



CAMPUS MEMO

TO: All Faculty, Springfield Campus
FROM: Rachelle Darabi, Associate Provost
DATE: February 25, 2013
RE: The Ethical Citizen: Can You Make a Difference?

Nominations and Applications are solicited for the Provost Fellow for Public Affairs

The Office of the Provost is pleased to announce that the theme for the **2014-2015 academic year** will be ***The Ethical Citizen: Can You Make a Difference?***. In order to allow for better planning and preparation, we have selected the theme early and are now accepting nominations and applications for the Provost Fellow for Public Affairs for 2014-2015. The selected Fellow will “shadow” the current Provost Fellow, Dr. Kevin Evans, in order to better understand the planning process of the Public Affairs Conference.

The 2014-2015 theme, ***The Ethical Citizen: Can You Make a Difference***, is rich with opportunities to engage the campus community in discussions that will help to clarify the complications we all face as we reach beyond borders:

What does it mean to be an ethical citizen? Are one person’s ethics better than another’s? Who is to say whose ethics are correct? Do ethics change depending on the situation? In the United States, individuals are presumed to have the liberty to pursue their own form of happiness, so how should the ethical citizen remain aware of potential conflicts arising from diverse, and often incompatible, values? In what ways can we diminish conflict and promote tolerance and understanding by identifying and analyzing ethical choices? In light of violent acts in American schools and communities, how are questions of security to be addressed in an ethical manner? To what extent do our ethical behaviors impact education, healthcare, business, social and political interactions, the arts, and the sciences? While there are no simple answers to these questions, the public affairs theme of ***The Ethical Citizen*** will support dialogue on these topics across all disciplines throughout the 2014-2015 academic year.

As is the case this year with the theme of the ***Inclusive Excellence***, the intent will be to incorporate this new theme into as many campus activities and programs as possible. This effort will begin with recruitment and orientation materials sent out to prospective students; carry through to the New Student Convocation, Public Affairs Week, the Public Affairs Convocation Lecture; and culminate with the 2015 Public Affairs Conference, which will be the primary responsibility of the Provost Fellow for Public Affairs with support being provided by the Office of Public Affairs Support and the Conference Advisory Committee.

The Office of the Provost welcomes applications and nominations for a Provost Fellow who will be responsible for refining this theme, developing and promoting related activities and serve as the chair of the 2015 Public Affairs Conference. The person selected will receive a one course reassignment per semester (total of 6 hours) and an \$8,000 stipend. Although the appointment will be for one year, the person selected will be asked to shadow the 2013-1024 Provost Fellow in order to gain an understanding of the full responsibilities of the position.

Individuals wishing to be considered for this position should submit **a CV and letter of interest** outlining their experience, skills and ideas to Dr. Rachelle Darabi, Associate Provost for Student Development and Public Affairs no later than **5 pm, March 22**. Review of applications will begin March 25. Questions concerning this position should be directed to Dr. Rachelle Darabi.