

The William E. and Wylodine H. Hull Fund for Christian Scholarship

The William E. and Wylodine H. Hull Fund for Christian Scholarship seeks to strengthen the Christian character and institutional purpose of Samford University by supporting faculty who are interested in how the integration of faith and higher education enriches the life of the academy and the church, preparing both to respond more faithfully and justly to the pressing social, cultural, and moral challenges of the day.

In pursuit of this vision, the Hull Fund supports the following faculty initiatives.

- **William E. and Wylodine H. Hull Research Fellowships**

Samford faculty pursuing a book or publication project that explores either (1) the integration of faith and learning or (2) a Christian response to a pressing social, cultural, or moral issue may apply for either a one- or two-course release to pursue their projects. Course release is based upon the complexity and depth of the proposed project and must include a letter of support from the applicant's dean. Fellowships may, upon review, be renewed for an additional year. In the semester following their appointment, all Hull Research Fellows will give a faculty-wide presentation on their projects. Maximum award: \$10,000 to support course release.

- **Distinguished Visiting Scholars Seminars**

The Hull Fund will provide support to departments and colleges to host scholars of national and international reputation who are (1) skilled at relating academic disciplines to the Christian faith or (2) renowned for addressing deeply entrenched social, cultural, or moral problems from a Christian perspective. These seminars, lasting several days and hosted during the semester or over the summer, should encourage faculty to think creatively about what it means to teach, write, and act as a Christian in a particular discipline or professional field. Priority will be given to proposals accompanied by additional sources of funding from departments, colleges, or outside sources, as well as a clear plan by the participants to disseminate, through publication or conference presentation, the findings of the seminar. Maximum award: \$5,000.

- **Faculty Short Courses**

Funds are available to support interdisciplinary faculty teams willing to host "short courses" for fellow faculty. These short courses, which meet either during the semester for four or five weeks, or for a week over the summer, allow faculty to explore a challenging conceptual idea or pressing social, cultural, or moral issue from an interdisciplinary perspective informed by Christian faith. Maximum award: \$2,000.

- **Course Development**

Funds are available to support faculty during the summer to develop courses that engage disciplinary questions from a Christian perspective. Proposals must have the approval of department chairs, who must also commit to including these courses in the regular

rotation of departmental offerings. The fund will not support the development of special topics courses that are not offered on a regular basis. Maximum Award: \$4,500.

- Conference or Seminar Development

The Hull Fund will support departments or colleges seeking to host a conference or seminar related to a pressing concern in Christian higher education. These conferences or seminars should bring scholars from around the country to campus, with priority given to proposals that come with additional sources of funding from departments, colleges, or outside sources, as well as a clear plan to disseminate the findings of the conference or seminar. Maximum Award: \$15,000.

- Conference or Seminar Participation

Faculty may apply for funding to attend conferences and seminars hosted by centers and institutes devoted to promoting Christian scholarship and/or social justice. Priority will be given to faculty attending extended seminars that are vital to their professional development as Christian scholars, as well as to faculty presenting scholarship at conferences with a specifically Christian or faith-based focus. This fund does not provide support for faculty presentations at conferences with a general professional or disciplinary focus. Maximum Award: \$2,500 to attend a professional development seminar; \$1,500 to present at a conference.

Applications will be solicited annually, in the fall, through an email announcement to all faculty. To apply for a grant from the Hull Fund, please follow the instructions in the email and direct any questions to the Provost's office. Materials requested for the application will be:

- A cover letter containing a project description of no more than 500 words. This description should outline the scope of the project and how it relates to the applicant's research and/or professional development. Descriptions should also include information relevant to particular initiatives (such as plans for dissemination and/or commitments for regular course rotation). Collaborative projects should include the names of all participating faculty.
- A detailed budget including, where appropriate, additional funding support from departments, colleges, and/or outside sources.
- A brief two-page vita listing relevant scholarship and professional development activities. Collaborative projects should include a similar vita from all participants.

Immediately following the submission deadline, all proposals will be evaluated by a committee with awards to be made within two weeks.