Call for Nominations: Constellations / Mellon-Morgridge Professorship

The College of Letters & Science invites nominations and self-nominations for a Mellon-Morgridge Professorship. This is an exciting opportunity for tenured humanities faculty to teach part of the Constellations program (https://constellations.ls.wisc.edu/). Established in 2018, Constellations is an undergraduate humanities initiative designed to stimulate enrollment in humanities classes and promote the value and relevance of the humanities across the UW-Madison campus. Our Mellon-Morgridge professors design our innovative curriculum and receive resources to build the best possible humanities classes and co-curriculum.

The new Mellon-Morgridge professor will be selected in spring and begin their appointment in fall 2020. The deadline for submitting nominations is **Friday, January 31, 2020**. Each Mellon-Morgridge professor receives four years of direct support and affiliation with the Constellations program, including research and teaching support by a 9-month 50% PA, one month of summer salary (or equivalent course release), and access to annual flexible funds.

Each Mellon-Morgridge Professor must teach at least one high-enrollment class for Constellations annually, which is typically located in their home department. This class is enriched by high-impact practices and co-curricular activities, which are supported by the Constellations program staff and our graduate PAs. Constellations classes are animated by pressing, contemporary questions and expected to attract students from a variety of majors, including STEM fields. As such, our program aims to support humanities faculty who are interested in developing transdisciplinary classes, organized around timely problems or powerful questions. Topics for Constellations need not focus explicitly on the present, and may include inequality, migration, privacy, or sustainability among many others. Our incoming professor will offer classes that complement our current curriculum on Animal Studies, Health & Inequality, and the Planetary Humanities.

Prospective candidates should create a proposal for Constellations, which includes:
- A suggested theme for their Constellation and a course description or syllabus.
  - This can consist of a new course proposal, or an existing syllabus with a plan for how it will be reframed based on the goals of the Constellations program.
- Ideas for how to integrate project-based learning or out-of-classroom experiences into the class.
- Ideas for how the course will stimulate enrollment in the humanities and the potential undergraduate audience for the course.
- Connections to current or future certificate programs at UW-Madison.

Candidates should also include a C.V., evidence of teaching excellence (evaluations or examples of successful, innovative undergraduate teaching efforts), and provide a letter of support from their home department.
Nominations and self-nominations for these professorships should be submitted via email to Lori Demeuse (lori.demeuse@wisc.edu) by Friday, January 31, 2020. Mellon-Morgridge Professors are appointed by the Dean of the College of Letters & Science in consultation with a selection committee composed of faculty and staff.

For more information about Constellations, see the program website. Questions about nominations for the professorships may be directed to L&S Associate Dean for Arts and Humanities, Susan Zaeske (susan.zaeske@wisc.edu). Questions about the Constellations program and/or nominations may be directed to Meridith Beck Mink (mmink@wisc.edu) or Nathan Phelps (nathan.phelps@wisc.edu).