

## **Campus Theme 2017-18**

### **Truth**

**Truth**, like love and justice, is a term everyone uses, but is surprisingly difficult to define. Many regard truth as the most challenging as well as exciting and engaging issue humans have contemplated through the ages and in cultures across the globe. From Pontius Pilates' famous question to Jesus Christ: *What is truth?* some two thousand years ago to philosophers, artists, poets, scientists, and social and political thinkers, all have attempted to get a handle on this intriguing notion. It is the problem of being clear about what we mean when we say some claim or other is true: Is truth objective or subjective? Is truth a single, unified concept or are there many truths? With the goal of gaining a better understanding of this elusive notion, the SOU Center for the Humanities has selected Truth as our Campus Theme for the academic year 2017-18.

As has become our tradition, the goal is for the campus and our larger community to engage in rigorous intellectual conversations about this theme informed by the latest research, scholarship, and insights from a wide variety of perspectives. In addition to SOU faculty, students and staff, we plan to invite leading scholars, scientists, artists and many others to join us in our yearlong exploration of this theme.

We would appreciate prompt approval of the theme so that we can begin working on the fall schedule.

May 15, 2017

Prakash Chenjeri and Dan Morris  
Co-Directors, Campus Theme Program