MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans, Chairs, Directors and Faculty

FROM: Stephen M. Lanier, Ph.D., Vice President for Research

SUBJECT: Arts and Humanities Research Support

CC: M. Roy Wilson, Ph.D., President

Keith Whitfield, Ph.D., Provost

DATE: September 9, 2016

The Office of the Vice President for Research is pleased to announce the eleventh year of Arts and Humanities Research Support for research, creative, and scholarly projects that engage the arts, design, and/or humanities in carrying out the university’s research mission. Proposed projects should lay the foundation for further work beyond the award end date. If appropriate, the proposed projects should also result in external funding, such as a fellowship award, commission or grant to continue or expand the project. REP funds will support access to hard-to-find documents, materials, equipment, travel, and supplemental summer salary. Requests for course buyouts and summer salary supplements must be approved by the applicant’s college. Summer salary supplements are capped at one month.

Individual faculty members and research teams led by full-time faculty are invited to develop proposals responsive to this funding announcement.

Examples of eligible projects INCLUDE, but are NOT LIMITED to projects that:

- Extend the reach of creative projects to underserved populations
- Investigate cultural expression through the humanities and/or the arts and design
- Transform cultural, economic or social attitudes and expectations
- Build community knowledge and appreciation of the arts, design, and/or humanities
- Involve non-traditional visual, multimodal, and print culture projects
- Explore components of artistic and cultural literacy
- Document and/or preserve important works of art and culture
- Support creative activity based in the humanities
- Advance the use of technology in arts, design and/or humanities
- Develop relevant leadership and entrepreneurship in arts, design, or the humanities
- Promote new knowledge, bridge disciplines, and/or address important social and cultural issues in design
- Examine or impact new developments in popular culture, new media and/or entertainment
- Make connections between arts, design, and/or humanities and other disciplines or interdisciplinary fields

Collaborative teams must include faculty from the colleges of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts or Liberal Arts and Sciences.
The Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) will host an informational meeting on Friday, September 23, 2016, 2:30 to 3:30 PM, in room 6202 (sixth floor) of 5057 Woodward Avenue to allow those interested in applying to share project ideas and ask questions about the REP review process. Potential applicants are highly encouraged to attend. View past award recipients HERE.

Assessment of submissions will proceed in three phases as follows:

Phase 1:  Principal Investigators should e-mail a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) to rifs@wayne.edu.

The LOI should be limited to four pages summarizing the following: (1) research objectives and plan, (2) participating faculty/researcher staff, (3) budget in the form of a spreadsheet (maximum 18-month budget); summer salary supplements are capped at one month for one summer only, (4) potential external funding sources and timeline for submitting proposals to these sources if appropriate, and (5) potential of the project to enhance graduate programs, undergraduate research, and institutional reputation. Also append abbreviated CVs (not to exceed four pages) of the participating faculty. LOIs and abbreviated CVs are due by e-mail attachment in one PDF document to rifs@wayne.edu no later than 5 PM on Monday, October 24, 2016.

Phase 2:  An advisory committee consisting of faculty from arts and humanities disciplines as well as representatives from OVPR and Office of the Provost will evaluate the LOIs based on the following criteria:

- Relevance of project to the intent of the REP
- Significance of the project
- Demonstrated excellence of the participating faculty in relation to the proposed project
- Clarity and viability of the research or project plan
- Feasibility of the budget
- Appropriate composition of multidisciplinary teams, when applicable
- Contribution toward advancing graduate programs, meaningful experience for undergraduate students, or institutional reputation
- Potential to secure external grant funding, a fellowship award, or a commission for further study and/or potential dissemination of the project
- Capacity to build knowledge and appreciation of humanities and arts in the community, including a clear statement of expected outcomes and how they will be measured

In addition, we encourage inclusion of undergraduate and graduate students in the budget as appropriate for academic advancement or degree completion.

Investigators selected from the LOIs to develop full proposals will receive guidelines for full proposal submission. All applicants should be notified by the end of December.

Phase 3:  Complete proposals including summary, narrative, and full budget will be due to the OVPR no later than 5 PM on Monday, March 6, 2017. Instructions to submit proposals through Evisions will be sent to those selected to submit them. Proposals require approval of chairs and deans of the faculty involved. External reviews will also be solicited to assess merit, likelihood of external funding and other criteria for final award decisions. Award recipients should be informed by June, 2017 and funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds at that time.

We look forward to receiving your Letters of Intent! Contact Sarah James at rifs@wayne.edu or 313-577-8997 with questions.