Provost's Service-Learning Faculty Fellows Program

Office of the Provost
Fort Hays State University
Hays, KS 67601-4099

*Funded through the FHSU Provost

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What is Service-Learning?

"Service-learning is a form of experiential education in which students engage in activities that address human and community needs together with structured opportunities for reflection designed to achieve desired learning outcomes."

--B. Jacoby, *Service Learning in Higher Education,* 1996

Purpose of the Program

The purpose of the Provost's Service-Learning Faculty Fellows Program (PSLFFP) is to provide an opportunity for selected faculty to gain an understanding and appreciation of service-learning with the intent of integrating and applying this knowledge to the institution's curricular, research and service functions. Because Fort Hays State University (FHSU) has been formally designated by the Carnegie Foundation as an "engaged" institution, the continuing enhancement of service-learning as an academic strategic theme is essential. The development and enhancement of strong community partnerships is a vital component of the PSLFFP to increase opportunities for service-learning across the curriculum. It is expected that the work of each service-learning fellow will contribute to the strengthening and full implementation of this engagement imperative.

Description of the Program

The program will award up to two fellowships each year. Participating faculty members will be designated Provost's Service-Learning Faculty Fellows with the goal of motivating faculty to participate in service-learning and, concurrently, provide human capital to enrich and broaden the university's community and civic engagement learning experiences and programming. Fellows will be expected to increase the number of available service-learning courses and contribute to the integrity and value of service-learning as part of tenure, promotion, sabbatical, and merit processes and decisions. By virtue of their responsibilities, fellows will also be expected to generate community support and interest in campus service-learning initiatives. Faculty can retain their designation as a Service-Learning Faculty Fellow by offering at least one service-learning course per academic year and conducting one major activity sanctioned by the University's Experiential Learning Committee. Funding will be provided in the year the Fellow is selected, but none in subsequent years.

Responsibilities

- Attend service-learning webinars and trainings, as scheduled, for the purpose of professional development

- Participation in orientation and development workshops, as scheduled, with the objective of introducing new fellows to the philosophy and pedagogy of service-learning and the development of coursework

- Teach at least one course that contains a service-learning component

- Provide primary support to the University Experiential Learning Committee for carrying out activities dedicated to experiential learning

- Assist with assigned service-learning orientations and training sessions for faculty and staff

- Lead development initiatives that enhance student involvement in service-learning and co-curricular coursework and service

- Assist with service-learning program evaluation and assessment activities

- Work collaboratively with assigned community partners to identify issues and opportunities for student and faculty participation

Application Criteria

An application must include the following items:

- Curriculum vitae

- A completed application form with the signature of the department chair and college dean indicating permission to participate in the program and a willingness to allow the applicant to teach a service-learning course (indicate the intended course targeted for delivery as a service-learning course)

- A brief statement (no more than two pages) indicating *your motivation for program participation and what you expect to gain from involvement*

A search and screen committee composed of members of the University Experiential-Learning Committee, current and past service-learning fellows and a representative of the Office of the Provost will review applications and provide recommendations to the Provost. Appointments will last one academic year, beginning July 1 and ending June 30.

Selection Criteria

- ➢ Clarity of anticipated professional gains from the program including statement of motivation and perception of service-learning
- ➢ Alignment with University goals
- ➢ Commitment of the faculty member to participate in all program requirements
- ➢ Personal and department benefit

Application Timeline

- ➢ Application deadline: April 10
- ➢ Announce Fellows: May 5

Stipend/Terms

- ➢ Successful applicants with receive a $1500 stipend
- ➢ Each funded fellowship will last 12 months
- ➢ Funds will be distributed in two installments: $750 on July 1 and $750 on April 1 of the following year

Eligibility

- ➢ All full-time faculty are eligible to apply

Service-Learning Fellowship from July 1 – June 30 of Awarded Academic Year

Application Due April 10

Applicant Information

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

College: _____

Department: _____

Office:_____Office Phone Number: _____

Application Check List

☐ Cover Page with Signatures (this form)

☐ Service-Learning Project/Idea Description

☐ Statement of motivation (no more than 2 pages)

Signature and Agreement

I have read, understood, and agree to meet the responsibilities of the Provost's Service-Learning Faculty Fellows Program for appointment during the academic year of award, from July 1 through June 30.

Applicant Signature:_____Date: _____

Department Chair Signature: _____Date: _____

Dean Signature: _____Date: _____

Applications must be submitted to the Provost's Office by April 10. Faculty Fellows will be notified of their selection by official letter and email on May 5.

For questions about the application, please contact:
Experiential Learning Committee Chair, Provost's Office