



# THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

## *GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS FOR RESEARCH*

### GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY invites applications for awards from scholars of all nationalities who are engaged in bibliographical research with primary focus on the physical object as historical evidence. This might include book history, textual transmission, the making and use of manuscripts, publishing, printing, bookbinding, book-ownership and book-collecting. The awards are intended to support research that advances the understanding of book cultures from all parts of the World. Their aim is to initiate, encourage and disseminate innovative bibliographical research, especially that undertaken by early career researchers. The Society hopes to make awards both for immediate research needs, such as for reproductions or travelling expenses, and for longer-term support, for example to assist with prolonged visits to libraries and archives.

#### **Major Grants**

A number of major awards, usually up to a maximum of £2,000 each, are offered annually. The Fellowships & Bursaries committee meet in mid February and deadline for applications is usually one month before. Several of these awards take the form of named awards. One will be associated with the name of the late Barry Bloomfield, sometime president of the Society, and one or more will be associated with the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association, which has generously contributed to the fund. The Society also offers the Katharine F. Pantzer Jr Research Fellowship and Scholarship (see below), the Fredson Bowers award of \$1,500 funded by the Bibliographical Society of America, the Falconer Madan award of £500 in conjunction with the Oxford Bibliographical Society for research undertaken in Oxford libraries or, under certain circumstances, conducted elsewhere upon topics connected with Oxford. The named awards may be supplemented from the Society's research funds. For applicants travelling from outside the UK and Europe, where no other funding is available, the Society may consider awarding additional funding (up to £1000) at its discretion.

#### **Katharine F. Pantzer Jr Research Awards in the History of the Printed Book**

The Society has received a generous bequest from the estate of the distinguished bibliographer Katharine F. Pantzer Jr and has established two research awards in her memory: a Fellowship of up to £4,000, and a Scholarship of up to £1,500, to be awarded annually. Unlike other grants, the Fellowship may be used in part to pay for teaching cover. Applicants' research for either of the Pantzer awards must be within the field of the bibliographical or book-historical study of the printed book in the hand-press period, that is up to c.1830.

#### **Minor Grants**

In addition, the Society offers a limited number of minor grants, of £50 to £300, for specific purposes such as the costs of travel or reproductions for research purposes (but **not** for attendance at, or travel to, conferences). Applications for these minor grants may be submitted at any time and should be supported by one referee.

## Conference subventions

The Society offers a number of subventions of up to £300 each to organizers of conferences so that they can help defray the cost of conference fees for two or more students. The subject of the conference must fall within one or more of the areas of interest specified in the first paragraph of this document. Conference organizers granted a subvention agree to mention the Society's support in their conference literature, for which purpose a logo is provided.

## Scope

The Society's Grants and Fellowships scheme is designed to promote high quality, publishable research by individuals and groups on a wide range of bibliographical research. However, there are a number of things that the Society **does not fund**:

- Applications in which literary, linguistic or broader historical topics dominate
- Enumerative bibliographical projects
- Subject and single-author bibliographies
- Publishing costs, including those associated with digital imaging, reprographic permissions, indexing, proof-reading or translation
- Replacement teaching (except for the Pantzer Fellowship)
- Conservation activities
- Cataloguing of libraries (including book collections held in archives and museums)
- Digitisation
- Support for the income of the applicant
- Purchase of hardware, software or books
- Individual attendance at conferences or organisational costs related to them
- General funding to support student living costs during postgraduate programmes

Grants for subject bibliographies are not regarded as falling within the field of the Society's interests, and single author bibliographies and editions of texts will not normally be considered unless they offer significant advances in methodology or are likely to throw light on the history of the book in a wider context.

Applicants for all awards may be of any nationality and need not be members of the Society. All other things being equal, the Society gives priority to work that will be published and to scholars who have no opportunity of gaining institutional support for their research. If applicants have an academic affiliation, they should indicate clearly on their application why their institution cannot provide the financial support required. Successful applicants are expected to make their supported work public (by the presentation of a paper to the Bibliographical Society or some other learned society, or by publication in print or online).

## **Guidelines for applicants**

Applications should include a description of the research to be undertaken, with an explanation of its importance, details of methodologies to be employed and an indication, if appropriate, of how it will be published or otherwise made available in the public domain.

**Specific instructions for PhD student applicants:** doctoral students are eligible to apply for Major or Minor Grants including the Pantzer Scholarship (but not the Pantzer Fellowship). Major awards and the Pantzer Scholarship are more likely to be awarded to PhD students late in their studies, or to those who embark on their PhD with considerable prior experience; applicants whose work on a PhD programme is still in its early stages should consider first applying for a minor award. Applicants should indicate clearly on their application form (a) that they are a PhD student, and (b) the start date and the expected completion date. One referee must be the PhD supervisor.

## **Budget**

**No application will be considered which does not provide a clear indication of how and where the money will be spent** (e.g. airfares must be separated from accommodation; photocopying costs must be listed separately, etc.). The number of days for which accommodation is required must be stated clearly. The **maximum allowed for daily accommodation is £100.00**, except in extenuating circumstances, which must be indicated on the application. **Please note that subsistence costs (meals etc.) are not supported.**

**For applicants travelling from outside the UK and Europe, where no other funding is available, the Society may consider awarding additional funding (up to £1000) at its discretion.**

## **Application procedure**

Applications for **Major Grants** (including the **Pantzer Fellowship and Scholarship**) must be submitted, on the appropriate form (with **no** additional documentation) and two referees familiar with the applicant's work should be asked to email references to the Secretary to the Fellowships and Bursaries Sub-committee. Applications and references must arrive by the date specified on the 'Application Procedure' page of the website (usually in late January). All applications must be supplied electronically. References are preferred via email, but may also be posted, to arrive by the same date. Except in the case of the Pantzer Fellowship (£4000) & Scholarship (£1500), applicants need not specify a named award for which they wish to apply.

Applications for **Minor Grants** may be submitted at any time, on the form provided by the Society (with **no** additional documentation). Applications must be supplied electronically.

Applications for **Conference Subventions** may be submitted at any time, on the form provided by the Society. Applications must be supplied electronically. Brief supporting documentation (e.g. Call for Papers, Draft Programme) should be appended.

Application forms for all awards are available for downloading from the Society's website: [www.bibsoc.org.uk](http://www.bibsoc.org.uk) - if you have any problems downloading, or if you require further information, please contact the Secretary to the Subcommittee (see below).

Applicants for Major Grants will be notified of the outcome of their application following the meeting of the Council of the Society in February. Applications for Minor Grants and Conference Subventions are processed throughout the year.

Successful applicants for Major Grants are required to provide a report, which will be published on the Society's website, by the end of the year. They may not apply for a further Major Grant in the year following their award.

Further information about the Society and its interests may be found in its centennial publication, *The Book Encompassed*, ed. Peter Davison (Cambridge University Press, 1992), from its journal, *The Library*, and from the Society's website at [www.bibsoc.org.uk](http://www.bibsoc.org.uk)

Further information may be obtained from the Secretary of the Fellowships & Bursaries Committee by emailing [bursaries@bibsoc.org.uk](mailto:bursaries@bibsoc.org.uk)