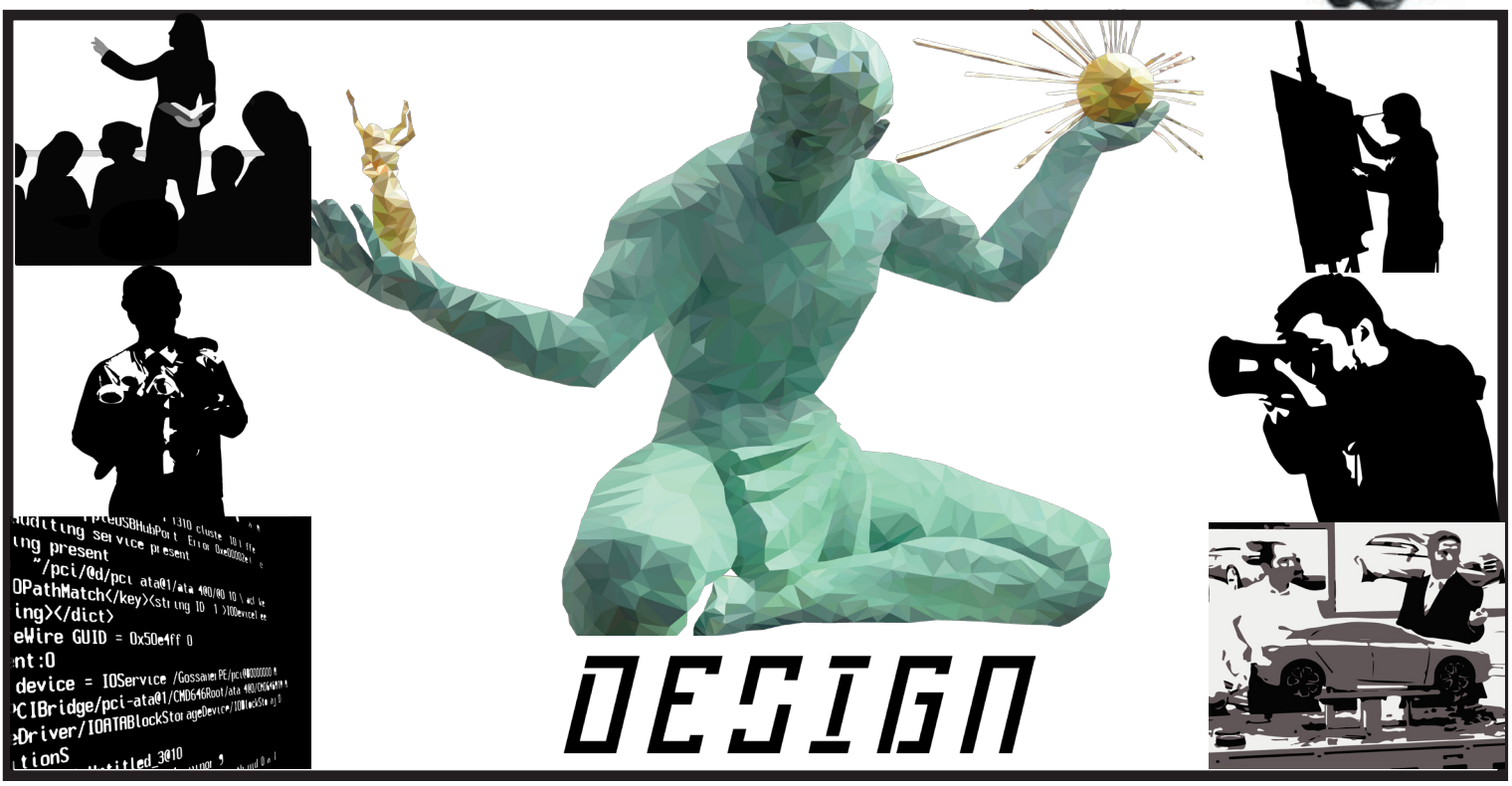
WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Humanities Center



Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship Competition 2017-2018
Deadline: 4/06/2018

Design: Intention, Creativity, Agency, Society

In 2015, Detroit became the first U.S. city to be designated UNESCO "City of Design," a testament to the region's outsized influence in shaping the cultural and creative forces of the 21st century. By selecting "design" as the theme for the 2018 Faculty Fellowship conference, the Humanities Center solicits research proposals that emphasize the creative potential of humanity, both in terms of aesthetics and social utility. We encourage "design thinking" in every sense of the word—from its traditional bastions of art, architecture, and cultural studies to more contemporary interpretations in the hallways of science, engineering, and information technologies (among others). For instance, how do policymakers, scientists, artists, and everyday citizens design spaces and forums that enable the free flow of ideas? How might interdisciplinary teams engage in design thinking to create models, prototypes, and final products that move society forward? What are the complex forces of individualism and collectivism, intention and unforeseen circumstances, and agency and passivity, which go into designing sustainable solutions and structures? Even as we strive to design better systems of human existence, what are the ethical issues and questions that we should be considering? Finally, what are the potential limitations or even dangers of design thinking, and the values it inspires? The Humanities Center welcomes interdisciplinary contributions that speak to these and other aspects of design.

All WSU full-time faculty in the humanities, arts, and related disciplines are eligible to submit proposals, except those who received a Faculty Fellowship Award from the Center within the last two years. The submission guidelines for this competition and the cover page will soon be available on our website at http://research2.wayne.edu/hum/

Please send all applications to:

The Humanities Center
Walter F. Edwards, Director
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Wayne State University
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