MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 18, 2014
TO: University of Missouri Faculty
FROM: Wally Siewert, Director, Center for Ethics in Public Life
RE: CEPL Fellow Applications for Academic Year 2014-2015

As a part of its growing program mission the Center for Ethics in Public Life announces its second annual CEPL Fellows Program. This year the program is offering research support funding to faculty across the U.M. system. The Center for Ethics in Public Life seeks Faculty Fellows with an interest in developing research projects that advance the mission of the Center as outlined below.

The Center for Ethics in Public Life opened its doors in 2011 with a mission to advance research, education, and advocacy on ethics issues relevant to the public sphere in the state of Missouri. This mission includes normative questions, and the empirical data that helps answer them, regarding: the behavior of elected and appointed officials and public employees, as well as the ideal functioning of political institutions and agencies, particularly at the state and local level, ideals of public participation and oversight of governmental functions, media roles in government, and the role of non-profits in the public sphere. Particular areas of interest include (but are not limited to): voter education and political media, elections, legislative processes, advocacy and lobbying, and public administration at the local level.

CEPL is a non-partisan Center focused on creating open dialogues and evidence-based assessment surrounding actual and ideal political decision making processes. Therefore viable projects for the Fellows program need to focus on the political process, not on particular policy outcomes or positions. Projects may range across many disciplines and approaches: from conceptual inquiries into the value structures underlying governmental processes to empirical explorations of democratic functioning of many kinds.
A. Projects may be national in scope, but should address a question relevant to Missouri politics. Priority will be given to projects directly researching normative questions in the Missouri Executive, Legislative, or Judicial branches and associated agencies, or Municipal Governments and associated agencies.

B. Priority will be given to projects involving or supporting outreach directly to political practitioners in Missouri.

C. Priority will be given to applications from untenured, tenure track faculty.

D. Priority will be given to faculty using this money as seed money to apply for external grants. In such cases the faculty member must assign to CEPL a negotiated portion of the credit for future grants received related to this project.

E. Faculty appointed as fellows will receive their support during Fall 2014, Spring 2015 and/or Summer 2015. Fellow appointments and financial support will be “project driven.” Applicants should provide a detailed budget with a maximum request of $5000.

F. Faculty appointed as CEPL Fellows should expect to submit a report on Fellow activities at the end of their appointment. Papers, articles and projects must acknowledge CEPL support.

Faculty interested in applying should submit the following:

1. A brief statement describing the project they propose to conduct (generally 1-2 pages).
2. Detailed budget request.
3. Statement of the relationship between the proposed project and the mission of the Center for Ethics in Public Life.
4. Information about any possible plans to pursue external funds for this or related projects.
5. Current Curriculum Vitae

Send all materials in hard copy or electronically to:

Hard Copy:
Center for Ethics in Public Life
707 Tower
1 University Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63121-4400
Attn: CEPL Fellows Program

Electronically: siewertw@umsl.edu
Subject: CEPL Fellows Program

September 30th 2014 is the deadline for the receipt of applications.

If you have any questions about this matter please do not hesitate to contact me via email at: siewertw@umsl.edu