

## **DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR PROGRAM ANDERSON UNIVERSITY**

### **Purpose**

The Distinguished Scholar Program at Anderson University is designed to support those faculty members who excel in the production of exemplary research which leads to the publication of peer-reviewed books and journal articles and those faculty members who excel in the creation or performance of art works which lead to major exhibits or performances in significant artistic venues around the world. Faculty members involved in this type of scholarly and creative work indicate that their greatest need is additional release time from some of their teaching responsibilities during the semester in which a major paper, book or artistic project is reaching its final stage of development.

To address the needs of these faculty members, Anderson University has established a Distinguished Scholars Program that will allow full-time faculty members who meet the criteria listed below to apply for up to six hours of release time in one semester during the late stages of a major project. The Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Academic Cabinet will oversee the program.

### **Criteria for Eligibility:**

Faculty members who wish to apply for participation in the Distinguished Scholar Program must meet the following criteria:

1. Present evidence of prior research published by a peer reviewed press or journal or evidence of prior exhibits or performances in significant artistic venues.
2. Be in the late stages of a project that has a reasonable expectation of being completed within a year from receiving Distinguished Scholar status.
3. Present evidence of continued excellence in the performance of teaching, advising and other responsibilities of Anderson University faculty.
4. May not have had a sabbatical leave in the previous four semesters or a Distinguished Scholar Award in the previous four years.
5. May not have an overload contract during the time of participation in the Distinguished Scholar Program.

### **Application Procedures**

Faculty members wishing to apply for the Distinguished Scholar Program during the next academic year are asked to submit the Application for the Distinguished Scholar Program no later than **February 28, 2012**, with the announcement of recipients made by March 19, 2012. Application must be submitted to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and must include the following information:

1. Faculty rank;
2. Number of years since last sabbatical leave or last date of participation in the Distinguished Scholar Program or beginning date of appointment to the faculty;
3. Acknowledgement of discussion with your department chair regarding your intent to apply for the Distinguished Scholar Program

4. Evidence of prior research published by a peer reviewed press or journal or evidence of prior exhibits or performances in significant artistic venues
5. Maximum of three pages describing the purpose and focus of the project, including methodology, timeline for completion, contribution to scholarship, fit with university mission and plans for sharing of information or art works resulting from participation in the Distinguished Scholar Program.
6. Letter of support from outside of Anderson University verifying that the faculty member is under consideration for the publication, performance or public sharing of a scholarly or artistic product that is in the late stages of development.

### **Approval Process**

The selection process will be competitive and decisions will be based on the following criteria:

1. Significance of the project in regard to its contribution to scholarship and creativity in that discipline;
2. Quality of the proposal as evidenced in the writing, thoughtfulness and thoroughness of the application;
3. Alignment of the project with university mission;
4. Dissemination of information or sharing of creative product in appropriate ways.

The number of participants in the Distinguished Scholar Program may vary from year to year based on availability of university resources.

### **Responsibilities**

Faculty members who participate in the Distinguished Scholars Program are expected to meet the following responsibilities:

1. Agree to submit a report to the Vice President for Academic Affairs the semester following the semester in which the release time was granted. Submit evidence of completing the project by providing documentation of any presentation, publication, exhibit or performance resulting from the underwritten research.
2. Share their project with the faculty through an appropriate public venue.
3. Acknowledge the support of Anderson University and the Lilly Endowment in whatever form is appropriate to the publication, exhibition or performance venue.
4. Continue with Anderson University for a period of at least four semesters following the research leave. In the event the faculty member chooses not to remain with the university for such a period, that faculty member will reimburse the university a proportionate sum of the resources used to fund that faculty member's release time. (If the person leaves immediately after the release time, 100% of the support must be repaid; if after one semester of teaching, 75% of the support must be repaid; if after 2 semesters of teaching, 50% must be repaid; if after 3 semesters, 25% must be repaid.)