

Memorandum

To: College of Arts and Sciences Faculty in the Social and Behavioral Sciences

From: Bill Rohe, Director, Center for Urban and Regional Studies

Date: January 4, 2008

Re: Announcement of the *CURS Scholar-in-Residence Program*

With support from the Dean's Office, College of Arts and Sciences, the Center for Urban and Regional Studies (CURS) is pleased to solicit applications again for its *Scholar-in-Residence Program*. The *CURS Scholar-in-Residence Program* provides an opportunity for faculty members in the social and behavioral sciences to concentrate on developing major research proposals by providing funds for a course buyout and for proposal development expenses. In addition, the *CURS Scholar-in-Residence* will have full administrative support from the Center's financial and clerical support staff. The complete details of the program are provided in the program description accompanying this memorandum.

Applications for the fall semester 2008 are due no later than **5:00 p.m., Thursday January 31, 2008**. **The candidates will be notified of the outcome of the selection process by February 13, 2008**. We look forward to your application.

For further information or an application contact:

Dr. William Rohe, Director or
Todd Owen, Associate Director
Center for Urban and Regional Studies
Hickerson House; CB# 3410
Phone: (919) 962-3076 Fax: (919) 962-2518
<http://curs.unc.edu/>

CURS SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

Program Description: The Center for Urban and Regional Studies' (CURS) Scholar-in-Residence Program is designed to encourage faculty members in the College of Arts and Sciences to develop and submit research proposals to external funding sources. This competitive program provides a course buy-out so that faculty members in the social and behavioral sciences can develop large, ideally interdisciplinary, research proposals. In addition to providing \$12,000 for a course buy-out (\$10,000 + \$2,000 for fringe benefits), the CURS Scholar-in-Residence Program provides \$1,000 for graduate student assistance or other proposal development costs such as travel or editing services. While we realize that the course buy-out amount is modest, the potential return to both the home department and to the faculty member submitting a well conceived interdisciplinary proposal could be great. Beyond developing a proposal, each CURS Scholar-in-Residence will be expected to attend CURS' Brown Bag Seminars during the semester and to present his or her proposed and/or ongoing research at one of the seminars during the semester.

Eligibility: This program is made possible by generous support from the Dean's Office, College of Arts and Sciences. As such, eligibility is limited to faculty members within the College. ***Additionally, the program is not open to faculty members with endowed or chaired professorships.*** Applicants must have the approval of their home department in order to apply and in a given year, no two scholars can be from the same department. Kenneth "Andy" Andrews from the Sociology Department is the spring 2008 Scholar-in-Residence. As a result, faculty members from that department are ineligible for the fall 2008 program. Applicants must have the approval of their home department in order to apply. A faculty member who has successfully been awarded the CURS Scholar-in-Residence must wait at least five years before applying again.

Selection: Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee composed College of Arts and Sciences' faculty and staff. This committee will make its selection based on the following criteria:

- the quality of the research idea;
- the applicant's preparation to conduct the proposed research;
- the history of applying for and conducting funded research (relative to the applicant's tenure in his or her field),
- familiarity with the potential funders of the proposed research, and
- the amount of the anticipated request from extramural sources.

CURS has the funds to support one Scholar-in-Residence each semester. **The deadline for applications for the fall semester 2008 is 5:00 p.m., Thursday, January 31, 2008.**

Application: Applications are available on the CURS website (<http://curs.unc.edu/>) or by contacting Todd Owen at 962-3076. Interested faculty members must complete a short application that provides:

1. The nature of the research project the applicant plans to develop,
2. The applicant's unique qualifications for conducting the research,
3. Other members of the project team (if known),
4. The targeted funding agency(ies) (if known),
5. The anticipated amount of the request to an external funder, and
6. The agreement by the department chair to release the applicant from a course, if successful.