

NEH Application Cover Sheet

Challenge Grants

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Field of Expertise: History - European

INSTITUTION

Fairfield University
Fairfield, CT UNITED STATES

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Title: *Bellarmino Museum Project*

Grant Period: From 1/2009 to 12/2012

Field of Project: Humanities

Description of Project: This Challenge Grant seeks to enhance the teaching of the humanities at Fairfield University by endowing \$2.5 million for a new university museum. Fairfield will install and inaugurate an art museum in Bellarmine Hall, our signature building on campus steeped in a rich history of American architectural tradition. The museum will display a collection that focuses on art of the Medieval and Renaissance periods. The Bellarmine Museum Project will promote the centrality of art history within the teaching of the humanities, as well as advance Fairfield University's strategic goal of integrating the curriculum within the context of its Jesuit, Catholic mission. In addition, it fulfills our mission to share with the wider community our resources and special expertise.

BUDGET

Fiscal Year # 1	\$166,668.00	Total from NEH	\$500,000.00
Fiscal Year # 2	\$166,666.00	Non-Federal	\$2,000,000.00
Fiscal Year # 3	\$166,666.00	Total	\$2,500,000.00

Matching Ratio: 4.00 to 1

GRANT ADMINISTRATOR

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Challenge Grant Budget: Fairfield University

Prior NEH Challenge Grant	1	4:1
Total NEH Funds Requested		\$500,000
Year 1	\$125,000	
Year 2	\$125,000	
Year 3	\$125,000	
Year 4	\$125,000	
Total Nonfederal Contributions		\$2,000,000
Total Grant Funds (NEH plus Match)		\$2,500,000

Planned Expenditures

Direct

None

Endowed

Invested in Endowment	\$2,500,000
Annual expendable endowment income (5 percent)	\$125,000
New Museum Director Position/Humanities (salary & benefits)	\$85,000
Faculty and Staff Development Workshops	\$10,000
Endowed Lecture Series	\$7,000
Temporary Exhibition Planning	\$20,000
Museum Website	\$3,000

Institutional Fact Summary Page

History: Fairfield University chartered in 1942 by the Society of Jesus admitted its first class in 1947. New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accredited in 1953, Fairfield is now a coeducational comprehensive university comprising six schools and more than 5,000 undergraduate, graduate, and continuing studies students and more than 40,000 living alumni worldwide.

Mission: Fairfield University is a coeducational institution of higher learning whose primary objectives are to develop the creative intellectual potential of its students and to foster in them ethical and religious values and a sense of social responsibility. Fairfield is Catholic in both tradition and spirit, educating its students through a variety of scholarly and professional disciplines with a humanistic perspective.

Governance and administration: Fairfield University has a governance structure that supports institutional and academic integrity. The Board of Trustees works effectively with clear By-Laws respecting the managerial responsibilities of the administration and the academic freedom and integrity of the faculty. Faculty governance provides details on the hiring, tenure, and promotion process; sets out a faculty committee structure; outlines significant faculty benefits and responsibilities; instructional policies, and procedures for due process.

Physical facilities: University campus consists of 200 acres with 34 major buildings comprising over 1.4 million square feet. Major buildings include classroom facilities, ten co-educational residential complexes house, Athletic facilities, a chapel, performing arts center and library.

Staff size and composition (including percentage) in the humanities: Fairfield University has 242 tenure track faculty positions of which 85 (35%) are in the humanities. Of the 242 faculty 123 (51%) are male and 119 (49%) are female. Total non-faculty staff is 553, 219 (40%) male and 334 (60%) female.

Collections (including percentage) in the humanities: The University's collections are primarily within the humanities – at 90%. The art collection in the humanities is comprised of the Kress paintings, Oceanic and African, Central and South American, Asian, 19th-20th/Contemporary art (U.S. and European), and the plaster cast collection. The total number of objects in the humanities is 245.

Accreditation: Fairfield University is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. All of professional schools hold national accreditations in their respective fields. A complete list is in Appendix C.

Data on recent humanities activities: Student enrollment in the humanities over the past two years is 37% with course offerings at 37%. There are 35 humanities programs and were 278 humanities degrees awarded. Cultural exhibitions and programs occur throughout the year. The Quick Center and the Walsh Gallery serve an audience of over 100,000 and an average year there are 4 exhibitions with over 53 performances, 19 pre-concert or post-show residences with audiences, a literacy outreach residency, a summer festival chorus and a children's theater camp. Types of programs include musical, dance, theatre, family programming and education and outreach. Other program lecture series and public outreach include 20 activities reaching an audience of over 7,000.

Percentage of total offerings in the humanities: The total number of course offerings over the past 2 years was 4,612 of which 1,734 (37%) was in the humanities.

Size and nature of enrollment, audience, or population served: Specific to humanities activities and cultural programs/exhibitions each year around 107,000 members of the public participate. The population served includes members of the public including, university students and faculty, and preschool age through senior citizens.

Cost to participants: Costs range from free to complimentary tickets to up to \$50.00. Many lecture programs are of no cost and other programming provides students with complimentary tickets.

