CSL Engaged Scholars Program

After gaining approval from a Department Chair (or the Dean), a CSL Engaged Scholar will be appointed for one term, twice a year; commencing Fall 2019. Deadline for Applications will be May 3, 2019 (For Fall course-release) and October 4, 2019 (for Winter course-release).

(N.B. Please let CSL know if you/one of your faculty wishes to pursue a course release in Winter 2019.)

Purpose of the Program

The program will enable an Arts Faculty member to partner with CSL and the CSL Executive Director to design a new course (or redesign an existing course) so that it involves community engaged learning and/or work on a community engaged research project with a CSL community partner.

The rationale is to enable the Engaged Scholar to reorient their course to enable community service learning opportunities for their students, and/or to work with the CSL program to contribute to a community-engaged research project with value to CSL partners. The resources produced will be mutually beneficial to the CSL program and the Engaged Scholar.

Terms of Reference

This appointment will be recognized with a 1HCE course release, for one term. In practice, this course release will enable the Scholar to engage with the CSL program on a community-engaged course or research project over the course of an academic year.

This project may be done in collaboration with other interested Faculty and/or community partners.

Arts Faculty, as well as Faculty Service-Officers, with interests in community-engagement are invited to apply. All disciplines are welcome and all interested scholars should discuss the opportunity with CSL’s Executive Director.

The outcomes sought for the Engaged Scholar position are both academic focused and community focused, involving new pedagogy and course settings, knowledge and/or process exchange. Outcomes may include some combination of a renewed syllabus, new or deepened relationships with community organizations, journal article, project report, seminar for community partners or U of A instructors, an art project of significance, action research activities, training, consultancy, etc. of value to one or more CSL partners.

In the interests of ensuring effective communications and impact on the CSL unit, CSL Engaged Scholars will commit to spend periodic time with the CSL Executive Director and staff during the academic year. More detailed terms of reference for this aspect of the residency will be developed with the Executive Director once an applicant is selected.

Selection Process

The CSL Executive Director will engage faculty members and departments to determine mutually beneficial pedagogical and research agendas. Interested faculty are encouraged to discuss potential proposals in advance of applying, with the Executive Director, as well as discuss their ideas with their Department Chair (or the Dean).

The CSL Executive Director will receive an application from interested faculty member, briefly outlining their areas of teaching and research interests, any community engagement
experiences, and how they are able to contribute to areas of CSL pedagogy and community engaged research fields (one page). A specific project will be described (one page). Proposals will be a maximum of two pages, plus a CV and time line.

A time line will be included in the proposal, which will outline the stages and most appropriate timing of the project. It will indicate the most advantageous time period for the faculty member and the project and the best timing for a course release. It will also indicate anticipated dissemination target dates. It is understood that most projects take longer than a term, however projects that will show results that benefit CSL and its partners as well as the faculty member within a year of the residency will be given priority.

A committee including a Faculty of Arts Associate Dean, the CSL Executive Director and a and a member of the CSL Advisory Board member will adjudicate the research proposals. Criteria will include the proposal’s fit with the needs of the CSL program and faculty member’s goals. Its feasibility will also be considered.

Proposals will indicate applicant’s Department Chair (or Dean) approval, including indication that a paid course release will be acceptable to the applicant’s unit.