

Scattergood Behavioral Health Foundation Library Internship Data Visualization

The Library offers an internship for the summer of 2017 focused on data visualization related to mental health and Quakerism, particularly the history of Friends Hospital. The intern will create visualizations on a variety of topics using primary sources. The internship presents excellent opportunities to strengthen both research capacity and digital skills.

Project

Founded by Philadelphia-area Quakers in 1813 as the Asylum for the Relief of Persons Deprived of the Use of their Reason, Friends Hospital was the first private psychiatric hospital in the United States. The hospital was partly modeled on the York Retreat, an English mental hospital also founded by Quakers, which pioneered the humane treatment of the mentally ill and subscribed to the philosophy of “moral treatment,” a movement within the mental health community which advocated against physical restraint of patients and for more humane conditions within asylums.

The project will consider the history of Friends Hospital within the larger histories of mental health care and Quakerism. This research will draw from rich Special Collections holdings, including the archives of Friends Hospital. These materials include minutes of the managers, corporation, and other hospital administrative materials; the superintendent’s day books, which record information on the patients’ health and behavior, visitors, and admissions and discharges; casebooks and admission records which record patients’ health issues and treatments; and published annual reports of the hospital.

Working closely with the Scattergood Digital Project Research and Writing intern, the intern will select topics for visualizations, build datasets, and display visualizations in the digital project. Potential questions to explore may include issues around gender, religion, and race; medical treatments, length of stay, and readmitted patients; and grounds layout and mapping.

This internship will be an opportunity for students who have digital skills to further develop them. The intern will gain experience in data visualization, web development, and other digital scholarship tools and methods. Additionally, the intern will gain valuable humanities research and writing experience.

The digital project can be explored at qmh.haverford.edu.

Oversight

Sarah Horowitz, Curator of Rare Books & Manuscripts and Head of Quaker & Special Collections will serve as the project supervisor and will meet regularly with the student to offer direction and advice. The intern will also work closely with Mike Zarafonetis, Head of Digital Scholarship, and the digital scholarship team. A team of advisors will also meet with the interns throughout the internship.

Preferred Skills

(Training will be provided for all necessary skills)

- Experience with front-end web development, including HTML, CSS, and Javascript preferred
- Experience with data visualization tools like D3.js, Raw, or Tableau Public preferred
- Knowledge of and interest in Quaker and/or early American history preferred
- Strong research and writing skills preferred

Duration & Funding:

- 11 weeks; May 15, 2017 – July 28
- 35 hours per week between 9am and 5pm
- \$11.00/ hour

To apply

To apply, please fill out the library's summer internship application form and provide a short statement (500 words or less) describing why you are interested in this internship and why you think it would be a good fit. Please describe any experience you have working with special collections materials or digital projects and provide the name of a faculty member who we can contact as a reference. Please submit application and statement to hccirc@haverford.edu or return it to the front desk in Magill.

Applications are due by **February 15**.