Number of publications produced: In the humanities, there have been a total of 1,401 publications to date.

Evidence for the success of these activities or offerings: All programming large audience attendance and often sold out events indicate programming success. Tickets sales, education evaluation forms and audience survey ensure review and evaluation of all programming and activities.

Proposal Narrative

BELLARMINE MUSEUM PROJECT

Introduction

This Challenge Grant seeks to enhance the teaching of the humanities at Fairfield University by endowing \$2.5 million for a new university museum. Fairfield will renovate, install, and inaugurate an art museum in Bellarmine Hall, our signature building on campus steeped in a rich history of American architectural tradition and purchased by the Jesuits upon the founding of the University in 1942. The museum will display a collection that focuses on art of the Medieval and Renaissance periods, created from the University's core holdings of ten Italian paintings and a substantial loan from the Medieval Department and the Cloisters Collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. The total project cost is \$5 million, divided between renovations and endowment. Of this cost, Fairfield University requests a grant of \$500,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), to be matched 4:1 by \$2 million in non-federal funds. Additionally, Fairfield will raise \$2.5 million to fund the renovation portion of the project. Our 4:1 matching formula is a reflection of Fairfield's prior success as a recipient of a Challenge Grant in 1984 (grant # CC-20129).

With a grant from the NEH, the Bellarmine Museum Project will endow five principal objectives related to the ongoing activities of the museum for curricular development and community outreach as follows: 1) a full-time position of Museum Director; 2) faculty and staff development workshops on integrating the visual arts across the curriculum; 3) a lecture series to be held in conjunction with the programming of museum activities and the art history curriculum; 4) the planning associated with researching and installing temporary exhibitions and

loans; and 5) the development and maintenance of a website for ongoing outreach and curricular initiatives. The arts share a central role in Fairfield's core curriculum and in the aesthetic experience of students who seek out the nearly 500-year-old tradition of a Jesuit education steeped in the liberal arts. Specifically, the Bellarmine Museum Project will promote the centrality of art history within the teaching of the humanities, as well as advance Fairfield University's strategic goal of integrating the curriculum within the context of its Jesuit, Catholic mission. In addition, it fulfills our mission to share with the wider community our resources and special expertise.

Importance of the Bellarmine Museum Project for Fairfield University

The Bellarmine Museum Project grows out of a multiple-year initiative to enhance the teaching of art history and the humanities at Fairfield. As part of this effort, the University assessed the importance of its existing art collection and now envisions a museum as a way to showcase our holdings. The proposed museum and its exhibition programming will complement the exhibition schedule of largely modern and contemporary art currently available through the Thomas J. Walsh Art Gallery, housed in the Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts. In celebration of our proximity to New York City, we have joined in partnership with the Metropolitan Museum of Art, one of the most important museums in the world, to plan the Bellarmine Museum. This section of the application will outline the Bellarmine Museum Project in detail, provide a description of the existing art collection, and explain the loan arrangement with the Metropolitan Museum of Art (hereafter, MMA). It will end with a summary proposal for this Challenge Grant, highlighting its five principal objectives.

To understand the importance of the proposed museum within the broader context of institutional mission, it is necessary to outline briefly Fairfield University's strategic plan, now being implemented, which centers on three main themes:

- Goal 1: the integration of the curriculum, with special attention to interdisciplinary learning;
- Goal 2: the linkage of living and learning activities designed to extend learning beyond the classroom; and
- Goal 3: the development of graduate programs and lifelong learning opportunities for the community, including attention to cultural activities.

These goals formed the basis of our 2006-2007 self study for re-accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The goals have informed our planning for faculty and facilities expansion, student learning initiatives, and all major projects, including the Bellarmine Museum and its link to student learning and community outreach. The Bellarmine Museum is envisioned to enhance the teaching and outreach of our Art History Program, housed in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts of the College of Arts and Sciences and foster links with other departments and schools at the University. With a collection focused on the art of the Medieval and Renaissance periods in the West, the museum will serve four primary goals for our University and surrounding community, each linked to the strategic goals outlined above:

- First, it will complement the teaching of the humanities by providing an invaluable resource of works of art available for study on campus (Strategic plan, Goal 1).
- Second, the museum will also function as a center for the integration of visual literacy across the curriculum (Goal 1).

- Third, the museum will serve as a home for a growing art collection and an important loan from the MMA. Student involvement in the activities of the museum will provide valuable experience outside the classroom (Goal 2).
- Finally, the museum will provide a resource for neighboring schools, social groups, and residents in general to enjoy and learn about art (Goal 3).

History of The Bellarmine Museum Project

The University's current plans for the Bellarmine Museum Project are the culmination of a six-year initiative at Fairfield to enhance the Art History Program. Since 2002, Fairfield has achieved the following goals of this initiative: It has created a new tenure-track art history line with a specialization in the art of the Medieval world. Since her hire in 2004, Professor Marice Rose has offered new courses in Medieval Art, each linked to other disciplines in the humanities including Classical Studies, Irish Studies, and Women's Studies. Recognizing the importance of digital technologies in art history, the University also hired a visual resources curator in 2005 to assist with the transition from teaching with slides to digital images and to digitize our existing collection of slides, which include unique and irreplaceable images of European architecture, mid-twentieth-century architecture in the United States Northeast, and American furniture. By 2008-09, the Visual Resources Collection will be ready to offer pilot services to other disciplines on campus interested in digital imagery. The University has also subscribed to ARTstor and other nationally-recognized databases to enhance teaching and study with digital images, most especially in art history.

