

## **Valentour World Travel Fellowship**

### **Policy**

The Seminary has received a generous endowment from Mr. Louis Valentour enabling a full-time student with Middler standing to travel for seven to twelve weeks during the summer visiting various cultures and societies. The travel fellowship is to cover all expenses. Students are expected to share their experience with the Seminary community. The deadline for applications is February 1<sup>st</sup> before the summer of travel.

The award is based on a proposal that outlines the purpose and the plan for travel, which must include several cultures and societies in the non-Western world. Proposals will be favored that include a statement of intent to do an Independent Study with a named member of the faculty in the following Fall Term as well as a preliminary draft proposal for it. The Independent Study is related to some aspect of the student's travel experience. Both the statement of purpose and plan for travel, and the preliminary draft proposal for the Independent Study should be at least 500 words. The preliminary proposal for the Independent Study should leave room for adjustment and expansion resulting from the new awareness and experience gained.

Travel arrangements are the responsibility of the student. The student receiving the award receives a timely cash pay-out of the full award in order to pay in advance for tickets, etc. Hence the award should be made no later than the beginning March of the year in which the fellowship is to be taken. The student is to be made aware that any expenses that exceed the amount of the award must be paid by the student. It is advisable that a certain amount of the award be held in reserve for unforeseen emergencies. In the interest of accountability the student submits travel expenses to the Seminary Business Office.

It is the responsibility of those awarding the fellowship to advise the student about real or possible problem areas in the plan, including safety issues. Travel is never without risk, and the final responsibility for safe travel rests with the student herself/himself.

The award is made by a committee composed of the Dean of Faculty (chair), the Dean of Students, two members of the Faculty, and the Director of World Mission Initiatives. The committee will make one or more recommendations for the award to the President, who will make the final selection.

Students should speak with the Dean of Faculty or another member of the award committee before making application.