

DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA (EASTERN)

THE KRİKOR AND CLARA ZOHRAB INFORMATION CENTER

Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Director

Job Description and Scope

The Krikor and Clara Zohrab Information Center (ZIC) is a resource, research and teaching facility that seeks to promote the full gamut of Armenian studies, and to assist students, scholars and the Armenian community and general public in deepening their appreciation for Armenian history, civilization and culture, especially within their overwhelmingly Christian ambit.

The heart of the Zohrab Center is its research library, whose holdings exceed 40,000 books, periodicals, photographs and other resources in all areas of Armenian Studies. Particularly rich are the Center's collection of Armenian periodicals and newspapers from throughout the world, a vast collection of 19-20th century Armenian literature, and a precious treasury of rare books and manuscripts. Thousands of titles are found in no other library in the western hemisphere.

The Zohrab Center was established through the generous gift of Mrs. Dolores Zohrab Liebmann in memory of her parents, and dedicated on November 8, 1987 in the presence of His Holiness Vasken I (†1994), Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians; and His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian (†2012), Primate of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America.

While collection management and development are central to the management of the Zohrab Information Center, the heart of the Center has always been the Director, who at times has been the only employee, and who therefore leaves an indelible stamp on the position, the Center, and the Diocese. Recognizing that the position has often been held for only a few years at a time, and with the goal of attracting the most competent applicants, the position of the Director of the Zohrab Information Center will now function as a **full-time, two-year term position with a third-year renewal available**. It is conceived as a postdoctoral position, in conjunction with a simultaneous appointment as a Fordham Orthodox Studies Research Fellow. The position is therefore to be known as the **Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Armenian Christian Studies and Director** at the Krikor and Clara Zohrab Information Center.

Minimal Requirement for Applicant:

- 1) Ph.D. in a field relevant to the study of Armenian Christianity. These include but are not limited to: Theology, History, Comparative Literature, Political Science, and Anthropology. A candidate may apply before the diploma is in hand as long as the dissertation is defended before the official start date (September 1). The candidate should provide a copy of the completed dissertation or completed chapters at the time of application.
- 2) Proficiency in at least one dialect of Armenian. Preference for Classical Armenian in addition to at least one modern dialect.

Job Description:

The main duty of the Director of the Zohrab Information Center is to maintain, use, and develop the library collection. Through the use of the collection, the Director should pursue their own research in Armenian Christian Studies, with conference presentations and academic papers that make use of the Zohrab Information Center's library. As an academic and teacher, the Director is expected to contribute to the intellectual and spiritual life of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America as well as St. Nersess Armenian Seminary. The position comes with a joint appointment as Adjunct Instructor at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary, with the terms of teaching to be worked out with the Dean of the Seminary.

In their capacity as Diocesan Staff, the Director is expected to support projects of the Ministries team, most notably by providing research help. Some resource production for the Ministries team of the Eastern Diocese is expected. Specific to the Zohrab Information Center is the longstanding “Enrichment Evening” program – whatever form the Director desires to give these evenings is acceptable, but the Zohrab Information Center should host at least one evening lecture or activity a month (June-August excepted). Finally, as a joint appointment at the Orthodox Christian Studies Center at Fordham University, the Director is expected to give one lecture annually on campus. A potential to teach one or two courses during the tenure as Director exists and will be arranged through the Directors of the Orthodox Christian Studies Center.

Approximate Time Commitments:

Recognizing that the Director works in several capacities supporting the intellectual life of the Diocese while contributing to the Orthodox Christian Studies Center at Fordham University, the duties of the Director are to be distributed as follows:

- 20%: Maintenance, Development, and Use of Library
- 20%: Programming and Activities Specific to the Zohrab Center (Enrichment Evenings, etc.)
- 20%: Support of Diocesan Ministries Team
- 20%: Primary Research in the Director’s Field (Including Conference Attendance, etc.)
- 20%: St. Nersess Armenian Seminary [1 day a week should be spent on the Seminary Campus]

Work done to contribute to the intellectual life of the Orthodox Christian Studies Center or Fordham University is assumed to be part of the Primary Research time commitment. It is understood that any teaching arranged through Fordham University should be conceived of as outside this time commitment and that the Director will maintain this basic time commitment anytime they are teaching.

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