

**CAL Undergraduate Research Scholarships Scheme 2017
Project Proposal Form**

Project Proposer/s:	Dr Louise Curran
School/Dept:	English
Project Title:	Editing the Correspondence of Samuel Richardson
Project Summary	
<p><i>The Cambridge Edition of the Correspondence of Samuel Richardson</i> aims to make available for the first time in a complete scholarly edition the letters of the eighteenth-century printer and novelist, Samuel Richardson (1689-1761). This is a major work of archival research and editorial expertise. Dr Louise Curran, along with Professor George Justice at Arizona State University, USA, is currently editing one of these volumes (<i>Correspondence Primarily on Pamela and Clarissa (1732-1749)</i>), scheduled for publication in 2017/2018. This volume contains many letters about the composition of Richardson's two most famous novels, <i>Pamela</i> (1740) and <i>Clarissa</i> (1748-49), as well as correspondence about his printing and editorial activities during this time.</p>	
What the researcher will do	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check transcripts of letters line-by-line against copies of manuscripts held on file • Check transcripts of letters against actual manuscripts of letters held in the National Art Library at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London (subject to permission being granted from the V&A) • Check all footnotes for typographical errors • Research the historical and literary context of some of these letters • Help with compiling an index of names and places mentioned in these letters 	
Skills required by the Scholarship holder	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent proof-reading skills • Excellent writing, editing, and presentation skills • Good transcription skills • Strong computer skills including Word and Excel • The ability to work effectively in a team distributed across two sites • The ability to manage your time effectively <p>A familiarity with eighteenth/nineteenth-century texts would also be desirable</p>	
How will your Project benefit the Scholarship holder?	
<p>This is a fantastic and unique opportunity to be involved in an international scholarly project that will be of enormous importance to scholars and students of eighteenth-century literature and all those interested in book history and the history of the novel. It will provide and expand skills vital not just to future academic work but to the job market more widely: providing evidence for employers of excellent communication, writing, editing, presentation skills, as well as familiarity with using Word, Excel, and databases more generally. It will also provide excellent training in the patience and intellectual resilience required when checking manuscripts against typed transcriptions of texts.</p>	
How will the Scholarship benefit your Project?	
<p>It will help enormously with the timely publication of an ambitious scholarly edition of extraordinary scale and range. To have extra research assistance on this project in its final stages will help with making the text as clean and accurate as possible; with meeting the publication deadline; and with allowing extra resources for cross-referencing our text with volumes of correspondences already published.</p>	