Call for Proposals
Visual Learning: Transforming the Liberal Arts
September 28-30th, 2012

Weitz Center for Creativity
Carleton College
Northfield, Minnesota

The visual infuses all aspects of life in our media-saturated world, profoundly impacting the way people see, know, communicate, and learn. With the Visualizing the Liberal Arts Initiative, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Carleton College investigates the visual as a catalyst in the transformation of the liberal arts. This initiative addresses the 21st-century learner through a series of experiments across the curriculum, engaging faculty, staff, and students in visual teaching, learning, and research methods.

As the three-year grant concludes in 2012, Carleton will host a conference titled Visual Learning: Transforming the Liberal Arts, inviting academics, educators, and specialists from other institutions to join the conversation, share successes, and confront continuing challenges. Stretching over two days, the conference will offer visionary lectures, speculative discussions, and hands-on sessions highlighting successful assignments, faculty-staff partnerships, exhibitions, and performances.

The organizers invite individual or group proposals from faculty, staff, and independent practitioners from all disciplines for papers, presentations, workshops, panels, and alternative formats. Papers will be approximately 20 minutes in length; panels and workshops approximately 90 minutes. The following topics might shape the proposals, and stimulate further ideas and themes that explore ways to define and unleash visual learning.

- The visual across disciplines: past, present, and future
- Documentary evidence and imaginative art
- Sounds, words, and images: enhancing meaning
- Visual ethics
- The science and art of perception
- Technologies of visual pedagogy and visualization
- Designing and evaluating visual assignments
- Coordination, collaboration, and academic support
- Studying physical and virtual objects
- Visualizing data
- Exhibitions across the curriculum: from concept to curating
- Developing the Teaching Museum as a pedagogical venue
- Envisioning the liberal arts in the future

Submit proposals by March 1, 2012
Questions: Contact Susan Jaret McKinstry (sjaret@carleton.edu)