The one thing we are not is guaranteed in the truth of what we do. Indeed, I believe that without that kind of guarantee we would need to begin again, begin again in another space, begin again from a different set of presuppositions to try to ask ourselves what might it be in human identification, in human practice, in the building of human alliances, which without the guarantee, without the certainty of religion or science or anthropology or genetics or biology or the appearance of your eyes, without any guarantees at all, might enable us to conduct an ethically responsible human discourse and practice about [difference] in our society.

- Stuart Hall

The Without Guarantees Series aims to invite engaging and innovative scholars and thinkers to USD, provoking the community as a whole, and the inviting department, office, or program in particular, to rethink how we understand and operate within difference.

This series is intended to feature lectures, workshops, performances, or seminars by visitors who operate at the productive edges of their discipline or profession, leading new critical dialogues for imagining a more just and equitable world where difference can be confronted, rather than assumed or ignored.

Total CID funds for each proposal are $1000. These funds are not intended to cover hall rental or food/drink. Rather, these funds are intended to cover travel, accommodation, and any honorarium. All speakers must present on the USD campus or, alternatively, in-community with students and partners cultivated in collaboration with the Mulvaney Center for Awareness, Service, & Action. If necessary, funding from other sources such as ESFI may be secured, but the spirit of these funds are to create stand-alone, innovative opportunities, especially for students, rather than contribute to patchwork funding for large budget events. Proposals are encouraged to seek out new voices, whose work forges new directions, advance equity and engage with pluralism in novel ways. Often, our professional networks can yield dynamic guests to campus.

One to two-page proposals should include:
1. Brief biography of the speaker
2. Rationale for how the event supports one of the goals of the 2020 Strategic Plan for Diversity & Inclusive Excellence
3. Identify outcomes (what do you expect participants/attendees to get out of the event?) and measures (how do you know if it works as intended?). Those who receive funding are expected to report back
4. Name of the proposal author and signed approval from the department Chair or supervisor

Submit proposals with the subject line “Without Guarantees Series” to cid@sandiego.edu. Priority dates for consideration will be announced by email at the beginning of the semester, otherwise proposals will be considered on a rolling basis until funds expire for the budget year. If the announced priority dates have passed, inquire about available funding before submitting a proposal. Departments and programs that have not previously received CID funds are especially encouraged to submit a proposal. CID encourages departmental deliberation about invited speakers.