Title: Taking Your Classroom into the Field: Co-Curricular Studies

Please include the following information in your proposal.

Facilitator: Jeffrey Morton, Department of Political Science, Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters

Focus: This Faculty Learning Community will explore the viability and feasibility of taking college classes into the field in order to enhance the educational experience. Opportunities for co-curricular studies vary greatly in complexity, ranging from day trips to a local museum to week-long collegiate competitions to semester-long study abroad. In this FLC, participants will be introduced to an array of co-curricular opportunities to incorporate into their existing classes. Areas of consideration will include searching for the appropriate co-curricular activities, funding, university regulations, serving as faculty chaperone, and post-event assessment. After completing the FLC, participants should be prepared to incorporate a co-curricular activity into their existing course(s).

Participants: This FLC is designed for faculty who teach courses that would benefit from a co-curricular activity. Participants should be prepared to incorporate a co-curricular activity into an existing course or into a course that they intend to develop.

Outcomes: By the end of the academic year, participants in this FLC should:
- Identify a course in which a co-curricular activity can be incorporated.
- Identify and research a co-curricular activity, collecting sufficient information to compile a working folder that will serve as a strategic plan for incorporating the activity into a class.
- Compile a folder that will include all relevant information about the co-curricular activity including, but not limited to:
  - Name and brief description of the co-curricular activity
  - Date(s) of the activity
  - Class that will participate in the activity
  - University regulations that relate to the co-curricular activity
  - Financial information, including both university and student financial responsibilities, as well as sources of funding for the activity
  - Explanation of how the students will benefit from the co-curricular activity
- As a whole, the group will conceptually design a web page that could be used as a central information distribution center for all university co-curricular activities.
Sharing the co-curricular experience with the university community is as diverse as the broad range of co-curricular activities. For more modest activities (i.e., one-day museum visits), department web pages are suitable. For more substantial co-curricular activities (i.e., week-long academic competitions), the university web page, student paper and local media are more appropriate outlets for public awareness.

**Potential Meeting Time:** The leader of this FLC is available to schedule meetings on the following days at the indicated times: Mondays 2-6 PM; Thursdays 8 AM – 6 PM; Fridays 2-6 PM. Meetings for this FLC would take place on the Boca Raton campus; participants from other campuses could join the FLC via video conference.