

May 21, 2007

Dear Colleagues,

The Discovery Program is looking forward to our third pilot year of the University Dialogue. Our theme and title, **"We Hold These Truths": A University Dialogue on Democracy** will provide focus for activities and a monograph of position statements written by UNH Faculty Authors. *Please consider integrating activities and essays into your fall and spring courses.*

To assist with planning, we have attached the abstracts for each position statement to be written. These essays will be available in full by early August on-line and in hard copy. They will also be published in *The New Hampshire* throughout the year. The Discovery Program will make these essays available to download individually and as a collection.

The goal of the Dialogue is to draw members of the campus into a series of discussions focused on a central topic. The position statements will serve as the basis for various small-group dialogues in and out of classes. Larger events each semester will bring some of these groups together and connect students with the authors of the position statements for programs such as movies and discussions, democracy simulations, book groups and forums.

In addition, we will enjoy the added emphasis of the Center for the Humanities Saul O. Sidore Lecture Series focused on *Exploring Democracy At Home and Abroad* and the natural energy of hosting the first in the nation presidential primary elections.

We hope you will be willing to involve your students in these conversations. If appropriate for your course, you might assign one or more of the position papers, encourage (or require) students to attend events related to the Dialogue, or arrange for a Dialogue Author to visit your class. There are a variety of ways to involve your students, and we are available to help you make connections to next year's Dialogue.

We're looking forward to a year of engaged discussions, and we would be grateful for your help. If you have any questions or special requests, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Joanne Curran-Celentano
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Director, UNH Discovery Program

Cliff Brown
Associate Professor, Sociology
Co-Director, UNH Discovery Program