The Northwestern University-Art Institute of Chicago Center for Scientific Studies in the Arts (NU-ACCESS) is seeking a Postdoctoral Fellow to undertake objects-based and objects-inspired scientific research in the arts. Reporting to the Center’s Senior Scientist, the postdoctoral fellow would support the research agenda of the Center that includes collaborative research projects with institutions of cultural heritage in the United States, Europe, and around the world. While experience and interest in the material analysis of ceramics, glass, and metals is preferable, candidates from all backgrounds will be considered. The appointment will be for two years, with a renewable third year by mutual agreement, through funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Primary duties:

1. Perform scientific research: a) to characterize materials, structures and components of artworks either in their original state or after aging or deterioration; b) to broaden ways of studying works of art, and c) to synthesize scientific findings to address art historical and archaeological questions. Conduct applied research to support broader areas of inquiries as delineated in project proposals.
2. Maintain working relationships with curators and conservators at participating institutions as well as with Northwestern faculty and technical staff to foster collaborative research projects and publications centered on cultural heritage science.
3. Work with the Center’s Senior Scientist and Directors to foster understanding and assimilation of results and approaches of scientific research in the arts among curators, conservators, university professors and their students, administrators, other staff, the general public and other AIC and NU support groups.
4. Operate analytical instruments after required training.
5. Maintain records of research and analysis and sample archives.
6. Compile final reports for all completed projects.
7. Contribute to the preparation of reports to funding agencies.
8. Travel to attend conferences, present papers and confer with colleagues in the US and internationally.
9. Contribute to the production of high-level scientific research publications in the field of cultural heritage science and technical art history.

Minimum qualifications
Doctoral degree in Chemistry, Materials Science and Engineering, Physics, related disciplines, or in Conservation Science/Archaeological Science is required.
Application materials consisting of a CV and cover letter along with names and contact information of three references should be uploaded to the NU-ACCESS online application <http://www.nuaccess.northwestern.edu/about-us/employment-opportunities.html> by October 1st, 2015 for full consideration. To support the application up to three recent peer reviewed publications can also be uploaded as PDFs.

Northwestern University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. Qualified women and minorities are encouraged to apply. It is the policy of Northwestern University not to discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, citizenship, veteran status or other protected group status. Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the United States.