Finally, and most relevant to this application, the University has sought over the past few years to find a place on campus to highlight its art collection. Following a thorough restoration of

Bellarmino Hall, the University identified space for an art museum in this handsome building. The University engaged appropriate consultants for the Bellarmino Museum Project including the renowned firm of Centerbrook Architects to refine and execute its design. More sophisticated planning, particularly in HVAC and security design, drove renovation estimates much higher than originally planned, and the University has fundraised over the past year to cover the new, firm cost of renovations at \$2.5 million. At present, we have a verbal pledge from a long-time friend and supporter of the University for a leadership gift of \$2 million toward renovation costs, which is of course separate from this NEH Challenge Grant request. We will complete all renovations by March, 2009. With this grant application, we seek endowed funds to support this museum and provide the programming we believe will make it a viable and accessible learning laboratory as well as a source of aesthetic enrichment for the Fairfield University campus.

The museum in Bellarmino Hall will have four principal galleries, in addition to an office for a director, a seminar classroom, and space for storage (see Appendix A for a photograph of Bellarmino Hall and a floor plan of the Bellarmino Museum). The four gallery spaces are summarized here. First, a gallery of Medieval and Renaissance art will be the gem of the University's spaces devoted to the display of art. The plan of the gallery resembles a basilica, and existing nooks and archways will allow for a creative art installation. With a focus on art of the Middle Ages and Renaissance, the gallery will enhance our students' learning experiences in the art and culture of these two historical periods. The gallery will highlight six of ten paintings from the Kress "Gift to America" collection that were gifted to the University in 2003. The gallery will also display thirty objects on loan from the MMA. The MMA loan comprises a representative teaching collection of Medieval art with objects in a wide range of media from sculpture to mosaic to metalwork. Since 2005, Professor Jesús Escobar of the Art History

Program has worked with curators at the MMA to arrange this loan of fine works of art that the MMA is unable to display because of space constraints at its main building and at the Cloisters Collection in Upper Manhattan.

The central gallery has two adjacent gallery spaces. The first is ideal for the display of sculpture and three-dimensional art and will be used to display works of Ancient Greek and Roman art from the University's collection of plaster casts, as well as another of the Kress paintings. Highlights of our outstanding collection of Non-Western art will be displayed in the second gallery. The museum also includes a corridor gallery, which is suitable for paintings, prints, or photographs in Fairfield's permanent collection. It can also be used for traveling exhibitions, especially those devoted to prints, photography, or other works on paper. An additional temporary exhibition space exists in the main gallery of Medieval and Renaissance art.

With a seminar room enhanced for teaching art history alongside the corridor gallery, the museum in Bellarmine Hall will be an innovative laboratory for teaching and learning about art. Indeed, the Bellarmine Museum will directly benefit the teaching of art history and the humanities in general at Fairfield, and will further the goals of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts as well as the Strategic Plan of the University to integrate the arts into the curriculum more fully.

The Existing Art Collection at Fairfield University

The current art collection owned by Fairfield has been acquired through generous donations and bequests by various patrons of the University. Fairfield's accomplished faculty, with their scholarly expertise, have established substantial contacts within their respective academic areas. These connections have made possible collaborations that help the Bellarmine Museum Project a

reality. Today, much of Fairfield's current and evolving art collection remains in storage or on display in small spaces dispersed throughout the campus. Thus, the Bellarmine Museum will offer a beautifully designed exhibition space where the presentation of these artistic resources can become an effective tool in the integrative learning experience for our students and larger University community.

The Fairfield University art collection includes a group of ten Italian paintings from the Renaissance and Baroque periods that were donated in 2003, after being de-accessioned, by the Discovery Museum in Bridgeport, Connecticut. This gift was the result of the diplomacy of Professor Philip Eliasoph, a member of our art history faculty, who saw the potential for these paintings on our campus rather than locked away in storage. The ten paintings formed part of the original Samuel H. Kress "Gift to America," and have found new life at Fairfield. Once the paintings arrived at Fairfield, the Kress Foundation paid for a cleaning of the works, a process overseen by Patricia Sherwin Garland, the chief conservator of the Yale University Art Gallery (letter of support included). In conjunction with our planning for the Bellarmine Museum in 2007, the University successfully applied for a Kress Foundation \$50,000 grant to support the installation of our museum galleries and to fund a national symposium about sacred art in the humanities. That symposium took place on campus in March 27, 2008 and brought together scholars in the disciplines of art history, history, Italian literature, and religious studies for a day-long event that included a standing-room only presentation of scholarly research highlighting Fairfield's Kress paintings. The President of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, Max Marmor, was in attendance and has written a letter in support of this grant application.

