

The Helmut and Erika Reihlen Fund for German Studies

Description:

In gratitude for the year Dr. Helmut Reihlen spent as a Fulbright scholar at Wesleyan (1954-55), the lifelong friendships that resulted from that experience, and the honorary S.D. (Doctor of Science) conferred on him in 1988, the Drs. Reihlen have donated €100,000 to Wesleyan, the annual income of which is to be used for support of meritorious student activities related to German studies. The German Studies Department administers the Fund.

Eligible Activities:

The Department has identified the following activities as worthy of support; recipients will be chosen, upon submission of an application that includes a narrative justification and a detailed budget, by a committee made up of two Department members and one affiliated faculty member. The student need not be pursuing a German major/minor, but the project must involve some aspect of German studies. Grants will not be limited to students with demonstrated financial need, but in the case of competing projects of equal merit, the selection committee will give preference to students with such need. Applicants will be required to list other sources of financial support they expect to receive for their projects. Eligible expenses include tuition; reasonable costs for travel, lodging, and meals; purchase of books and other materials; fees for use of libraries and archives; reproduction of documents; and the like. *No funding will be available to students who will be on academic or non-academic leave while carrying out the project.* With rare exceptions, funding will be limited to students who will carry out eligible activities before receiving the B.A.

- 1) An unpaid or inadequately paid internship in the U.S. or a German-speaking country during the summer or the semester break that enhances any aspect of the student's understanding of German culture, society, politics, economics, business, law, education, and the like.
- 2) Intensive study of the German language during the summer or the semester break, in the U.S. or a German-speaking country.
- 3) Research for a senior honors thesis or capstone project on a German-studies topic, in the U.S., a German-speaking country, or a country in which German culture has played, or still plays, a significant role (examples: a former German colony, a country to which numerous German-speakers emigrated; a country such as Japan, which has been particularly receptive to German classical music and literature).

4) Attendance or presenting at a professional conference relevant to German Studies and to the student's specific interests.

5) German-Studies-related projects or activities not specifically described above that the selection committee deems worthy of support.

Reporting to the German Studies Department:

Upon conclusion of the project, a student who has received funding must submit a detailed report to the selection committee on the details and significance of the project and the specific use of the funds.

Reporting to the Donors:

By or before June 30 each year the University will report to the donors or their heirs on the use of the funds during the preceding 12-month period.

**Application for Funding from
The Helmut and Erika Reihlen Fund for German Studies**

1. Name and Class:

2. Major(s) and Minor:

3. E-mail address and telephone number:

4. Activity for which funding is requested (please underline all that apply):

- Internship
- German language study
- Research
 - Senior Thesis
 - Capstone Project
- Conference attendance
- Other (explain):

5. **Justification:** attach a paragraph of at least 300 words describing the proposed activity in detail, and explaining how it will be structured and the ways in which it will contribute to your knowledge of, and insight into, German studies. For a research project, describe your methodology.

6. **Detailed budget:** attach an estimate, as complete as possible, showing the costs entailed in carrying out the project, and indicate how much support you are requesting. Include any anticipated sources of funding from sources other than the Reihlen Fund. You will *not* be required to document your expenditures at the end of the grant period.

7. **Transcript:** include an unofficial transcript.

8. **Recommendation:** request a brief but substantive letter of recommendation from a faculty member who is in a position to judge the validity of the proposed activity and your qualifications for carrying it out. **The signed letter, on departmental letterhead, should be emailed as a pdf or sent in hard copy to the chair of the German Studies Department by the application deadline.**

Application Deadlines:

1) For summer or post-graduation support: March 1

- 2) For support during the winter break: Nov. 1
- 3) For all other times: at least six weeks before the anticipated need for funding

Please submit your application in hard copy to the Administrative Assistant for German Studies by or before the deadline.