



Smithsonian Institution Libraries

Special Collections Department
The Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology

To: Referees for applicants for the Smithsonian Libraries' Dibner Library Resident Scholar Program: <http://library.si.edu/fellowships/dibner-library-resident-scholar-program>

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Smithsonian Libraries offers awards to pre-and post-doctoral scholars to conduct research which makes significant use of the Smithsonian Libraries' Special Collections in the Dibner Library of the History of Science & Technology. You are being asked by an applicant for this award to serve as a referee and to evaluate the enclosed proposal.

In your letter of support, please describe your relationship to the applicant and provide an evaluation of the proposal, considering the scholarly merit of the proposed research, and the likelihood the applicant would conduct it successfully at the Smithsonian. We also solicit your comments regarding the applicant's ability and his or her potential contribution to the field.

You will be receiving via email an automated solicitation to submit your letter of reference to the [Smithsonian Online Academic Appointment](#) system (SOLAA). Please be aware that the deadline for submission of all application materials, including your letter of reference, is **January 15, 2015**. Questions about the SOLAA system may be directed to the help desk at the Smithsonian's Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO) by emailing OCIOHelpDesk@si.edu or calling 202-633-4000.

The application, consisting of the proposal and two supporting letters, will be reviewed by a selection committee composed of Smithsonian research and library staff. Applications will be evaluated on the basis of the proposal's merit, the ability of the applicant to carry out the proposed research and study, and the extent to which the Smithsonian Libraries' resources can contribute to the proposed research.

We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Lilla Vekerdy
Head of Special Collections
Smithsonian Libraries

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