Three Sophomores Selected for Prestigious Mellon Mays Undergraduate Research Fellowship

The Office of the Dean of the College is pleased to announce the 27th cohort of Brown Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows (MMUF), who will receive funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. This year the Mellon Mays Advisory Board has selected three fellows: Jeanne Ernest, Georgeara Castañeda, and Pablo Caban-Bonet. Each fellow will conduct research under the guidance of a selected faculty mentor. Additionally, MMUF Fellows will receive funding and other forms of support over the next two years as they conduct their research and prepare for graduate study.

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship aims to increase the number of underrepresented minorities in faculty positions at colleges and universities. Successful applicants demonstrate exceptional intellectual ability and motivation for doctoral study in select fields in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. Fellows continue to receive support in graduate school and throughout their academic careers. Each scholar’s area of study is described below.

**Jeanne Ernest** is concentrating in History with a focus on revolutionary studies. Broadly, Jeanne is interested in exploring the historical implications of the French, Haitian, and Cuban Revolutions alongside the industrial and scientific revolutions in pursuit of one guiding question: *What is a revolution?* Under the mentorship of Professor Jennifer Lambe, Jeanne will refine her research questions and narrow her temporal structure. She will begin this work over the summer as she performs canonical research in the field. In the future, Jeanne hopes to obtain a PhD in History and contribute to the growing body of scholarship on the comprehensive nature of revolutionary theory.

**Georgeta Castañeda** is a Religious Studies concentrator focusing on spiritual practices within Latin America and the Caribbean. More specifically, she hopes to examine narratives of religious, cultural, and ethnic mixture in Santeria, Cuba and Candomblé religious practices in Brazil. Her faculty mentor will be Professor Daniel Vaca. After her undergraduate studies, she hopes to pursue a PhD in Religious Studies with an emphasis on Latin America.

**Pablo Caban-Bonet** is concentrating in Medieval Studies with a focus on Late Antiquity. Pablo is interested in the rise of Christianity in the Western Middle Ages through the lens of his faith and ethnicity. Specifically, his project will examine the *Confessions* of St. Augustine. This summer, Pablo plans to begin his research with his Faculty mentor Professor Joseph Pucci. After graduation, Pablo hopes to pursue a PhD in Medieval Studies.

For more information about the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, contact Dean Asabe Poloma.