

From: [Joseph Horan](#)
To: [Faculty Senate](#)
Cc: [Shannon Mancus](#)
Subject: Signature Experience Proposal
Date: Monday, November 2, 2020 4:40:02 PM

Dear colleagues,

We (Professors Shannon Mancus and Joseph Horan) are planning to propose an annual trip to the Rocky Mountain Land Library (<https://landlibrary.wordpress.com>), which will be available to incoming students in HASS 100 (Nature & Human Values). The signature experience would consist of a weekend in which students would camp at the land library and complete a series of workshops offered by professors from HASS and representatives from the ORC. These workshops will focus on translating environmental theory into practice and on building skills that encourage students to become leaders both in our environmental classes and on our state's trails.

We envision starting this program with 40-50 incoming students in HASS 100, and scaling up over time. Students who complete this program during their first year will build upon their experiences by serving as discussion leaders in upper-level classes, advocates for environmental programs across campus, and camp leaders for subsequent cohorts. Starting with the initial funding from Faculty Senate, we will work with the Foundation to identify donors interested in supporting the creation of a broader program of environmental scholarship that will expand across the Mines curriculum.

Thank you for your consideration.