Distinguished Faculty Fellowships 2016

Deans are invited to nominate members of their faculty for Distinguished Faculty Fellowships. These Fellowships have been created to recognize and provide support for members of the faculty whose continuing attainments and current activities in scholarship, research, and/or in the fine and performing arts are nationally distinguished. The Fellowships have a dual purpose: not only to recognize past and continuing distinguished achievements, but also to support current scholarly or creative activity of an exceptional character.

In addition to the honor and recognition associated with these Fellowships, each Fellow will receive an award of $6,500 (per year for two years if funds are available) to be used for support of his/her scholarly endeavors. (The permissible uses of the $6,500 are broadly defined within University guidelines.)

Up to five Fellowships will be available next year: up to two Charles Gershenson Fellowships, which are part of the benefaction to the University by the late Charles Gershenson, who formerly served on the Board of Governors, and up to three Board of Governors Fellowships derived from revenues specifically available to the Board. The term of each Fellowship is two years, and the $6,500 award will be renewed in the second year of the Fellowship if funds continue to be available.

Deans are invited to submit nominations for these Fellowships up to the number specified below for the respective schools and colleges:

- Liberal Arts and Sciences: 9
- School of Medicine: 5
- Education and Engineering: 3 each
- Business, Fine/Performing/Communication Arts, Law, Nursing, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and Social Work: 2 each

Each dean should work with an appropriate faculty committee in his/her school or college to identify possible nominees and to prepare the nominating materials. Fellowship nominations should usually occur through identification of candidates by academic administrators, the faculty committee, and leading scholars. The Fellowships are not intended to be awarded through a process of application or self-nomination.

Because of the wide variation in disciplines and in the character of the credentials of nationally prominent scholars, there is no standard format for nominations. However, the dean and the faculty advisory committee should submit at least the following: a detailed assessment of the nominee's credentials, a current professional record, a description of the scholarly or creative activity that would be supported, and persuasive evidence from sources outside the University that the nominee is nationally distinguished in his/her field. (Such evidence might vary widely, but election to highly selective scholarly academies, selection for eminent prizes in the field, reviews of a nominee's contributions in the discipline's most prominent journals, and reviews of his/her work by leading figures in the field constitute examples.) External reviews should ordinarily be those recently obtained by the University or another institution or agency for purposes other than
the Distinguished Fellowship nomination—we do not encourage seeking external reviews for this process alone, unless there are extraordinary circumstances that require that colleagues elsewhere be asked to undertake this substantial responsibility.

The Selection Advisory Committee will be made up primarily of the current Distinguished Faculty Fellows.

Send each nomination for the Fellowships to Veronica Williams (veronica.williams@wayne.edu) as a bookmarked PDF no later than Friday, January 8, 2016. Final selections will be made in spring 2016 so that Distinguished Faculty Fellows may use their awards for support of scholarly activity beginning July 1, 2016.

c: M. Roy Wilson, President