

Bureau of Educational Research Endowment
Traditional Faculty Fellows Award
University of Illinois College of Education
2008-2009

Applications are invited for one year, renewable appointments to the Faculty Fellows Program beginning August 16, 2009. Successful applicants may reapply for a maximum appointment of three years.

Deadline for applications is Friday, March 6, 2009.

An appointment to the Fellows Program offers many advantages, including: (1) resources for programmatic research; (2) an opportunity to develop new research programs; and (3) capacity to leverage external funding.

The Fellows Program has been configured to offer faculty flexibility in how they use Fellows funding. Total support for each Fellow will be a maximum of \$30,000 per year. Each Fellow will have the option of using the money in the following ways:

1. Buy-out of up to two courses per year (\$7,000/course PLUS fringe) to be decided in consultation with Department Heads or Chairs.
2. Graduate research assistance (obtain exact dollar amounts from the Business Office).
3. Travel support: Maximum of \$1000 for conference travel. Funds for research travel-- amount to be justified.
4. Summer salary up to current College of Education cap PLUS fringe benefits. Monthly summer salary is calculated at 1/9th of academic year salary up to a current maximum of \$9,153 per month, PLUS fringe*.
5. Equipment and supplies directly related to proposed research.

*You must contact the Office of Budget and Resource Planning, or your departmental Business Contact to confirm these rates.

Fellows will maintain their department offices.

Fellows will be required to present a seminar on their research and to submit a brief report summarizing their experience as a Fellow in August 2009. A regular series of Fellows meetings will be scheduled. Fellows will be encouraged to collaborate with one another to enhance research efforts.

Tenure-track faculty of all ranks who are full-time in the University and budgeted at least part-time in the College of Education are eligible and encouraged to apply. Applicants wishing to receive feedback and advice prior to submitting a formal proposal are encouraged to submit a proposal draft to Raynika Trent, who will pass it on to former Fellows for feedback with the goal of helping develop the proposal.

Please submit six collated copies and a CD-ROM of all materials to
Faculty Fellows Program
Bureau of Educational Research
c/o Paige Spangler
38 Education Bldg.
MC-708

If you need assistance preparing the CD-ROM please contact Paige Spangler as soon as possible.

Deadline for applications: March 6, 2009 at 5:00PM. No late applications will be accepted. Only complete applications will be reviewed.

1. Research Proposal:

Provide a clear and detailed statement of plans for research during the period for which you seek an appointment. Write the proposal as though it was going to a major external-funding agency, such as NSF or IES. Include a clear statement of the problem, brief discussion of prior literature, clear presentation of methodology, and as appropriate proposed research design, and data analysis. Write your proposal so that it is accessible to readers outside your field. The text of the proposal should be limited to 10 double-spaced pages. In addition, an appendix must include a budget statement, a timeline for carrying out activities, and a brief summative evaluation plan for completion of the proposed research. Joint applications from more than one faculty members that represent strategic inter-disciplinary collaboration will be considered and reviewed as a single proposal and funded up to \$30,000.

2. Past Research:

- a. Curriculum Vitae
- b. Three representative publications.

3. Present Research:

- a. Two-page (maximum) discussion of current research interests and work in progress, as well as current external funding. Up to two examples of papers or proposals in progress may be included.

4. Letters of Recommendation:

Application must be accompanied by a letter of support from Department Head or Chair. The letters should indicate approval for course buyout and other departmental obligations. Two other letters of recommendation from colleagues who are competent to judge your work are requested. At least one of these should be from outside the university. These letters should address the quality of the proposal.

5. Renewal Applications:

Candidates seeking renewal should include a review of past progress as a Fellow and a rationale for continuation. The selection of Faculty Fellows is a competitive process, and is based on the evaluation criteria listed below. Faculty Fellows are chosen based on a consensus of the members of the College Research Committee.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

- Overall quality of the proposal
- Explicit linkage to previous research and theoretical and methodological soundness.
- Potential contribution to field of education.
- Potential impact on the applicant's career.
- Feasibility of the proposed project.
- Potential for obtaining later external funding.
- Potential to promote collaborative research across departments within the College of Education or across the College and another academic campus unit.

NOTE: Research is interpreted broadly and not limited to any one type of scholarly activity. However, proposals that include traditional forms of scholarly research (quantitative, qualitative, mixed method,

evaluation) must include a clear description of research methods and as appropriate, a design and proposed analysis of data.

Faculty who apply and are not offered an appointment will be given feedback and may choose to leave their application on file and apply next year. Faculty who do so are encouraged to update and revise their application, as necessary. For further information, contact Raynika Trent or any committee member. Copies of proposals from previous years are available in Room 38 Education Bldg.

This program is supported by the Charles Dunn Hardie Trust Fund.

Please note one of the weaknesses last year was a lack of detail about the actual proposed work and an overemphasis on the literature review. Although not all proposals will use a traditional research design, those that do, need to be explicit in addressing methods, design and data analysis.