The Mary Isabel Sibley Fellowship

The annual Mary Isabel Sibley Fellowship is awarded alternately in the fields of Greek and French. The award may be used for the study of Greek language, literature, history, or archaeology, or the study of French language or literature.

The Fellowship has a stipend of $20,000. The stipend will be paid in two installments, the first on July 1 of the award year, and the second on the next January 1, unless the Fellowship Committee orders the stipend withheld because the Fellow has disregarded the purpose of the award as stated by the donor.

Candidates must demonstrate their ability to carry on original research. They must hold a doctorate or have fulfilled all the requirements for a doctorate except the dissertation, and they must be planning to devote full-time work to research during the Fellowship year. The award is not restricted to members of Phi Beta Kappa or to U.S. citizens.

Periodic progress reports from the Fellow will be welcomed, and it is the hope of the Committee that the results of the year of research will be printed in some form.

History

In 1934 Miss Isabelle Stone left to the Phi Beta Kappa Society a bequest to establish a fellowship for a woman scholar. The conditions of the Fellowship were established by the bequest. Miss Stone was a Durant scholar at Wellesley College. After election to Phi Beta Kappa and graduation in 1905, she went to Cornell University for graduate work, and received a Ph.D. degree in 1908. She was then awarded the Alice Freeman Palmer Fellowship and spent the next year in Europe, principally in Greece, where she continued her study of Greek history and language. She spent the following year teaching in the South, but was obliged to resign her position because of her father's illness.

Through the Mary Isabel Sibley Fellowship—named in honor of her mother—Miss Stone passed on to other generations of women the pleasure and rewards she herself found in her year of study in Greece.