Another highlight of the University's collection is sixty-eight plaster casts, lent by the Metropolitan Museum of Art since 1991 and augmented in 2004 by the gift from the same

museum as well as other donations from friends of the University. The collection includes works of Ancient Greek and Roman art, as well as examples from the Medieval and Renaissance periods. It is curated by Professor Katherine Schwab, a member of the art history faculty and a nationally-recognized expert on plaster casts, which are today highly valued for pedagogic purposes in the humanities and visual arts alike.

The University also has a rich collection of works of art from Asia, Africa, and the Americas that will form the basis of a gallery dedicated to Non-Western art planned for the Bellarmine Museum. Its highlights include a marble seated Jain statue from India and a terracotta Nayarit Seated Couple from the Ixtlan region in Mexico. Rounding out the existing collection is an array of artworks including photographs, paintings, and prints, many of which will not find a home in the Bellarmine Museum since they already adorn other public spaces on campus. A select list of the University's existing art collection is included in Appendix B.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art Loan

An exciting feature of the Bellarmine Museum will be a loan of thirty works of art from the Medieval Department and the Cloisters Collection of the MMA in New York City. As noted above, the collection is meant to be a representative teaching collection of Medieval art across historical periods and geographic divides, from a Middle Byzantine cloisoné plaque to a Netherlandish polychrome sculpture of Saint Barbara made in the Late Gothic period. The loan of sculpture is especially rich, with three German wood carvings depicting scenes of the Passion and two French Madonna and Child statues, one from the Romanesque period and one from the High Gothic. Juxtaposed with the statue of Saint Barbara, these latter two sculptures will offer museum visitors a wonderful opportunity to see the gradual transformation in the depiction of the

human body over the course of the development of Medieval art. The loan also includes architectural fragments including two columns, an engaged column capital, and two choir stalls. These objects will be enhanced in their display by the plaster cast of a king and a queen from the Chartres Cathedral Royal Portal that is already in the Fairfield collection.

A number of the items from the MMA, including an array of early Medieval jewelry and other select objects, will be at Fairfield for only two years. For instance, we will receive four valuable facsimiles of masterpieces of Celtic and Early Irish art that will be displayed alongside Fairfield's treasured facsimile of the Book of Kells. Thus, students enrolling in courses in Irish studies, including those offered in the Art History Program, will have a unique experience on campus to see these important works. The bulk of the other loan objects will be on a semi-permanent loan, subject to annual review by the MMA curators but likely to remain at Fairfield for several years.

The Objectives of the Bellarmine Museum

The Bellarmine Museum Project seeks to offer the campus a place for aesthetic enjoyment. It builds on relationships with other institutions such as the Yale University Art Gallery, the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art mentioned above. With funding from the NEH, Fairfield University now seeks to endow the principal costs of this project: a Museum Director position, faculty and staff development workshops, and a lecture series, in addition to funding the planning associated with temporary exhibitions and loans for the museum. Lastly, we seek funding to maintain a website in conjunction with the museum. These objectives will be described in detail following an explanation of the role of the humanities at Fairfield.

The Commitment to the Humanities at Fairfield University

Fairfield University was founded in 1942 by the Society of Jesus, a religious order celebrated for its tradition of learning, scholarship, and active service in the world. A Jesuit education seeks to equip students with a sophisticated and critical awareness of the world in which they will live their lives, and with the sensitivity and clarity of vision to choose how they will make a difference in that world. An education in the Jesuit tradition is judged successful by the way in which graduates bring the expertise they have acquired in their chosen field of study into a productive relationship to the community and the world. There is a moral dimension to education in that we seek for students to recognize the importance of a clearly and carefully chosen way of being in the world that will contribute to its betterment. We do not seek to indoctrinate students into a particular form of service, but for them to understand the world for the purpose of making a positive difference.

The foundation of the humanities at Fairfield University is the rigorous and comprehensive sixty-credit core curriculum required of all undergraduates, of which art history is but one component. The Art History Program has developed four introductory-level courses that specifically serve the core curriculum and are offered on a regular basis: a two-semester survey of Western art from Antiquity to the present; a survey of the arts of Asia, Africa, and the Americas; and a survey of the history of architecture from Ancient Greece to the present. Traditional Jesuit education gives the humanities primacy in the core, and at Fairfield, literature, language, art, philosophy, history, and religious studies make up more than two-thirds of the core curriculum requirements. Intricately linked to the intellectual and ethical goals of the University's mission statement, the core is designed to impart knowledge and experiences that

will provide students a lifelong compass for continuous personal growth, meaningful citizenship, and enlightened decision-making. A team of faculty and administrators regularly assess Fairfield's core to ensure that the depth and breadth of course offerings are sufficient to prepare our students for the needs of an increasingly complex society. Renewed interest in the integration of knowledge within the core curriculum has led to its prominence as a central feature of our strategic plan.

