Rubric for The Ames Library Scholarly & Artistic Research Award

Rating/Category	Excellent (fund)	Good	Poor (do not fund)
A well-defined and clearly described research question or creative idea	The proposal clearly identifies and describes a research question or creative idea.	The proposal adequately identifies and describes a research question or creative idea.	The proposal attempts to identify or describe a research question or creative idea, but does not do so clearly.
A clear statement that speaks directly to the goals of this award, with clear example(s) of how the applicant will use and integrate scholarly or artistic collections (e.g., archives, museums, databases, journals, data, images, musical works, etc.) during the development of the project	The proposal makes a clear, specific, and compelling case that their research will fulfill the goals of the award, with specific examples.	The proposal makes a tentative case for how their work will fulfill the goals of the award, with moderate specificity.	The proposal does not refer to the goals of the award or provide specifics/examples.
A description of the significance of the project to the student's development as a researcher or creator	The proposal clearly communicates to the reader that the proposed research will have a significant impact on the students' development as a researcher/creator.	The proposal communicates to the reader that the proposed research will have an impact on the students' development as a researcher/creator.	The proposal does not communicate to the reader how the research will have an impact on students' development as a researcher/creator.
A description of the relationship of the work to the student's field of study or interests	There is a clear and robust description of how the project relates to the students' field/discipline.	The proposal provides a general description of how the project relates to the students' field/discipline.	The proposal lacks description of how the project relates to the students' field/discipline.
A well developed, feasible timeline that indicates the project will be completed by the end of the following academic year	Timeline is feasible, detailed, and consistent with activities described.	Timeline lacks some detail but the project is manageable in the time frame described.	Timeline is unsuitable and/or unrealistic for activities described.
Overall Quality of Application	Application materials are well written and well organized. The project is understandable to a professional outside of the discipline.	Application materials are generally well written and well organized, but the application includes some jargon or is sometimes hard to understand for a professional outside of the discipline.	Application materials are hard to understand and may use much field-specific jargon. It may not be clear that the student wrote the materials on their own.

Developed by the Library Advisory Committee, January, 2022