February 23, 2015

TO: College of Arts and Sciences Faculty
FROM: Ian F. McNeely, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education
Karen Sprague, Special Advisor for Undergraduate Initiatives
RE: General Education Renaissance – Year Two

The College of Arts and Sciences invites proposals from individual faculty, groups of faculty, and departments for the second year of the General Education Renaissance.

Last year, this initiative funded six pilot projects described at cas.uoregon.edu/renaissance. This year, support is targeted at enhancing existing group-satisfying courses that are expected to enroll 60 or more students. Due to donor restrictions, eligibility is limited to tenured CAS faculty and to groups of faculty at least half of whom are tenured in CAS.

The purpose of the General Education Renaissance is to improve our group-satisfying offerings in ways that will serve the larger goals of the College. These include:

1. Engaging research-active faculty in lower-division teaching to show why General Education at a research university offers advantages over transfer and AP/IB credit.
2. Luring students back to fields that have suffered sharp enrollment declines.
3. Improving the student experience in courses seeing sharp enrollment increases.
4. Incorporating active-learning pedagogies to improve student success in challenging gateway and bottleneck courses.
5. Engaging students from diverse (e.g. international or first-generation) backgrounds to whom the benefits of liberal, as opposed to vocational, education may be unclear.
6. Developing quality online/hybrid courses to address capacity issues in oversubscribed fields, enhance learning, and highlight CAS’s signature strengths.
7. Piloting learning assessments to meet external accountability demands in a way that is meaningful to faculty.
8. Redesigning courses to more explicitly fulfill the learning outcomes and General Education philosophies posted at cas.uoregon.edu/learning-outcomes.

Each faculty member teaching a funded course will receive a $2,000 stipend in summer 2015 and $1,000 in research funds each of the two terms the course must be offered, in 2015-16 and 2016-17. In addition to the course redesign efforts described in proposals, faculty will be expected to participate in a few planning and follow-up discussions. Extra funds may be available for course materials, technical support, and student outreach.

Other funding uses may be considered if proposed by departments. Interested faculty are encouraged to submit informal pre-proposal ideas to adue@uoregon.edu so that those with similar interests can be put in contact. Final proposals should be submitted to adue@uoregon.edu by April 20, 2015 in the form described on the next page, which includes further guidelines and restrictions. Winners will be announced in mid-May.

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INSTRUCTIONS for PROPOSALS
CAS General Education Renaissance (2015)

Submit this information to adeu@uoregon.edu by April 20, 2015
Preliminary inquiries are welcome

1. Title of proposal.

2. Faculty proposer(s). List name, rank, and department for each participating faculty member (normally between one and six). At least half must be tenured professors in CAS. Indicate lead proposer in bold. Indicate any known leaves of absence that may be upcoming.

3. Schedule of course(s). List course offerings by term (e.g. F’15) using a table similar to the one below. Each course must be taught at least once in 2015-16 and once in 2016-17, normally by the same faculty member. Include subject code and number, course title, instructor name, and target enrollment (which must at least 60 students).

   NOTE: Courses must be existing group-satisfying UO Catalog courses, intended for first- and/or second-year students, and offered in CAS or in other traditional liberal arts fields (e.g. art history or musicology). Experimental group-satisfying courses not yet in the UO Catalog will only be funded in special circumstances and as part of a departmental proposal.

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<th>Term</th>
<th>SUBJ ###</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
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4. Departmental approval. Attach emails from department head(s) explicitly confirming that:
   • the faculty proposer(s) will be scheduled to teach the indicated course(s) twice, once in 2015-16 and once in 2016-17, barring unforeseen circumstances; and
   • other professional responsibilities do not preclude the faculty proposer(s) from devoting significant extra time to this project.

5. Narrative description. In an attachment of roughly 500 words, explain which of the eight strategic goals listed in the call for proposals you are trying to address and what specific course revisions or improvements you are proposing to meet this goal or goals. (Other goals or funding uses may be considered as part of a departmental proposal in consultation with CAS; contact adeu@uoregon.edu.) Explain whether and how the newly modified course(s) will be sustainable once initial funding has been spent. Finally, outline a method to assess the impact of the proposal and gauge its success. You may append other materials (e.g. syllabi) if desired.