

March 5, 2013

To: Faculty and Staff

From: Jose Preciado, Director of the Common Experience (CE)  
Division of Undergraduate Studies

Re: Call for Proposals on 2013-2014 Common Experience Theme of Water

Due: April 8, 2013

The Common Experience Advisory Committee invites proposals from faculty, staff, students and administrators that will produce a multifaceted approach to our adopted Common Experience theme for the 2013-14 academic year: WATER. Proposals involving lectures, seminars, the arts, and other approaches are encouraged.

Proposals should include a brief concept paper, implementation plan, and budget (maximum award of \$2,000 from CE resources). Implementation plans should describe affiliated coursework, intended audience, month or semester of implementation, participant engagement efforts, and learning outcomes as appropriate to the nature of the proposal. Projects that support one or more of the seven Essential Learning Capacities of the General Education Program are highly encouraged (See General Catalog, Pgs 90-91, [http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/catalog/2012-13/parts/086-098\\_GradReq.pdf](http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/catalog/2012-13/parts/086-098_GradReq.pdf)). Total proposal length should not exceed five pages (excluding appendices).

On March 27, 2013, the Center for Teaching Learning will co-host a luncheon to formally announce the theme of Water for the 2013-14 Common Experience. Please join us for this event at the Faculty/Staff Club via registration through the CTL website, <http://ctl.sdsu.edu/>. Members of the Common Experience Advisory Committee [i.e., Sara Giordano (Women's Studies), Christy Samarkos (Residential Education), Vinod Sasidharan (Hospitality and Tourism Management), and Stephen Schellenberg (Geological Sciences)] will lead a discussion on preparing proposals, integrating the Common Experience into courses, making connections to student services programming, and maximizing outreach to community partners.

We have adopted a new program format that moves away from one common reading for the academic year to a broad examination of a theme. Please see our new program mission below.

*Program Mission* – The Common Experience promotes increased interactions among faculty, staff, and students through a focus on a common contemporary theme, related readings, and academic endeavors. On an annual basis, the Common Experience Advisory Committee selects a timely and relevant theme, and invites participation from across the campus to develop a series of lectures, seminars, and complementary academic activities by faculty, authors, community and civic leaders for the following academic year. Common Experience lectures and activities are intended to extend student learning and faculty-staff-student experiences beyond the formal classroom. Students will engage in deconstructing and exploring a common subject, treated and examined through multidisciplinary lenses, learn to value intellectual- and personal-responsibility, and apply academic thought towards finding meaningful solutions to real-world problems.

The Common Experience is indebted to its new advisory committee:

Janet Abbott, Compact Scholars  
Kara Bauer, Residential Education  
Steve Barbone, Philosophy  
Sara Giordano, Women's Studies  
Mariah Hudson, Regional Sustainability  
Vinod Sasidharan, Hospitality and Tourism Management

Christy Samarkos, Residential Education  
Stephen Schellenberg, Geological Sciences

Please contact Jose Preciado for questions regarding budget or timeline.  
Proposals are due on April 8, 2013, by 4:00 PM at Administration 220 or via email at [preciado@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:preciado@mail.sdsu.edu).