

**Exciting Creative Leadership Opportunity  
for GVSU Faculty!**

**Applications Now Being Accepted for the  
Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professorship of Civil Discourse  
for the calendar years 2018 and 2019**

- ✓ Committed to students and a transformative liberal education?
- ✓ Desire to enrich your program's curriculum with a popular and permanent high impact course?
- ✓ Interested in community-engaged teaching and learning?
- ✓ Willing to design an innovative course with compensation including reassigned time, stipend, and professional development funds with exceptional administrative and expert support?
- ✓ Concerned about the current state of (un)Civil Discourse in the public square?
- ✓ Looking to develop leadership skills and express your creative spirit?
- ✓ Tenure-track or tenured GVSU faculty?

If you answered "yes" to these questions, then you are an excellent candidate to be the next Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professor of Civil Discourse at Grand Valley State University.

As the third Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professor of Civil Discourse, you will be supported to develop a community-engaged course that will enrich your program's curriculum, prepare GVSU students to be leaders in promoting the civil discourse that is essential to a well-functioning democracy, and facilitate informed community dialog around a vital social and political issue. Previous courses developed by the Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professors are now permanent offerings of their programs and enrolled to capacity.

"Being a Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professor of Civil Discourse has been key in expanding my professional identity within my college, across the university, across the state, and within my discipline....This post has been as transformational for me as students report the Civil Discourse course was for them", Lisa M. Perhamus, Inaugural Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professor of Discourse, 2014-2015, Associate Professor in the Foundations of Education Program.

"The professorship has provided me with a tremendous professional development opportunity to engage with the community on an issue I deeply care about and build lasting relationships", Jack Mangala, Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professor of Civil Discourse, 2016-2017, Professor of Area and Global Studies and Political Science.

**Applications are due September 25, 2017, and should be submitted to Nicole Brower at [browerni@gvsu.edu](mailto:browerni@gvsu.edu) in the Brooks College Office for Community Partnerships and Student Professional Development. For more information, read below and see the website <http://www.gvsu.edu/civildiscourse/>. Contact Dean Anne L. Hiskes at [hiskesa@gvsu.edu](mailto:hiskesa@gvsu.edu) with unanswered questions.**

## **Duties of the Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Civil Discourse Professor**

The term of the professorship is normally for two calendar years, in this case for the years 2018 and 2019. The Professor is expected to develop a new 3-credit community-engaged course that is taught in Fall 2018 and Fall 2019 and to take a collaborative, leadership role on campus in promoting democratic, civil discourse. The course is intended to be associated with a companion public symposium that is also developed by the Professor and implemented with the support of the Brooks College Office for Community Partnerships and Student Professional Development.

### **Expectations and Compensation:**

#### **Winter 2018.**

- (1) Develop a 3-credit hour course around a vital social or political issue of the Professor's choosing that meets the learning objectives of a general education issues course. The course should expand the GVSU curriculum in both content and pedagogy, support students in gaining knowledge and practice of civil discourse, and engage students in reaching out to the community, not excluding communities that are internal to GVSU or outside of West Michigan. The course should include a variety of high impact learning opportunities for developing skills relevant to the purpose of the Professorship. Ideally this will be a course that can be cross-listed with the Professor's home department and IDS 350 in Brooks College and has the potential for becoming a regularly offered community-engaged course.
- (2) Plan and organize a public symposium that engages with the course content, student activities, and with community members.
- (3) Attend the Advisory Board meetings (about 5 per year) and provide the Advisory Board with progress reports.
- (4) Develop a budget for the symposium and course.  
The time and effort devoted to these activities is expected to be on average 9 hours/week during the semester, or the equivalent to teaching a 3-credit hour course.

Compensation for Winter 2018: 3 credits of reassigned time from teaching and a stipend of \$2,000.

#### **Fall 2018.**

- (1) Teach the 3 credit course on civil discourse.
- (2) Implement the Symposium on Civil Discourse.
- (3) Attend Advisory Board meetings.
- (4) Provide an assessment of the effectiveness of the course and symposium with respect to community involvement, student engagement with the community, and development of student skills in promoting civil, democratic dialogue.

Compensation for Fall 2018: It is expected that the course will be part of the Professor's regular teaching assignment for Fall 2018. The professor will also receive a stipend of \$2,500 for Fall 2018.

Winter 2019.