In keeping with the Jesuit ideal of *cura personalis*, a Fairfield education promotes interdisciplinary work and tries to foster a spirit of cooperation and dialog among specialists within the University and with those at other universities and communities. Over the years, Fairfield has developed many interdisciplinary programs which both draw from and enhance the traditional humanities majors. The list includes the Honors Program; the major program in International Studies; and the minor programs in Asian Studies, Black Studies, Classical Studies, Irish Studies, Italian Studies, Judaic Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Russian and East European Studies, and Women's Studies. The Art History Program has been a key resource in building many of these interdisciplinary majors and minors; its faculty have developed and taught courses in nearly every program on this list. Another recent Fairfield initiative, the Ignatian Residential College, funded by a \$2 million Lilly Endowment grant, takes the interdisciplinary experience one step further. The Ignatian Residential College is designed to integrate the intellectual, affective, and spiritual dimensions of students' lives through a sophomore year residential/academic program that emphasizes the humanities. Again, the Art History Program has contributed to this initiative by tailoring an existing course in Baroque art to the ideals of the Ignatian Residential College while keeping it grounded in the study of art

history. For the Bellarmine Museum, we seek a director who will lead the programming for the museum and also teach art history.

Prior NEH Challenge Grant

A major influence on curricular innovation within art history and the humanities in general has been the previous NEH Challenge Grant, which Fairfield received in 1984 and led to the creation of our Humanities Institute, housed in the College of Arts and Sciences. The previous generosity of the NEH played a crucial role in Fairfield's rapid development of several nationally recognized programs in the humanities. In the two and a half decades since 1984, the fund has more than doubled to \$2.3 million and provided immeasurable benefits. Annual lecture series have brought many notable speakers to campus, including Elie Wiesel, Robert Coles, E.L. Doctorow, Beverly Sills, Tom Wolfe, and Cornel West. The Humanities Institute continues to fund thematic and interdisciplinary development workshops encouraging faculty to integrate new subject material into their courses. Workshops in Russian Studies and International Studies led to the establishment of a minor and major program, respectively, while another workshop on diversity integrated Non-Western elements into Fairfield's core curriculum and ultimately led to United States and World diversity requirements in the core curriculum. Funds from the NEH endowment also established the University's Writing Center, an academic resource available to all students. These are some of the major initiatives that have resulted from the NEH funded Humanities Institute.

Fairfield's commitment to the humanities extends well beyond its campus borders. At the University's nationally recognized study-abroad program at the Florence University of the Arts in Florence, Italy, students from a multitude of universities interact in an academic environment almost entirely devoted to the humanities. The Florence program also offers courses in museum

studies, thereby providing our students valuable experience for their return to Fairfield. In the near future, we look forward to offering internship opportunities at our campus art museum.

A Project to Strengthen and Enhance the Humanities at Fairfield University

The Bellarmine Museum will strengthen the teaching of the humanities at Fairfield and augment the record of achievement in our Art History Program. In recent years, the Art History Program has emerged as one of our finest examples of the Jesuit intellectual mission in action. The faculty members are internationally recognized for their scholarship in their respective fields; on campus, they are recognized for their service to the university, their engagement with their colleagues, and their dedication to their students. Professional relationships between the art history faculty and personnel at other institutions, both in the United States and abroad, have led to educational and professional opportunities for our students, paving the way for success in their future careers. Through the Art History Program's lecture series, many distinguished scholars and artists have come to Fairfield. They offer lectures as is expected, but also take part in seminars and less formal gatherings where students have the opportunity to interact with them.

Each semester, the art history faculty—composed of four full-time faculty, the director of our Walsh Art Gallery who offers one course per term, and one or two adjunct faculty hired for their particular expertise—teach approximately 330 students, or just over one-tenth of Fairfield's undergraduate students. Over the past five years, the program has had an average of forty-five majors and minors. The vitality of the Art History Program has contributed greatly to the University's decision to undertake the Bellarmine Museum Project which has been driven by the art history faculty.

Challenge Grant Expenditures

The request for the Bellarmine Museum Project outlined herein is \$500,000 to be matched 4:1 in order to generate a \$2.5 million endowment. The University's investment policy is based on an annual spending rate not to exceed 5% of the preceding three fiscal years' average market value. The Investment Subcommittee will routinely review spending policy and practices to ensure that the policy remains aligned with financial objectives.

With the support of the NEH and our matching donors, we seek to endow the following five critical objectives:

- a full-time position of Museum Director;
- workshops for faculty and staff development on the visual arts across the curriculum;
- a lecture series to be held in conjunction with the programming of museum activities;
- temporary exhibition planning and loans; and
- a website for ongoing outreach and curricular initiatives that will serve as an adjunct to the museum itself.

The annual costs for the items listed total \$125,000, which are broken down as follows:

Museum Director (\$85,000/annually)

Our first objective for the Bellarmine Museum Project is to hire and endow the position of a Museum Director. The director will serve as the museum's critical interface between the Art History Program, University Advancement and Marketing, and the external community. This individual will have an advanced degree in art history and be expected to teach one course per semester as well as oversee our museum and its programming. We seek a colleague who will be committed to the spirit of a liberal arts education based in a strong core curriculum and to the

creation of a new series of courses to complement our rich offerings in art history. With this hire, the Art History Program will be well placed to offer new seminars that explore the role of the museum in American society. Such courses would be highly welcome. In the past five years, five of our Art History majors have pursued Master's degrees in museum studies at top programs including Christie's London, Christie's New York, Sotheby's New York, and Boston University. Two others have attended museum education and arts administration programs at Columbia University and New York University.

