Structured Scholarship Opportunities
(Scholarship Circles, Accountability Groups and Write-In Days)
Applications due November 1, 2018

Research shows (1) that maintaining one’s scholarly activities (writing, designing, researching, analyzing, searching, creating, etc.) in the face of the demands of teaching, mentoring, advising, leading, and being a good academic citizen is aided by setting aside time during the day/week for scholarship. This may be harder to do at some points of a career than at others. A strategy many have found helpful is to participate in a regular accountability activity; assessment of the groups sponsored by the Faculty Center has demonstrated the effectiveness of such practices on our campus. The Faculty Center offer two options: the Scholarship (writing) Circle and Accountability Groups. In the Scholarship Circle, members exchange and comment on each other’s work. In an Accountability Group members set goals with each other and then check on progress.

Scholarship Circles: Circles typically are composed of three or four faculty members that meet once a month to read and provide feedback on each other’s work. Members of the circle will likely be from similar academic disciplines but not necessarily the same departments. Because this model requires a more substantial time commitment, the Faculty Center will make $250 available to the Circle (e.g., for munchies, renting space for a retreat, dividing for stipends; note that professional staff are eligible to receive these Faculty Center stipends). The Faculty Center Advisory Board expects each Scholarship Circle to submit a brief reflective final report by June 1, 2019 as a way to evaluate the efficacy of the program. In addition, we request that you share with us any scholarly outcomes of your circle.

If you are interested in forming a Scholarship Circle we ask that you prepare a brief document to present to the Faculty Center Advisory Board by Thursday, November 1, 2018 including the following information:

- The names of the participants.
- The specific objective that each of the participant intends to achieve through the circle (a journal article, a book chapter, a book proposal, etc.). A participant may have more than one project in mind.
- A timeline (how often you will be meeting, and by when you think you will have completed your projects).
- Whether you wish to use the Faculty Center for your meetings and, if so, the specific dates and times.

This document should be submitted via email to Faculty Center Coordinator Cindy Wingenroth (cindy.wingenroth@fandm.edu) by Thursday, November 1, 2018. Decisions will be made and awardees notified by December 1, 2018. The brief report will be due by June 1, 2019.

**Please note that faculty interest in these opportunities has been high in recent years and preferences in awards are given to persons that have not received prior support."
**Accountability Groups:** Accountability groups meet either in person or virtually to share goals and then to check in on progress. These groups are typically small (3-5 persons) and do not read each other’s work. The primary objective is to hold each other accountable for accomplishing tasks. Groups provide various degrees of advice and/or mentoring as they are comfortable. The Faculty Center facilitates formation of such groups by providing a Google document where faculty can register their interest and availability. See the link below to register your interest.

**Register your Interest:** If you are having difficulty identifying partners for either a formal writing circle or an accountability group, you can register your interest at this link. If you have an ongoing writing or accountability group that is open to having new members, please indicate that information at the link.

**Other Opportunities:** The Faculty Center will continue to offer Write-In days. These events involve committing to a minimum of one half day of writing in exchange for lunch. Some people opt to work a full day. Our next Write-In day is scheduled for **October Tuesday October 9, 2018** (fall break). If you are interested in participating, please send Cindy Wingenroth an email.

(1) Boice, R. 2000. Advice for New Faculty Members: *Nihil Nimus.* Allyn and Bacon, Boston, MA.