MEMORANDUM

To: Deans, Directors and Chairs – Norman Campus

From: André-Denis Wright
Senior Vice President and Provost

Rich Hamerla, Interim Dean
OU Honors College

Date: September 7, 2022

Subject: Nominations for Presidential Teaching Fellows in Honors College

Presidential Teaching Fellows in Honors
The Presidential Teaching Fellows in Honors program draws faculty from across campus who have demonstrated that they are exceptional teachers. Modeled after an initiative established by former OU President David L. Boren in 1994, this merit-based incentive program is designed to reward the University's best and brightest professors. Annual stipends are provided to professors who excel at teaching and mentoring students, allowing them to teach exclusively in the Honors College. Faculty are selected to teach two Honors courses per semester for a term of one year.

All tenured and ranked renewable term faculty from all departments and colleges at OU are eligible to apply, with the approval of their home departments. Faculty who have already received a Presidential Teaching Fellowship in Honors will be eligible for a nomination in the second year of a two-year hiatus after receiving a fellowship.

Description of Fellowship
Each academic year, one or two current OU faculty members who have a demonstrated record as distinguished undergraduate instructors will be selected to teach HON-prefix courses in the Honors College for a period of one year. Fellows will have some additional Honors College service expectations, such as giving one presentation or other event for students, leading informal reading groups, supervising undergraduate research projects, serving on the scholarships committee, and participating in other College events, such as Undergraduate Research Day.

The teaching load will be 2-2. Fellows will be expected to teach one Perspectives course and one Colloquium each semester. Those selected will receive a stipend of $20,000 in addition to their regular pay. In addition, the home department of each Fellow will receive $24,000 to ensure a continuation of the courses that each selected Fellow would have taught.
Criteria for Selection
Presidential Teaching Fellows in Honors are those faculty members who excel in all their professional activities and who relate those activities to the students they teach and mentor. These professors have demonstrated excellence in undergraduate teaching and have a record of inspiring and mentoring their students.

Application materials must include:

- The applicant's full vitae.
- The most recent three years of faculty evaluations (or since beginning at the University if the applicant has been at the University less than three years).
- A statement detailing the HON prefix courses the faculty member could offer if selected as a Presidential Teaching Fellow. The statement should include a discussion of the types of readings and other assignments that would potentially be included in each course. The descriptions should be consistent with the two categories of Honors College courses, Perspectives and Colloquium, described below.

1. Perspectives on the American Experience or Perspectives on Global Experience: The Perspectives course is an interdisciplinary, freshman/sophomore level seminar that explores a broad issue (or issues) from different perspectives. Perspectives requires at least 15 pages of writing, and students are assigned to work with Honors College writing assistants throughout the semester. Faculty members are expected to work closely with the writing assistants to articulate goals and expectations for critical review of written work. Capped at 19 students.

2. Honors Colloquium: The Colloquium is an interdisciplinary discussion-based seminar appropriate for juniors and seniors, focused on a specialized topic within the professor's area of expertise. This course requires at least 30 pages of writing per student, a component of library or other independent research, and challenging reading assignments. Capped at 22 students.

- Three letters of support. Two of these should come from faculty or former students and should discuss the applicant's record of teaching and student mentorship in addition to speaking to any other qualities that make the person a strong candidate. The third letter must come from the candidate's department chair and should express support for the candidate as well as an understanding of the details of the arrangement.

Selection Procedure and Timeline
The President’s Office in conjunction with the Senior Vice President and Provost of the Norman Campus and the Dean of the Honors College will review the number of vacant Presidential Teaching Fellowships in Honors and will issue a call for applications early in the Fall semester. Applications may be initiated by individual faculty members (tenured or ranked renewable term faculty only). Complete packages should be submitted by chairs, directors, or committee A to the appropriate dean. Deans must forward the nomination packages with their own comments to the Senior Vice President and Provost no later than October 21, 2022, along with all substantiating materials. The selection committee will make its decision by November 18, 2022, and the President will make recommendations to the Board of Regents during a subsequent Regents’ meeting.

The Norman campus selection committee will consist of the President or his designate, the Senior Vice President and Provost or his designate, the Dean of the Honors College, two Honors College faculty members, and two upper-division Honors College students.
For questions, contact the Honors College:

- Marie W. Dallam, Associate Dean (Interim): mwdallam@ou.edu
- Rich Hamerla, Dean (Interim): rhamerla@ou.edu