The Museum Director would be responsible for overseeing the collection and maintaining regular contact with our partners at the MMA. Additionally, the director would be charged with growing the collection and creating learning strategies for students through internships and guided opportunities to work directly with the objects in the collection. The director will be the public face of the Bellarmine Museum and cultivate external audiences with the support of Advancement and Marketing.

Faculty and Staff Development Workshops (\$10,000/annually)

This aspect of the grant focuses on developing purposeful ways to integrate the museum into the art history curriculum and integrate art objects and visual literacy into the humanities curriculum more broadly. The seminar room included in the Bellarmine Museum Project will provide the ideal setting for classes and roundtable gatherings of faculty and staff interested in the role that the University's art collection can play in their teaching or service on campus.

Through Fairfield's pedagogical center, the Center for Academic Excellence, Fairfield has adopted Faculty Learning Communities (FLC) as a significant methodology to advance curricular innovation (letter of support attached from Professor Lawrence Miners, director of the

Center for Academic Excellence). Fairfield's FLCs are modeled after the highly successful FLC program started at Miami University of Ohio nearly 30 years ago by Dr. Milton Cox. For the current academic year, 2007-2008, there are five of these communities, each comprised of six to eight faculty members, which meet twice monthly. There is a strong institutional commitment to these learning communities and excellent internal expertise in creating learning communities that lead to measurable outcomes. The art history faculty and museum director will work with the Center for Academic Excellence to develop guidelines that will lead to Faculty and Staff Development Workshops modeled on the existing Faculty Learning Communities structure. These workshops will involve faculty from across the humanities, library and other staff, and administrators to make sure that visual literacy remains a characteristic and meaningful expression of the core curriculum.

Endowed Lecture Series (\$7,000/annually)

The primary objective with this funding is to expand our existing Art History Special Lecture Series, which currently is supported by operating funds from the Department of Visual and Performing Arts. The current series is overseen by the faculty in the Art History Program who would welcome the participation of a new museum director in the programming for an enhanced series that would open learning opportunities for both our students and the external community. To date, the lecture series has sought to complement students' learning experiences in our introductory, intermediate, and advanced courses. In an ideal semester, the lecture series has two speakers. Corresponding with our two-semester Western survey course, fall semester speakers tend to focus on the art of the Ancient and Medieval periods, while spring semester speakers cover the Renaissance to the present. We have learned that longer visits for speakers work very

well as an integrative learning experience. With monies from a Challenge Grant, Fairfield will foster a greater commitment from speakers who will be invited to campus to share their expertise, but also take part in classroom discussions or more informal meetings with our students. Although Fairfield is fortunate to have a wealth of art experts in the Northeast region, enhanced funding for a lecture series would allow us to invite speakers from farther away and thus expand the range of the voices and experiences for our students and members of the community.

Temporary Exhibition Planning (\$20,000/annually)

The gallery of Medieval and Renaissance art planned for the Bellarmine Museum includes space for the installation of temporary loans or small exhibitions. With this endowed funding, we seek to plan and install one special, NEH supported exhibition per year. This installation would be specifically tailored to integrate and enrich the curriculum for any given year. As an example, in anticipation of the eventual return of the Celtic and Early Irish facsimiles that will be lent by the MMA for two years, we can envision a small installation of one or two choice sculptures that would complement the Chartres Cathedral portal sculptures already in our plaster collection. The art history curriculum would be planned in such a way that courses in Medieval art would be offered to coincide with the special exhibition. Faculty in other departments would be invited to consider ways to integrate the special exhibition into their teaching.

Additionally, the Bellarmine Museum has a corridor gallery that is ideally suited for works on paper, including drawings, prints, and photographs, in addition to the plaster casts that will normally grace its walls. The corridor will not have the same environmental conditions as

the main gallery spaces in the museum. Thus, the objects that might be displayed in the corridor gallery might be of lesser prestige though certainly not without pedagogic merit.

Museum Website (\$3,000/annually)

The final component of the Bellarmine Museum Project is the development of a website. We envision the website as an adjunct for the museum and a place for ongoing outreach to the University community and beyond. The website will also be a place to document curricular initiatives, including interactive ones that will continue to evolve well after its establishment. Additionally, the website will serve as a resource for local educators, especially teachers of schoolchildren who will find the Bellarmine Museum to be an ideal stepping stone leading to class visits to larger museums in New York City and beyond. Much of the development expertise for this undertaking will be coordinated by the Office of Web Communications in the University's Marketing and Communications Division in collaboration with the Art History Program and the staff from Fairfield's Office of Computing and Network Services. The amount of \$3,000 listed here would be used for ongoing maintenance, upgrade, and enhancements to the website.

