Professor Mattie Burkert Wins Grant for Research | English

05/04/2017

Susanna Centlivre

(National Portrait Gallery, London)

Dr. Mattie Burkert, Assistant Professor of English, is one of three recipients of the Center for Women and Gender Grant Program. Her project focuses on the career of Susanna Centlivre, a once famous but now little-known eighteenth-century dramatist whose work responded to the rise of financial capitalism. The broader aim of this research is to shed light on the forgotten role of women in debating economic developments that have come to shape the modern world. The fellowship will support Dr. Burkert’s travel to London, where she will spend four weeks conducting archival research at the British Library, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the Westminster Archives. The research will form the basis for the final chapter of her monograph, *The Theater and Financial Markets in London, 1688-1763*, which contends that the conceptual nexus of theater and finance was vital to eighteenth-century economic and political thought. The Gender Grant Program is a competitive program providing funds to early career faculty to work on projects focusing on a documented need or critical issue relative to gender. Dr. Burkert joined the Department of English faculty in fall 2016, having received her PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Director of CWG, Dr. Ann Austin said, “The competition among grants this year was stiff. Dr. Burkert submitted an outstanding proposal.” The purpose of this grant program is to enhance scholarship appropriate for research faculty on topics related to gender and focused on a critical issue, specific need or gap noted in the faculty member’s own field. The intent is to advance knowledge of gender-associated topics. Projects are expected to lead to enhanced research, measured by referred publication. Unique to this grant program, recipients are also to communicate their research to lay audiences. Dr. Burkert will present a poster at the Center’s Early Career and Lifetime Achievement Awards on March 22, 2018, an event that is open to the public.