

Kate Canales
Dept. Chair
School of Design and Creative Technologies
University of Texas at Austin

Funding request for ‘a research collective’ on Ordinary Revelation

Dear Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to be considered for Professional Track Faculty Summer Support in Design by the School of Design and Creative Technologies.

For consideration of funding in design, I propose a 3-5 day convening of Byron Wilson (UT Assoc. Prof. of Practice), Shameka Powell (Tufts University Associate Professor), and Clifton Granby (Yale University Assistant Professor) to continue our work as a research collective between 3 universities and across several disciplines. The output of this research-driven convening is the further development of a proposal to publish a special edition of the *American Quarterly*, a journal of Johns Hopkins Press, in the Spring or Fall of 2024. To accomplish this goal we will need to offer 3 book reviews, 6 scholarly articles with supporting illustrations, and novel design layout. Our strategy requires each of the 3 professors to write on the topic of “ordinary revelation” within their respective disciplines to illicit responses from a colleague (of their choosing) in the respective discipline. Tentative call-and-response partners are: Byron Wilson & Casey Lance Brown of MIT, Shameka & Gloria Ladson-Billings of Univ. of Wisconsin at Madison, Clifton Granby & Cornel West of Union Theological Seminary. Currently, the research collective (Byron, Clifton, Shameka) has convened on two occasions in the last 6 months and produced a content strategy and devised shared language to connect the collection of writings and explored various ways of visualizing the inherent process and thought produced by this collective. We are at a point of readiness to develop first drafts of this project and confirm collegial respondents. This request for funds will enable Byron, Clifton, and Shameka to continue the forward movement of a unique project of significant merit and potential acclaim. As far as we can tell, the world has yet to hear from a triad composed of a designer (one skilled in the art and science of making), a pedagog (one skilled in the art and science of teaching teachers), and a religious epistemologist (one skilled in the art and science of knowing).

Sincerely,



Byron Wilson
Associate Professor of Practice
School of Design and Creative Technologies