Assessing the Impact of the Challenge Grant

The Bellarmine Museum Project has a number of anticipated outcomes that can be assessed and quantified. These outcomes fall into the areas of curriculum, faculty/student research, student learning outcomes, and community of interest. The first three outcomes are short-term. With regard to curriculum, new art history courses in museum studies and Medieval art at the intermediate and advanced levels will immediately benefit from the Bellarmine Museum.

Students will undertake special writing assignments and gain hands-on installation experience, including the preparation of educational materials from wall text to information pamphlets for visitors. In the area of research, Professor Rose has already assigned research projects related to the Metropolitan Museum of Art loan and Professor Escobar taught a seminar in Fall 2006 exploring the history of museums and installation design, with a final design project related to Fairfield's future museum. The best way to teach art history is through direct contact with works of art, which would be possible to do at Fairfield with a new campus museum. Measuring the development of a student's aesthetic sensibility can be accomplished through specialized questions as part of the national surveys which examine student engagement in various areas over four years. The national surveys include the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), the College Student Survey (CSS), and the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI). In addition Fairfield University is developing a model to gauge student learning outcomes in various disciplines by outlining course goals, developing subject specific rubrics to measure those goals, and then examining student courses for how the work reflects those rubrics.

There is also one long term goal to be assessed. In the area of community interest, the University will measure the number of visits to the Bellarmine Museum, and ask visitors during the first year to complete a survey about their experience to help assess future development of programming in the museum. Participants at lectures and other gallery events will also be surveyed for their responses to events programming. We will track all media coverage of the museum and ask the University archivist to begin a file of this documentation in the DiMenna-Nyselius Library.

Challenge Grant Fundraising Plan

The Bellarmine Museum project is enthusiastically supported by the Board of Trustees, the President, faculty, staff, students, and administrators. Our President, Rev. Jeffrey P. von Arx, S.J. is deeply committed to the humanities and the arts, which have played and will continue to play a significant role in cultivating the necessary donors for the Bellarmine Museum fundraising efforts. His expertise and highly effective fundraising abilities will provide the required leadership to ensure the success of Fairfield's fundraising goal for the Bellarmine Museum Project. In fact, President von Arx, S.J. has secured a verbal pledge of \$500,000 specifically for this NEH Bellarmine Museum Project.

Fairfield University maintains a permanently staffed University Advancement Division that is responsible for developing and implementing comprehensive Individual Giving, Foundation Relations, Corporate Relations and Alumni Relations programs. The area of Individual Giving encompasses Annual Fund, Major Gifts, Planned Giving and Research. The Division is responsible for all private sector fund-raising activities undertaken on the University's behalf to meet annual, capital, restricted or endowment needs. Fund-raising emphasis for the most recent ten fiscal years 1998 to 2007 was in the areas of annual fund, scholarships, permanent endowment and gifts for academic, programs and capital projects. Additionally, permanent endowment funds have increased from \$27 million in fiscal year 1998 to \$90 million in fiscal year 2007 with the total endowment (permanent plus quasi-endowment) at \$260 million as of June 30, 2007. Also, support from alumni has increased, both in dollars and in participation. This constituency has been responsible for \$45 million, or 32% of all private sector gift income in the ten-year period ended June 30, 2007.

The University's first five-year comprehensive campaign was concluded on December 31, 1991, over \$42 million in gifts and pledges were received, exceeding the campaign goal of \$35.5 million. In September of 2000, the University formally announced another capital campaign with a working goal of \$100 million that was later increased to \$125 million. The success of the campaign, which was concluded on June 30, 2004, is evidenced through the current gifts and pledges toward anticipated campaign priorities which exceeded \$138 million, \$17 million beyond the increased goal.

Based on a study conducted by Marts & Lundy in 2006, Fairfield recorded total average giving in the post-campaign period during fiscal years 2003–2005 of \$13,853,560. Current operating support through the annual fund averaged \$2.7 million on an annual basis during this same timeline. Of particular note is individual giving to the University including alumni, parents, and friends which accounts for approximately 70 percent of total giving. Over the last ten years, gifts from foundations, corporations, and other institutions have averaged approximately 30 percent of total gifts. During the last capital campaign, \$65 million was raised toward endowment.

In the fall of 2006, the former Vice President of Advancement retired after nearly thirty years of service to the institution. He was replaced by the current Vice President, Stephanie Frost, who had over twenty years fundraising experience in New York and Connecticut. She was recruited from Yale University where she had been a member of the Development team for twelve years, most recently as Director of Major Gifts. Under her leadership and building upon the strengths already in existence in the Foundation and Corporate Relations areas, the Major Gift and Research teams have been expanded, the Reunion Giving and Planned Giving offices have been established, and the recruitment of senior fundraising professionals to head all the individual

giving areas has been accomplished. Senior members of the Advancement team include individuals with extensive experience and successful fundraising records from notable institutions such as Georgetown University, Norton Museum, Save the Children, Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital, Washington University in St. Louis, and the United Way of Southeastern Fairfield County.

