

To: The Provost From: The **Conittoit**tee on Enhancing F 834 7(t)-13(e)7(e)7()-166(on)-145(1.7 Tml)2813(nh)2y(e)7e nhate nh

- 2. The Committee found that many faculty do not know how to access the different publicity and distribution channels that are available to them (e.g. how to place an oped, use social media, get booked for a TV or radio interview), and that many faculty focus only on marquee media outlets (like the *New York Times*) instead of engaging with a broad range of public audiences.
- 3. The Committee found that many faculty do not have the resources they need to present their work to the broader public.
  - a. The Committee found that science and engineering faculty in particular rely heavily on graphics, images, animations, and video in order to communicate their work. Faculty reported that they have to pay for these features out of pocket in some cases because their research budgets and grants do not cover it. They also reported that the use of such media is very beneficial when seeking to publish journals, persuade grantors, and reach the media.
  - b. The Committee found that many faculty have and pay for their own personal websites because they find that the department-provided faculty website does not meet their needs.
- 4. The Committee found that many faculty do not have the time to promote major works like book projects, because of their other University obligations.
- 5. The Committee found that many faculty recognize that women and minorities are not proportionately represented in public commentary.
- 6. The Committee found that many faculty are concerned that pre-tenure faculty may be detrimentally impacted if they engage in the public sphere too much or in ways that faculty at other schools (i.e. likely tenure writers) might find inappropriate for pre-tenure scholars.
- 7. The Committee found that students, including undergraduate students, sometimes work with faculty or work independently with faculty and that faculty were interested in ensuring that students can get credit publicly for their work.
- 8. The Committee found that while some faculty might be willing to respond to press inquiries on broad topics within their fields of study, many faculty are wary to do so, especially on a short timeframe, unless the inquiry is in a narrow area in which the faculty member has deep expertise.

## Recommendations

Based on the findings above, the Committee makes the following recommendations:

## (1) Create a Chancellor's Public Voices Fellowship

to informally assist faculty in their departments with public engagement activities, and they will participate in university-wide faculty trainings.

Program Overview and Purpose

- Fall semester awards: Nominations will be due at the end of November, awards announced at the end of January. The fellowship will run from July 1 to December 31.

Many faculty do not have the funding to pay for graphics and video explainers and supplements so their research can be explained better to a broader audience. The Division of Communications has some existing capacity to help faculty in this area, but their resources are limited and, as a