Mellon Foundation awards $100,000 grants to four UCSB social science departments

Keith Hamm
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Through its multimillion-dollar Affirming Multivocal Humanities initiative, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded $100,000 apiece to four social science departments at UC Santa Barbara. The gifts are part of the initiative’s commitment to advance the study of race, ethnicity, gender and sexuality.

For the Department of Asian American Studies, the funding supports the launch of a student-run online magazine, an alumni board and a high-profile speaker series on campus, starting April 20 with Chinese American novelist and UC Berkeley Professor Emeritus Maxine Hong Kingston.

In the Department of Black Studies, the award will support undergraduate research projects and establish a guest-speaker series.

In Chicano and Chicana studies, the prize will be used to increase the visibility of the department’s doctoral program — this year celebrating its 20th anniversary — and
The study of race, gender and sexuality has become ever more central to work in the humanities over the last thirty years or so,” said Phillip Brian Harper, the foundation’s director of higher learning. “And it is important that inquiry in these areas — which is of perennial interest to students — continue to enjoy robust support.”

Established in 1969, the Mellon Foundation is the nation’s largest funder of the arts and humanities.

Tags

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

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