Cornerstone Faculty Fellowships in Liberal Arts

The College of Liberal Arts will award up to four fellowships annually to full or advanced associate professors who have developed outstanding professional records and who show promise of continuing achievements. These awards are known as Cornerstone Faculty Fellowships in Liberal Arts. Recipients of these awards will normally have professional records of accomplishment in each of the following areas:

- A significant body of high impact scholarly or creative work in a discipline’s most highly regarded venues and recognition or awards from external, highly regarded agencies or groups (e.g., NIH, NEH, NSF, NEA, Guggenheim, Humboldt, Woodrow Wilson, or other highly regarded groups or agencies)
- Outstanding classroom or seminar teaching and contributions to undergraduate or graduate programs in the department or interdisciplinary program
- Service on major departmental, college, or university committees; in disciplinary roles such as editorial boards, review panels; or as a professional association officer

The College will award recipients of the Cornerstone Faculty Fellowship a total of $30,000 which is payable over a four-year period. Cornerstone Fellows who are appointed to an endowed professorship or chair during the time they are receiving Cornerstone funds will forego the receipt of additional Cornerstone funding and instead receive funding provided by the endowed position. The fellowship is intended to support research expenses, such as professional travel, the purchase of equipment and software, subject costs, graduate or undergraduate student support and graduate tuition. These funds may not be used for the fellow’s salary. Fellows will be expected to submit an annual report of activities and a final two-page report after their four-year appointment.

Process for Selection

The Dean will announce the availability of Cornerstone Faculty Fellowships by requesting nominations from department heads and interdisciplinary program directors. These nominations should be approved by a standing or ad hoc faculty committee with members at the rank of professor. The nomination letter will be submitted by the department head and/or program director and addressed to the dean. The letter will detail the faculty member’s qualifications for this award, must demonstrate evidence of faculty participation in the selection process within the department or program, and include the nominee’s curriculum vitae. One additional letter of endorsement from a faculty member of the rank of professor in the nominee’s department or program is required.

Normally, a department will not advance more than one name annually for this award, and it is expected that departments may on occasion decline to nominate a faculty member for consideration. The Dean will also solicit potential nominations from the Dean’s Advisory Board.
Committee based on their review of the records of those being considered for promotion to the rank of professor. These names will be given to Department Heads to consider for nomination.

Nomination packets will be reviewed by the College’s Advisory Committee on Chairs, Professorships, and Fellowships. The Committee’s charge will be to advise the Dean whether the candidate’s professional accomplishments and continued promise meet the standards for receipt of a Cornerstone Faculty Fellowship. The Committee’s recommendation will be advisory. The authority to make the final award rests with the Dean.