

Provost's Service-Learning Faculty Fellows Program

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Supported by the Welch Charitable Fund

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Office of the Provost
Fort Hays State University

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 appreciation and understanding 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. It is expected that the work of each service-learning fellow will contribute to the strengthening and full implementation of this engagement imperative.

Sponsorship/Support

The PSLFFP is offered and supported in cooperation with resources provided by George Welch and the Welch Charitable Fund.

Description of the Program

The program will award three fellowships this 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. The program will consist of a set of responsibilities divided into two phases: a professional development phase and an academic leadership phase. 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 year and conducting one major activity sanctioned by the university's Service-Learning Committee.

Responsibilities of a Fellow: The Professional Development Phase

- Participation in an annual orientation and development workshop with the objective of introducing new fellows to the philosophy and pedagogy of service learning and the development of coursework.
- Participation in the development of a service-learning course mentored by the staff of the Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning Technologies (CTELT).
- Annual service as a member of the university's Service-Learning Committee.
- Train to serve as primary staff support to the university's Service-Learning Committee for the annual Campus-Community Service Fair.
- Establish service-learning partnerships with community agencies under the direction of the Service-Learning Committee.
- Participate in scheduled service-learning webinars and training videos

Responsibilities of a Fellow: The Academic Leadership Phase

- Present the purpose and practice of the service-learning program and theme to internal and external audiences.
- Teach at least one course that contains a service-learning component.
- Provide primary support to the university Service-Learning Committee for carrying out the annual Campus-Community Service Event.
- 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 and Selection 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 Service-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 begin on July 1 and end 18 months later on December 31.

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 27
- Announce Fellows: May 11

Stipend/Terms

Successful applicants will receive a \$1500 stipend. Each funded fellowship will last 18 months. Funds will be distributed every six months in increments of \$300, \$450 and \$750.

Eligibility

- All full-time faculty eligible: tenured, tenure-track, renewable temporary
- Can re-apply on case by case basis

Application Form Attached

PROVOST'S SERVICE-LEARNING FELLOWS PROGRAM APPLICATION

Service-Learning Fellowship from July 1, 2012 – December 31, 2013

Application Due April 27

Applicant Information

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

College: _____

Department: _____

Office: _____ Office Phone Number: _____

Application Check List

- ☐ Cover Page with Signatures (this form)
- ☐ Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae (3-4 pages)
- ☐ 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 Fellows Program for the appointment year July 1, 2012 – December 31, 2013.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Department Chair Signature: _____ Date: _____

Dean Signature: _____ Date: _____

Applications must be submitted to the Provost's Office by April 27. Faculty Fellows will be notified of their selection by official letter and email on May 11.

For questions about the application, please contact:
Stacey Smith, Service-Learning Committee Chair at slgsmith@fhsu.edu or 785-628-4696