Fundraising for the Bellarmine Museum Project

The three fundamental fundraising criteria for success are in place: (1) the Board of Trustees and President support and promotes the Bellarmine Museum as an integral part of our strategic vision (2) our donor base is strong, and (3) the Advancement Division has the capacity to reach out to a significant donor base to realize important university strategic initiatives.

This project will be a stand-alone fundraising priority at Fairfield University with the express goal of establishing the Bellarmine Museum. Funding will support the construction of the actual space as well as the permanent endowment for staffing, program implementation, and related long-term sustainability of the museum. The prospect pool of donors to the Bellarmine Museum Project consists primarily of alumni, parents, and friends of the University, foundations, corporations, and other special groups of donors including members of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Advisors to the College of Arts and Sciences, in which the Department of Visual and Performing Arts finds its home.

Within the last several years post the capital campaign, there have been several successful fundraising initiatives that have secured endowment funds for major programs and Centers at Fairfield that provide strong evidence of Fairfield's capacity to achieve the Bellarmine Museum Project fundraising goal.

In 2001 Fairfield University was awarded a \$2 million grant from the Lilly Endowment for the creation of the Ignatian Residential College, an intensive living and learning experience for over 200 sophomore students. An additional \$500,000 in sustainability funding was awarded in 2005 by the foundation, with the understanding that Fairfield secure permanent endowment support to sustain the Ignatian Residential College in perpetuity with a goal of \$3 million by June 30, 2010. As of June 30, 2007 a total of \$2,463,094 has been raised in gifts and pledges.

Other successful examples of endowing strategic initiatives include two important new academic centers; the Center for Academic Excellence and our Center for Faith and Public Life. The Center for Academic Excellence is a pedagogical center which works for the improvement of teaching. It is funded by a combination of operating dollars and endowment, most of which has been raised. Our new Center for Faith and Public Life facilitates service learning and other issues of social justice and is equally funded through a combination of operating dollars and endowment, which now stands at \$4 million.

An equally successful example of a focused endowment fundraising initiative was the Meditz Challenge. A University Trustee made a challenge grant to Fairfield University in July of 2007 offering the University \$500,000 if we were able to raise \$1 million over three years in new gifts and pledges for endowment for those areas identified and articulated within the University's new Strategic Vision. The challenge began on July 1, 2007 and the \$1 million goal in new gifts and pledges was achieved in September, 2007, just 3 months later.

The fundraising plan for the proposed Bellarmine Museum Project will secure the matching support from a diverse group of donors including alumni, parents, friends, foundations and corporations. A \$50,000 grant from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation was received in 2005 for

construction of the Bellarmine Museum and an additional \$116,000 has been secured from individuals. Since the trends in foundation giving over the last ten years have shifted away from endowment support toward programmatic funding, a rigorous plan has been underway and continues to be underway to identify individual donors representing alumni, parents, and friends who may be interested in the Bellarmine Museum Project. It is expected that a portion of the prospects identified for this initiative will include foundations especially those smaller family foundations that have maintained a commitment to endowment support. In fact, leadership gift (i.e., \$2.5 million and above) and major gift (\$50,000 to \$2.5 million) conversations have already been underway between the Major Gift team and alumni who have expressed an interest in supporting the Bellarmine Museum Project. As noted earlier, a verbal pledge of \$500,000 has been committed to the University toward this NEH Challenge Grant project.

The Vice President for Advancement, Stephanie Frost, directs Fairfield's fundraising efforts, and she will oversee fundraising for the Bellarmine Museum Project. In the months since the initial agreement was reached with the MMA, many cultivation and gift conversations have already begun between members of the Major Gift team and University alumni, parents and friends. The institution currently has over 2200 alumni, parents and friends who are qualified as capable of making a gift of \$50,000 and above over a three to five year period. The Major Gift team comprised of five full time major gift professionals each maintaining a portfolio of approximately 300 major gift prospects around the country are currently and will continue to be focused on cultivating and soliciting leadership and major gift prospects for this project. In addition, the Director of Major Gifts as well as the Associate Vice President for Individual Giving who also maintain portfolios of highly rated major and leadership gift prospects will participate in cultivating and soliciting individual gifts for this important project. Advancement

staff for major gifts, corporations, and foundations together with the Office of Government Relations in the Academic Division will coordinate prospect management and the solicitation of matching funds.

Conclusion

Fairfield University will bring to fruition an expanded venue, the Bellarmine Museum, through which works of art will be shared with our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the greater community. Fairfield University has long celebrated the arts as an integral component of Jesuit education. The significance of the arts in the core curriculum, the strength of the academic offerings in the visual arts, and a renewed focus on visual literacy via direct contact with works of art on campus as explained in this grant proposal all attest to Fairfield's commitment. The Museum and related activities will assist in the strategic goals of the university, including the integration of the core curriculum, the facilitation of living and learning, and the outreach to the community. It will provide an exciting resource for the program in Art History Program, and provide a setting for aesthetic contemplation, as well as a laboratory for the study of art across the humanities. The centrality of the Bellarmine Museum to institutional goals and the excitement already generated among our donor base will allow us, with the support of the NEH, to be successful in our efforts to create a vital cultural resource for our students, faculty, and greater community.