Postdoctoral Fellowship: Health and Humanities

The John P. McGovern, M.D., Center for Humanities and Ethics at The University of Texas Medical School at Houston invites applicants for a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in humanities and healthcare. This position will require the successful candidate to engage in and help carry out the work of the Center, while encouraging her or his development as a medical humanist and scholar.

The McGovern Center was established in September 2004 as an integral part of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth). While housed in the Medical School, the Center works closely with all six professional schools at UTHealth—schools of nursing, medicine, dentistry, public health, biomedical sciences, and biomedical informatics. Educationally, the Center addresses the dehumanizing forces in contemporary health care by studying and teaching forms of care and research that are ethically-sound, spiritually-informed, and culturally sensitive. The Center’s scholarship and research focuses on contexts, experiences, power, meanings, ethics, and professional formation in medicine and health care using the methods of the humanities and the interpretive social sciences. UTHealth is situated in the Texas Medical Center, the world’s largest medical center, and adjacent to safe walkable neighborhoods like Rice Village (home of Rice University). Houston is the nation’s fourth largest city, with ample intellectual, cultural, artistic, and gastronomic attractions.

Position Requirements
The successful candidate should meet the following criteria:

- Ph.D. in the humanities or interpretive social sciences (in hand by June 2013);
- Experience teaching in some area of the medical or health-related humanities;
- Evidence of research/publication in the humanities related to healthcare, with expertise in history, literature, philosophy, theology, the arts, or the social sciences.

Responsibilities
The successful candidate will be expected to participate fully in McGovern Center activities and become engaged with the larger Health Science Center. This will include 50% time spent supporting existing programs, such as teaching in required and elective courses, and participating in the intellectual life of the Center; and 50% in pursuit of his or her own research and scholarship either independently or in collaboration with others.

Process
Applications will be accepted until March 15, 2013. The successful candidate will be announced June 1, 2013. Starting date is September 1, 2013. Fellowship will be awarded for two years, with an annual stipend of $45,000 (plus benefits), and $2,500 allowance for research and travel.

Candidates should send a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, writing sample, and three letters of reference to:

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