September 20, 2016

TO: MSU Faculty

FROM: Dr. Ilse-Mari Lee, Dean
Honors College

RE: 2017-2018 Honors College Seminar Proposals

Is there a course you have always wanted to create but never had the opportunity to do so? If so, the Honors College invites you to submit a proposal for an Honors seminar for the 2017-2018 academic year. Honors seminars are limited to 18 students, require an interdisciplinary perspective, and must be highly topical. Since you may be released from one of your departmental courses if your proposal is selected, please discuss your availability with your department head. Our experience has demonstrated that departments directly benefit when faculty teach an Honors seminar. Students frequently migrate to that same department as a result of engaging a professor in such a unique setting.

Compensation of $5,000 for the 4-credit seminar may assist departments to hire replacements for faculty who teach a seminar, or if such instruction is in addition to a regular course load, the funds may be taken as additional compensation, or used for travel, research and departmental equipment. Please call me if you have questions or want to discuss this matter further. You may also request an example of a successful submission and/or a current syllabus by calling our office at 994-4110.

We anticipate considering a variety of dynamic proposals. Please forward yours to the Honors College Office, MSU, P.O. Box 172140, Bozeman, MT 59717-2140, or email a PDF version of your proposal to honors@montana.edu, by January 27, 2017.

Timetable for the selection process:

• Receipt of proposals in the Honors College, Quad F, no later than January 27, 2017.
• Committee will review proposals by February 17, 2017.
• Short list interviews conducted February 22-24, 2017.
• Faculty notification by March 3, 2017.
Guidelines for Honors seminar proposals:

1. Honors seminars are never lecture courses. The primary emphasis should be engaging dialogue. Research and writing are integral parts of the seminar and should be reflected in the proposal.
2. Individual faculty members or teams are encouraged to submit proposals. (If team taught, the stipend will be divided accordingly.)
3. Honors seminars must embody an interdisciplinary perspective.
4. Seminars that have been, or are currently offered in departments are not eligible.
5. Upper-division Honors seminars are expected to be academically rigorous.

To submit a proposal, please include the following:

1. A letter of intent, co-signed by your department head.
2. A curriculum vitae or resume.
3. A one-page abstract that describes the seminar.
4. A list of seminar discussion topics.*
5. A list of required and recommended readings.*
6. A list of assignments that indicate the type of research, writing, and oral discussion expected.*
7. Honors seminars frequently qualify for university core designations. Provide a brief statement containing supporting information regarding the core designation for which your seminar could potentially qualify. Guidelines for applying for Core 2.0 designation can be found at: http://www.montana.edu/wwwprov/forms/new_course_forms-ug.html

* You may, if you wish, substitute a draft syllabus and weekly schedule in place of 4, 5, and 6.