 1962 to 1967, and Blanche Henry Clark Weaver, Dean of Women at Vanderbilt from 1940 to 1944.

Since all students now receive 12-month stipends, the awards may be used only to pay for actual research expenses, up to a total of $2,000 for domestic travel and $3,000 for international travel. Reimbursable expenses include but are not limited to airfare, lodging, meals, transportation to archives (per IRS business mileage rate), photocopy or microfilming fees, and/or scans of sources. Proposals for reproducing a significant amount of documentation must demonstrate that the copies are not already available through Inter-Library Loan or the Center for Research Libraries.

Funded research need not be related directly to a doctoral dissertation; you may wish to pursue a tangential problem or another topic altogether. Your application will need to include a clear description of the topic, how you propose to address it, and its larger historical/historiographical significance. If the project is related to your dissertation, explain how. If not, explain what form you expect the results of your research to take (e.g., article, conference paper).

A Weaver fellowship and a Binkley grant may not be held simultaneously. Preference will be given to students who can show that they applied for funding from sources other than the History Department, including those who applied unsuccessfully to the College of Arts and Science for a summer research award. If you have already received a grant worth less than $2,000, you may apply for a Weaver Fellowship to make up the difference.

Applications should be submitted to the Graduate Administrator (Susan Hilderbrand) and should include the following:
(1) Cover sheet with applicant’s name, address, destination and dates of proposed research trip, and project title
(2) Statement of proposed research, not to exceed three pages
(3) Proposed budget
(4) Curriculum vitae
(5) Letter of support from adviser

Successful applicants should submit a brief report of what was accomplished as a result of the grant to the DGS and the department chair. This report is due October 1.

Signature of Applicant: __________________________   Signature of DGS:__________________________

Approved: ☐   Denied: ☐