Learning Circle Proposal

Interested in proposing and/or facilitating a learning circle? Please respond briefly to the following questions (either on this form or in a short email) and send to himelein@unca.edu.

Learning circle proposals are accepted at any time. Decisions about learning circle offerings are made 1-3 weeks prior to the start of each semester (fall, spring, summer) and based on a desire for balance in the final schedule, i.e., non-overlapping topics that cover different interests, issues, or disciplines. No more than 5-6 learning circles are typically offered in any one semester in the effort to ensure that all are sufficiently enrolled.

Questions:

1. What is the book or topic you have in mind? How does this subject matter relate to teaching and learning?
   - If a book, please provide the retail price. (Books are purchased through the UNC Asheville bookstore; we cannot order from discount sellers.) Note that the CTL can only fund learning circles that are open to all campus faculty and staff.
   - If a topic, would you imagine incorporating readings, and if so, do you have any in mind?

2. Because the most important criterion in selecting learning circle topics is whether there will be sufficient interest to support each circle, do you have a ready and/or enthusiastic group of participants in mind? (In other words, is there an obvious constituency you think would be interested, e.g., humanities faculty or science faculty, individuals interested in diversity issues, writing instructors, individuals interested in student development.) The more specific you can be, the better.

3. Are you interested in facilitating or co-facilitating? (This is not a requirement!) Facilitators need no “expert” knowledge. Learning circles are intended to be fully discussion-oriented; the facilitator’s primary role is to develop questions and topics for reflection, ensuring a comfortable atmosphere that is conductive to all members’ participation.

4. How many sessions do you envision, and do you have any preferences or requirements regarding dates, days of the week, or hours? (Note that lunch hours and late afternoons tend to work best, but we can experiment.)

5. If your request cannot be accommodated in the upcoming semester, would you be willing to do it in a subsequent semester?

July, 2015