**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**The Mark R. Shibles Distinguished Visiting Professorship**

The Dean of the College of Education and Human Development is soliciting proposals for Mark R. Shibles Distinguished Visiting Professorships. Dean Shibles provided outstanding leadership for the College of Education over a twenty-four-year period from 1947 to 1971.

**PURPOSE**

The visiting professorship brings intellectual and professional stimulation to the students and faculty at the University of Maine by inviting distinguished visiting professors to:

* offer lectures, seminars or institutes on topics that enrich and supplement the curriculum of the College;
* stimulate faculty and student concern with contemporary professional issues, research and literature from both a national and international perspective;
* lend prestige to teaching and to teacher education in the campus community; and,
* serve as a resource to educational leaders throughout Maine in an advisory or consultative role.

**NATURE OF THE APPOINTMENT**

The visiting professorship should entail substantial and sustained interaction between the recipient and the COEHD community during the duration of the appointment. For example, the professorship may be used as a supplement to a sabbatical leave from the recipient’s home institution. In this instance, it is encouraged that the visiting professor would be in residence for one or two semesters during the academic year. It may also be designated for participation during the summer months of a given year, and/or for regular virtual interactions throughout the appointment.

**PROPOSAL PROCESS**

Nominations may be submitted by individuals or groups within the COEHD faculty. They may be developed in collaboration with field partners, school districts, agencies or associations. Proposals will be reviewed by a representative faculty group and recommendations will be made to the Dean, who will seek approval from the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, the President, and the Chancellor.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Nominees shall typically possess the following minimum qualifications:

* An earned doctorate
* Teaching experience in higher education
* A distinguished record of scholarly accomplishments
* A national reputation

Nominees will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

* Ability to bring state-of-the-art perspectives on critically important education issues, research, and practices;
* Potential to reach a variety of COEHD students, faculty, school and agency partners, and university community;
* Willingness to participate in meaningful activities, e.g., classes, presentations, conversations, collaborative research, and other activities
* Expertise to inform and advance college priorities and initiatives

**FUNDING:**

The Mark R. Shibles Distinguished Visiting Professorship Endowment will fund up to three awards ranging between $50,000-$70,000 each. Acceptable expenses include a stipend, room and board, travel, and research and instruction-related costs.