

From: Linda Griffin <lgriffin@educ.umass.edu>
Date: March 25, 2010 2:51:13 PM EDT
To: ft-fac@educ.umass.edu
Subject: [Ft-fac] IIF Invitation FINAL NOTICE

Dear colleagues --

I am sending this "one more time with feeling" in case folks simply deleted the email. We had our first information workshop on Wednesday, April 24 in 228 Furcolo and we had 18 folks attend. We are hoping that the positive energy spreads across the SOE. See below if you are still interested and please let me know ASAP. best, Linda

Innovative Instructional Fellowship Program Invitation

The School of Education is pleased to announce the Innovative Instructional Fellowship Program. All full- and part-time faculty in the School of Education are invited to submit proposals to develop individual courses or programs (e.g. master's, certificates or C.A.G.S.) that will be offered in online or blended formats in collaboration with Continuing and Professional Education. Fellowship activities will take place during the 2010-11 academic year and carries a stipend.

A **one-hour introductory workshop** will be held to provide more detailed information about the Innovative Instructors Fellowship program and application process. Applicants are **required** to attend one of the introductory sessions. Please RSVP to Linda Griffin (lgriffin@educ.umass.edu). Faculty can attend either workshop.

· **Thursday, April 1, 2 p.m., Hills South 483**

Goals of the Program

The Innovative Instructional Fellowship (IIF) program is designed to:

Provide support to School of Education faculty to design, develop and teach high-quality online or blended courses.

Expand the capacity of the School of Education to offer high-quality, rigorous courses and programs using innovative delivery methods. (These offerings should be sustainable, e.g. designed to be offered on an ongoing basis, not a one off.)

Provide the School of Education with increased ability to enhance revenue through high quality innovative mission-driven course and program offerings.

Extend the reach of School of Education offerings to:

- 1) Provide access to courses to geographically diverse students who would not otherwise be able to take advantage of the unique educational opportunities at UMass Amherst.
- 2) Allow existing UMass Amherst undergraduate and graduate students to take advantage of online or blended course offerings during the summer session giving added flexibility and convenience to students in their progress towards graduation.
- 3) Provide working professionals with access to online or blended courses that integrates theory with practice in a convenient online or blended format.

Program Description

- The Innovative Instructional Fellowship program is sponsored by the School of Education.
- All full- and part-time faculty members in the School of Education are eligible.
- Fellowship activities will be concentrated during the 2010-11 academic year, with newly developed courses being taught beginning in Summer 2011. The overall duration of the fellowship is eighteen months, with time for assessment and dissemination of knowledge gained during the fellowship during the final six months.
- Each fellow will receive a stipend.
- Collaborative projects are encouraged. The general guiding principle will be one stipend awarded per accepted proposal.
- The goal is to fund as many high-quality proposals as possible (given budgetary constraints) that will recapture and enhance the investment made in each fellowship.

The IIF Fellowship

Fellowships **require an eighteen-month commitment**, including a year to design, develop and teach the course for the first time, and a subsequent six months for project assessment and dissemination of knowledge gained through your experience as a fellow.

The Fellowship program will launch with a **half-day workshop to be held Wednesday, June 2, 2010, followed by a day-long workshop Thursday, September 2, 2010**. To be eligible for the fellowship nominees **must be available** for and willing to participate fully in both these sessions.

You will receive support for designing and developing an online or blended course, including help in:

- Assessing the pedagogical implications of teaching in an online or blended format giving your disciplinary focus and identified student audience;
- Identifying appropriate learning technologies that support the overall learning objectives of the course;
- Finding research and other publications related to the scholarship of teaching and learning that relates to your disciplinary focus, the characteristics of the students in the class, or the teaching methods you are interested in drawing upon, as well as other resources that will be useful in developing the course;
- The opportunity to attend on-campus workshops and seminars on best practices in teaching using emerging technologies.

There is a strong emphasis in the program on helping you in becoming independent in your use of learning technologies. We will help you learn to use technology appropriately, but you will be doing the work of actually developing the course.

The IIF fellows will meet monthly during the academic year to share your experiences in a supportive atmosphere, receive feedback on the progress of your project, share resources, and learn from each other and from instructional support providers on campus regarding online course and program development.

Interaction among the fellows will be a key ingredient of this initiative. Participants will be expected to:

- Participate in monthly seminars over the 2010-11 academic year. These will be scheduled on Friday mornings throughout the academic year.
- Meet monthly with the IIF Fellowship Coordinator to identify support needs and assess progress.
- Design and conduct a comprehensive assessment of the course you are developing.
- Complete a project report describing your experiences during the fellowship program

- Participate in assessment of the IIF Fellowship program as a whole.
- Share your experiences developing and teaching the course through publication and/or offering a department or college-based presentation.

Application Process

A one-hour introductory workshop will be held to provide more detailed information about the Innovative Instructors Fellowship program and application process. Applicants are required to attend one of the intro sessions. Please RSVP to Linda Griffin (lgriffin@educ.umass.edu). Faculty can choose to attend either workshop

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Application deadline: Monday, April 14 at 5 p.m.

Applications should be submitted in electronic form to Jane Clukay (jclukay@educ.umass.edu). Application forms will be available soon (click Grants & Contracts) at: http://www.umass.edu/education/faculty_resources/index.shtml

Decisions will be announced: by April 23

Decisions will be based on the quality of the proposal; the feasibility of the proposed project; the congruence of the project with the goals of the IIF Fellowship program; the extent to which the proposal aligns with the strategic objectives of the concentration, department and school.

For additional information about the Innovative Instructional Fellowship contact: Linda Griffin (lgriffin@educ.umass.edu)

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Never a failure, always a lesson
