

South Mountain College – Resource Impact Statement

South Mountain College has strong support from both the Provost and President and has been presented to the Board of Trustees and the CAS Advisory Board. The program has received endorsement as an innovative program that will add distinction to the college and the university. This program will bring new resources to the college. Start-up costs will be provided by a combination of funds from the college, university, foundations, and individual donors. Long-term support will be regularized in the College/University budget.

Faculty engagement.

Initial start up will require part time effort of approximately 4 faculty to offer two sections of the core seminar, the investigations course, and to serve as the Faculty Master. At full operation, South Mountain College could engage up to 8-10 faculty FTEs with this FTE effort spread over some 15-20 individual faculty. A cadre of South Mountain College professors will be established over a four-year period by running a faculty development seminar for 12-15 faculty per year. At the end of the four-year period some 48-60 faculty will be prepared to serve as South Mountain College Professors. Individual faculty will become engaged in South Mountain College through a proposal process and a flexible model negotiated with the individual faculty member, the department, and South Mountain College. Within this flexible model, some faculty may be engaged in teaching the core seminar or investigations course as an overload for which they receive additional compensation, others will be engaged by teaching South Mountain courses as part of their normal teaching load. In some cases support will be provided to the faculty member's home department as part of a negotiated "course release" and in other cases this may not be necessary. In some instances, where faculty seek significant engagement in South Mountain College, a visiting professor may be hired in the home department to provide a substantial presence in the home department while the faculty member is released to participate in teaching and mentoring in South Mountain College.

Support will be provided for a senior graduate student in English with interest in writing across the curriculum. This student will work in partnership with the Faculty Development unit of LTS, and South Mountain College faculty and students to assist with the writing intensive portions of the core seminar and investigations course.

Residential Services.

Conversations have initiated with residential services to identify appropriate residential options. The initial requirement is space to house 20-30 students in AY 07-08. At full operation, it is estimated that space for between 50-80 students will be required.

Operational Expenses.

Funds for operating expenses include support of August retreat, faculty development seminars (first 4 years only), administrative staff support, graduate student support for writing across the curriculum, support to leverage faculty engagement, and support for events, projects, communication and marketing.