CALL FOR PROPOSALS: Reinert Center Faculty Fellowships



The Paul C. Reinert, S.J. Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning is currently accepting proposals for up to three Faculty Fellowships for the 2017-2018 academic year. Contributions from Reinert Center Fellows are vital to the ongoing work of the Center. Past Fellows have helped to expand the Center's programs and resources and to build partnerships that establish a culture of evidence-based teaching and learning at SLU.

At this time, we seek proposals for projects that will enhance the applicant's knowledge and expertise on a particular teaching topic and that will enhance/supplement Reinert Center programs and/or resources. Projects should result in a tangible faculty development opportunity for other SLU educators (from a range of disciplines) as a means to enhance pedagogical knowledge and skills across the campus. Fellows receive a stipend of \$1,000 (disbursed at \$500 per semester).

Proposals are due on **Friday, February 17, 2017, at 5 p.m.** Electronic versions of all forms may be found here: http://slu.edu/x90467.xml.

Please note: this fellowship is different from the Innovative Teaching Fellowship, which supports teaching in our Learning Studio. For more on the Innovative Teaching Fellowship, go to http://www.slu.edu/cttl/fellowships/innovative-teaching-fellowship.

Fellowship Details

Purpose

The purpose of the Reinert Center Faculty Fellowships is to create mutually-beneficial partnerships between Center staff and SLU faculty, to foster collaboration among faculty from across the University on topics related to teaching and learning, and to enhance/supplement existing Center programs and resources. Additionally, these fellowships provide an opportunity for SLU faculty to deepen their understanding of and involvement with the Reinert Center and for the Center to better understand the pedagogical needs and interests of SLU faculty.

Eligibility

SLU faculty members from any academic department at the University who will have a full-time teaching appointment for the 2017-2018 academic year and who will have completed a minimum of two years of teaching at SLU by the beginning of the Fellowship period are eligible to apply. Note: Adjunct faculty members whose chairs and deans confirm their eligibility (through the Statement of Support) may apply.

Although most applications are submitted by individuals, interdisciplinary projects involving two or more faculty members also are encouraged. In such cases, supporting materials must include a completed Statement of Support from all applicants' chairs and deans.

Fellowship Period

Fellowships will occur during the 2017-2018 academic year.

Fellowship Expectations

During the fellowship year, a Reinert Center Faculty Fellow will:

- Complete a faculty development project of her/his own design (focused on teaching and/or curriculum design) that has broad applicability for faculty across the University, **beyond the home discipline**, **department**, **college**, **or school**
- Work independently on the proposed faculty development project, making consistent progress, collaborating with Reinert Center staff as needed, and communicating regularly with the Center
- Attend one Advisory Board meeting per semester (if able) to report on the status of the project
- Agree to serve as a resource on the project topic for other instructors, including making the project public for other SLU faculty (e.g., through a workshop, a facilitated conversation, an online resource)

- Write one blog post per semester for the Reinert Center blog (*The Notebook*), to share information with the wider SLU community on some aspect of the project
- Complete the proposed project by the end of the fellowship period*
- Prepare a short reflection on the experience of serving as a faculty fellow, including expectations for how the project might evolve, at the end of the fellowship period

Benefits to Faculty

Benefits of serving as a Reinert Center Fellow include:

- Professional development in an area of interest to the applicant focused on pedagogy, course design, and/or research on teaching and learning
- Being recognized as an expert on the proposed project topic among SLU faculty colleagues from a range of disciplines/fields
- The opportunity to create resources and/or programs that enhance or supplement the Reinert Center's current offerings
- The opportunity to enhance pedagogical knowledge and skills among colleagues in all disciplines
- The opportunity to work closely with Reinert Center staff to develop skills and expertise on a teaching topic of the fellow's choice
- The potential for conference, or other, presentations (depending on the project)
- Recognition as a Reinert Center Fellow
- A stipend of \$1,000 to support development efforts and time commitment

Proposal Details

Format

Proposals must respond to all questions on the **Proposal Form** and must be accompanied by a **Statement of Support** signed by the applicant's department chair and dean.

Project Expectations

To be considered, proposals must describe projects that:

- 1.) Focus on a specific topic related to pedagogical strategies, course design, and/or research on teaching and learning;
- 2.) Have a demonstrable ability to enhance other faculty members' learning/development on that topic;
- 3.) Are broadly applicable for faculty from a broad range of disciplines across the University; and that
- 4.) Enhance the Reinert Center's current faculty development offerings.

Additionally, proposals should clearly articulate the phases of the project, the faculty development opportunity that will result, how the proposed project will enhance the applicant's knowledge and skills, how the project is suited to the Reinert Center mission, and how the project is expected to contribute to the pedagogical development of other SLU faculty from a range of disciplines across the University.

Faculty who propose projects involving the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (that is, conducting original research on and/or helping other faculty to develop skills for producing original research on teaching and learning) may wish to be considered for the Mary L. Stephen Faculty Fellowship for Scholarly Teaching.

^{*} Depending on the scope and nature of a given project, fellowships may be renewable for one additional year.

Sample Projects

Examples of projects that might be appropriate for Reinert Center Fellows are as follows:

- Design and lead a year-long Faculty Learning Community for faculty from a range of disciplines on some aspect of teaching, learning, or course/curriculum design (e.g., incorporating High Impact Practices, designing team-taught or interdisciplinary courses, teaching with technology, etc.)
- Create an online resource or a set of research-based guides to help faculty identify specific strategies for advancing diversity and inclusion initiatives in their own courses
- Develop a workshop series for the Reinert Center focused on teaching international students, perhaps in collaboration with other campus units.
- Develop a resource for the Reinert Center website that would help faculty design and teach graduate-level courses (including how they might differ from undergraduate courses).
- Create a Google site (or other web-based tool) that can serve as a resource and repository for faculty
 interested in integrating Ignatian pedagogy into their teaching more intentionally and sharing
 materials with other like-minded faculty.
- Prepare a white paper (considering existing research) that summarizes the literature on flipped classroom strategies, looking in particular at what makes this choice effective for student learning; conduct a teaching workshop or series of brown bag conversations on teaching to share lessons learned.
- Identify strategies for effectively structuring team-based learning, with an emphasis on how best to assess and grade student collaborative work, and develop a teaching resource guide to disseminate this information to the larger SLU teaching community.
- Conduct a study on the outcomes of a particular teaching strategy and present the findings as a workshop or facilitated discussion, with an emphasis on how instructors from other disciplines might apply those lessons in their own courses.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed by Reinert Center staff and current or past Reinert Center Fellows. The selection committee will be looking for a/an:

- Detailed description of the project to be undertaken, including a timeline for completion and the tangible faculty development opportunity that will result
- Explanation of the applicant's interest in the topic, including how the project will enhance her/his own knowledge and/or skills
- Description of how the project would benefit other SLU faculty, from a broad range of disciplines, beyond the applicant's own department/college
- Articulation of how the proposed project is suited to the Reinert Center's strategic plan and of how the project is expected to enhance or supplement existing Center programs and/or resources
- Brief description of the kinds of assistance and/or materials that may be needed in order to successfully complete the project

Proposals for projects that make a measurable contribution to the Reinert Center's current <u>strategic plan</u> will be especially competitive.

Submission Process

Electronic versions of all forms may be found here: http://slu.edu/x90467.xml. Completed proposals, including the **Statement of Support Form**, must be submitted to Mary Cook at mcook25@slu.edu no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, February 17, 2017. Questions may be directed to Dr. Gina Merys (gmerys@slu.edu).