MARSICO SOCIAL SCIENCES VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
ACADEMIC YEAR 2011-2012

Overview and Rationale

The Marsico Social Sciences Visiting Scholars Committee invites proposals from departments in the social sciences to bring Visiting Scholars to the University. Engaging students and faculty in a variety of venues, Visiting Scholars will contribute to the intellectual vitality of the social sciences on campus and, especially, to the educational experience of undergraduates.

Proposals may come from full-time individual faculty members or from departments. Proposals for Visiting Scholars whose background or interests will enhance the University’s commitment to diversity are particularly welcome. Wherever possible, Visiting Scholars should have appeal across disciplines and divisions. Visiting Scholars should participate in a variety of formal (e.g. classes, seminars, research projects, etc.) and informal (e.g. roundtables, one-on-one consultations, meals, etc.) contacts with undergraduate students. Visiting Scholars may also address faculty development through offering workshops and specialized lectures as well as in informal meetings.

Application Procedure

Proposals may be submitted at any time for the academic year 2011-2012 and during each quarter. Proposals should include a completed Marsico Social Science Visiting Scholar Application, a 1-2 page version of the Visiting Scholar’s CV. The Application Form requests the following types of information:

- name, affiliation, and length of stay of the proposed visitor;
- CV and biographical sketch of the proposed visitor;
- brief (1-2 page) description of the proposed visitor’s specific relation to departmental/divisional course offerings or thematic concerns (for example, classes in which the visitor would participate, workshops offered, number of students involved, etc.);
- a coherent assessment plan for evaluating the relative merits/success of the visit when completed (e.g., both faculty members who sponsor the visit and students who interact with the visiting scholar will complete the Marsico Social Science Visiting Scholar Assessment Rubrics.
- estimated budget, including honorarium ($500 suggested for one day visits; $1,000 for two-to-three day visits; $1,500 for four-to-five day visits), travel costs; lodging expenses (roughly $75-$120 per night), communal meals, lecture refreshments (as appropriate), etc.;
- letter of support from department chair or program director (an email to the chair followed up by a letter is acceptable as well).
The Marsico Social Sciences Visiting Scholar Committee has a budget of approximately $30,000 for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Historically, most proposals have been funded for roughly $1,500-2,000, but the Committee will consider larger ones, particularly if they are interdisciplinary or interdepartmental in scope.

Please be aware of new restrictions on meal receipt reimbursements, tax exemption, etc. Departmental administrators or the financial officer in the AHSS Dean’s Office can help you with these matters. Administrative assistants can also help you find discounted rates for visitors staying at local hotels that have contracts with DU.

While quality is paramount in funding proposals, some consideration will be given to equity across departments/programs so that all units in the social sciences have an opportunity to bring Visiting Scholars to campus.

Proposals should be submitted ELECTRONICALLY to Christina Kreps (ckreps@du.edu), Chair of the Marsico Social Sciences Visiting Scholars Committee.

At the conclusion of the Visiting Scholar’s stay, the person(s) who originally submitted the proposal must provide the Marsico Social Sciences Visiting Scholar Committee Chair with a report describing the activities of the visitor, including (as applicable): completed faculty and student assessment rubrics, with tabulated averages; the length of time over which the visit took place; the types and duration of contact with students and faculty; the number of students and faculty affected by the visit; innovative courses or programming in which the visitor participated; and a brief narrative of how the visitor contributed to the Marsico values and student learning outcomes. Final reports, to be completed by the faculty member(s) sponsoring the visit, are due within three weeks of the visitor’s departure, and must include narrative, assessment results, and financials. Quality assessment is key to sustaining funds for this program, and henceforth departments/programs that fail to submit assessments of the Visiting Scholars they bring to campus will not be eligible for future funding.

Marsico Social Science Visiting Scholars Faculty Committee Members

Christina Kreps (Anthropology), Chair
Elizabeth Henry (Media, Film, and Journalism Studies)
Darrin Hicks (Human Communication Studies)
Michael Rosenbaum (Sociology & Criminology)
Robert Urquhart (Economics)
Spencer Wellhofer (Political Science)
Howard Markman (Psychology)