The Professor improves the Civil Discourse course based on assessments and plans the Fall 2019 Civil Discourse Symposium. These activities may be part of the Professor's significant focus. The Professor meets with the Advisory Board during scheduled meetings.

Compensation: The Professor will receive a stipend of \$2,000 for Winter 2019.

Fall 2019.

- (1) Teach the course on civil discourse.
- (2) Implement the Symposium on Civil Discourse.
- (3) Attend Advisory Board meetings.
- (4) Work on a proposal to make the civil discourse course a regular curricular offering
- (5) Provide an assessment of the effectiveness of the course and symposium with respect to community involvement, student engagement with the community, and development of student skills in promoting civil, democratic dialogue.
- (6) Provide a final report to the Advisory Board by January 30, 2020, addressing the benefits of the program to the faculty member, students, and community.

Compensation for Fall 2019: It is expected that the course will be part of the Professor's regular teaching assignment for Fall 2019. The Professor will receive a stipend of \$2,500 for Fall 2019.

Other support:

In addition to the compensation described above, the Professor of Civil Discourse will receive \$900 per calendar year for professional development related to the purpose of the Professorship. Substantial funding is available for programming associated with the course and the Symposium. PSS support is available.

### **Application Process:**

To apply, please send the following documents electronically to the Advisory Board for the Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professorship of Civil Discourse, in care of Nicole Brower, at [browerni@gvsu.edu](mailto:browerni@gvsu.edu) no later than September 25, 2017:

(1) A current CV; (2) the names and contact information for three references; (3) a letter of application that outlines a vision for the fall symposium and the 3-credit civil discourse course, addresses qualifications for the professorship; (4) letters of support from the applicant's unit head and dean, indicating approval to include the responsibilities of the Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professor of Civil Discourse with reassigned time for Winter 2018 and as part of the regular workload for Fall 2018, Winter 2019, and Fall 2019. The Professor's college will be compensated for the reassigned time at the usual inter-college rate.

## **Selection Criteria:**

Eligible faculty must be tenure-track or tenured GVSU faculty.

An Advisory Board comprised of Grand Valley faculty, staff, and students, as well as community members, will evaluate applications and select the holder of this Professorship, and will lend support to that person as he or she engages in planning for the enhanced course and symposium.

## **Evaluation Criteria:**

1. Relevant teaching experience using high impact learning practices, with preference for a teacher-scholar with experience in community-engaged teaching and scholarship relevant to proposed course.
2. Demonstrated teaching excellence.
3. Significance and timeliness of the selected issues.
4. Potential of the course to attract and engage students.
5. Potential impact of the course on students.
6. Potential impact of the symposium on students and the community.

The next Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professor of Civil Discourse will be announced at the fourth annual Civil Discourse Symposium on November 2, 2017, where the awardee will be presented with the prestigious Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professor of Civil Discourse medallion.

Dr. Lisa Perhamus, the first Padnos/Sarosik Professor of Civil Discourse, and Dr. Jack Mangala, the current Padnos/Sarosik Professor of Civil Discourse, have graciously agreed to serve as a resource for potential applicants in answering questions. Dr. Perhamus may be contacted by e-mail at [perhamul@gvsu.edu](mailto:perhamul@gvsu.edu). Dr. Mangala may be contacted at [mangalaj@gvsu.edu](mailto:mangalaj@gvsu.edu)

## **Appendix: Objectives of the Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professorship of Civil Discourse**

Today's students will graduate into an increasingly pluralistic local, national, and international environment in which it will be impossible to insulate oneself from the complex issues facing humanity, and from individuals who have different but deeply held beliefs about these issues. Responding to the complex issues of the twenty-first century (climate change, poverty, human rights violations, health care reform, education reform, immigration, evolving gender roles, and community violence, to name a few) in a way that promotes peace, justice and respect for human dignity requires citizens and leaders who are skilled in listening closely, understanding and appreciating human differences, and promoting rational and respectful discourse.

The purpose of the Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professorship of Civil Discourse is to prepare Grand Valley students to take their place as leaders in promoting civil discourse in West Michigan and beyond, particularly in the political arena, and to serve as catalysts for vital

discussions and debates while they are students. The goal of the program is to familiarize students with various tools that will help them analyze and understand the political, cultural, and personal motives and assumptions behind people's adherence to particular opinions and to teach the skills that will enable students to bring divergent views to the table with reasoning and respect.