

Faculty Scholarship (and Peer Review) Communities (FSCs) Call for Proposals: AY 2017-18

Deadline: June 16, 2017 by 5:00 pm

The Office of Research Affairs (ORA) invites faculty proposals for a pilot series of cross-disciplinary Faculty Scholarship (and Peer Review) Communities (FSCs). This pilot initiative is designed to support faculty who are conducting research and scholarly activity by providing for group environments where faculty can come together across disciplines to engage with a shared topic, interest, or pursuit, and to offer peer review and advising on research projects. Each FSC will enroll 5-20 faculty members and meet biweekly or monthly over the academic year. The aim of the FSCs is to offer a year-long collegial atmosphere of mutual professional development and support that will assist members in meeting their individual writing and research goals.

Topics: We seek FSCs that welcome faculty from at least two or more disciplines. Proposed FSC topics might focus on *shared pursuits, goals, and/or peer review* or they might be *thematically based* (see examples below). As this is a pilot effort, we are open to creative and compelling options other than the two priorities noted above.

Examples of FSCs focused on shared pursuits, goals, and/or peer review might include:

- Getting an article published in the humanities or social sciences: faculty would read, share, and discuss manuscripts in progress, with an end-goal of submitting for publication.
- Grant proposal writing: faculty from comparable fields (humanities, STEM, education, etc.) would meet to workshop proposal drafts, and to discuss strategies for locating and pursuing appropriate grants.
- Writing with a teaching load: members will discuss strategies for keeping writing projects on track and overcoming hurdles to conducting research.
- Tenure-track faculty development: sharing key strategies and methods for building and sustaining a compelling research agenda while meeting RTP requirements.
- Create your own...

Examples of possible FSC thematic topics might include:

- Science education for the 21st century
- Cultural eco-studies: environment and film, literature, art, history, religion
- Education, social justice, and under-represented students
- Statistics for social sciences
- Race, colonialism, and seventeenth-century studies
- Mesoamerica: culture, history, music, literature, art
- Create your own...

Theme-based FSCs might meet to read and discuss recently published scholarship on the topic, to share bibliographies, and spark cross-disciplinary conversations or collaborations that support FSC members in their own research and scholarly activity related to the FSC topic.

Moderators: Each proposed FSC must identify a lead faculty moderator (or a team of two co-moderators) responsible for composing a syllabus of shared readings, setting meeting dates and times, leading discussions, and organizing member activities. We anticipate that those submitting the proposed FSC will serve as moderator, but are certainly open to other constructs. Moderators will also meet periodically over the academic year with each other, ORA's Faculty Research Liaison (Dr. Nancy Sweet, English Dept.) and ORA staff to discuss the progress and workings of the FSC. ORA plans to draw insights from these discussions to inform its faculty support capacities and priorities. Each moderator will receive \$1,000 in faculty research support funds (shared if a co-moderator) at the conclusion of the FSC.

Proposals and Member Recruitment: FSC proposals must outline a tentative plan for member recruitment, including an ideal number of members, planned frequency of meetings, and whether the FSC emphasizes discussion, collaboration, or demonstrable scholarly outcomes. Identifying a tentative meeting location is also beneficial. Moderators of selected FSCs must submit to ORA a draft open recruitment call for FSC participants by August 23, 2017. All FSC members must commit to attending the scheduled FSC sessions regularly. Those members who also commit to producing (and indeed produce) an FSC-related scholarly deliverable, such as a conference paper, grant proposal, article draft, etc. may be eligible to receive \$250 in faculty research support funds from the Office of Research Affairs (some restrictions apply).

Eligibility: All Unit 3 faculty are welcome to participate and are encouraged to propose a FSC.

To Propose Your FSC, please complete the very short application at csus.infoready4.com by logging in using your SacLink username and password. The application contains the following fields:

1. Moderator (and co-Moderator) Information: name, title, department, email, phone number, and CV or bio-sketch (3 pages max)
2. Faculty Scholarship and Peer Review Communities (FSC) Details:
 - a. **Title and Abstract** (150 words)
 - b. **FSC Overview:** clearly describe the proposed topic, its significance, the intended participant mix, and capacity to draw interest from CSUS faculty across disciplines (250 - 500 words)
 - c. **FSC Activities:** describe the activities, including assigned readings or manuscript/proposal sharing, that community members will undertake together. Indicate planned frequency of meetings (250 - 500 words)
 - d. **FSC Outcomes:** describe anticipated collective and individual outcomes from the FSC. (250 - 500 words)
 - e. **Moderator Background and Preparation:** describe your qualifications and preparation to lead faculty discussion and activity in the proposed topic area. Identify ideal number of FSC participants and any preliminary recruitment plans (250 - 500 words)

All applicants will be notified by Aug. 1, with more information for awarded FSCs to follow over the summer. Questions may be directed to Nancy Sweet (nsweet@csus.edu) or Shannon Rexin (srexin@csus.edu) or 278-6402.

*** Inspiration is gratefully acknowledged from the Center for Teaching and Learning (Library 4026), which has long been a source of leadership on the campus for the development of faculty communities of all kinds. For more info on their programming, please visit <http://www.csus.edu/ctl>*