



Office of Academic Programs and Educational Innovation (APEI) 2019-'20 WISCONSIN TEACHING FELLOWS & SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Program Description | Call for Applications

"Scholarly teaching is what every one of us should be engaged in every day that we are in a classroom, in our office with students, tutoring, lecturing, conducting discussions, all the roles we play pedagogically... But it is only when we step back and reflect systematically on the teaching we have done, in a form that can be publicly reviewed and built upon by our peers, that we have moved from scholarly teaching to the scholarship of teaching." - Lee Schulman, President Emeritus

Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

This quote by Lee Schulman reminds us that our teaching flows into multiple spaces and is rarely absent from our everyday lives. It is through the mindful act of reflecting that we can transform a knot of messy experiences into a stream of clarity, knowing, and understanding. Yet reflecting and reflection do not come easily when one is juggling the teaching of multiple classes, advising, grading assignments, squeezing in research and scholarly work, and providing service to the department, university, community, and discipline. The demands of teaching necessitate a clearing.

Recognizing this, the UW System's Wisconsin Teaching Fellows and Scholars (WTFS) Program is designed to provide time (one year) to systematically reflect with peers in a supportive and open-minded community and, ultimately, to move from "scholarly teaching" to the "scholarship of teaching." Administered by the UW System's Office of Academic Programs and Educational Innovation and directed by UW faculty, the WTFS Program is grounded in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL).

This is a call to faculty and instructional academic staff throughout the UW System to submit applications to their Provost's office for the 2019-'20 WTFS Program. Your institution will provide a \$4,000 summer stipend, and cover your travel, lodging, meals, and incidentals. You will also receive \$500 in Supplies & Expense from UW System Administration to support your SoTL work. We seek participants who demonstrate a commitment to excellence in teaching and learning, as well as an intellectual curiosity, spirit of collegiality, and commitment to the success of all students.

The WTFS Program pursues teaching and learning research questions that emerge from experiences in the UW "classroom," whether face-to-face, blended, or online. Of particular interest are research questions that address high-impact practices such as undergraduate research, internships, community-based/service learning, intensive writing, ePortfolios, capstone courses, first-year seminars and experiences, and collaborative learning.

Who can apply to the WTFS Program?

We seek a diversity of participants from all disciplines; participants may engage in quantitative, qualitative, or a blended form of research. What is important is that the assumptions that inform your methodology is consistent with your discipline and best suited to answer your research question. Participants may be seasoned, tenured professors (Scholars) or early career and untenured professors (Fellows). Common characteristics of successful WTFS participants: intellectual curiosity; openness to new ideas, ways of thinking, and problem-solving; collegiality; commitment to a learning community; willingness to engage with an interdisciplinary group of diverse peers; and an underlying commitment to success of all students.

Your research question should emerge from your experiences of teaching at your UW institution. Consider some of the problems faced by students in your learning environment. Consider Randy Bass's seminal article ["What's the problem?"](#) You may want to research the SoTL work of past WTFS Program participants, especially ones from your institution, and consult with the director of your Center for Teaching & Learning.

What is SoTL?

The Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (SoTL) engages in systematic inquiry into student learning in higher education. The UW System was an early adopter of SoTL, partnering with the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (CASTL) in 2000. Former UW faculty administrators *Tony Ciccone*, *Lisa Kornetsky*, and *Nancy Chick* held prominent roles in the international development of SoTL. Their legacy continues today with UW System's Wisconsin Teaching Fellows & Scholars Program. The WTFS Program is a year-long learning community of SoTL practitioners who represent the UW System's 11 comprehensive and two doctoral institutions. Collectively they form a vibrant interdisciplinary community with multi-faceted dynamic discussions and career-enhancing experiences for participants.

What happens in the WTFS Program?

The WTFS Program models effective teaching and learning, creating a community of learners among participants. Fellows and Scholars are guided through the process of completing a SoTL project with input from participants and the program co-directors through year-long activities at the end of which SoTL projects are made public. WTFS participants are encouraged to share their projects with one of the growing number of SoTL publications or a SoTL conference. *Note: projects should be individual and should not have additional, outside funding.*

Wisconsin Teaching Fellows and Scholars Program Requirements:

- Attendance at four events throughout the year:
 - Faculty College – May 28 - 31, 2019 – UW-Richland Center
 - Summer Institute – June 10 - 14, 2019 – the Madison Concourse Hotel
 - Winter Institute – January, 2020 – dates and location TBD
 - Final meeting & Spring Conference on Teaching & Learning – April, 2020 – dates and location TBD
- Consultation and recording of SoTL project's progress throughout the program year.
- Submission of SoTL project abstract to UW System.

What's the difference between a Wisconsin Teaching Fellow and Scholar?

Both Fellows and Scholars engage in SoTL work. What distinguishes between the two is the professional academic experience they bring to the process. Teaching Fellows are in their early career and are untenured. Teaching Scholars are tenured and, therefore, have a deeper experience with teaching and learning. Some UW institutions welcome instructors to participate; check with your Provost's Office or Center for Teaching and Learning director.

Application Process

Each UW institution has its own application deadline. Please contact your Provost's Office for its deadline. For additional information, you may contact your [OPID Advisory Council Member](#) or Director of your institution's [Center for Teaching & Learning](#). More information and application forms are available on the [UW System WTFS website](#). You may also want to speak to other faculty or staff who have been past participants in the WTFS Program over recent years. For assistance, contact 2018-'19 WTFS Co-Directors *David Voelker*, voelkerd@uwgb.edu, *Alison Staudinger*, staudina@uwgb.edu, or *Fay Akindes*, Director of Systemwide Professional and Instructional Development, fakindes@uwsa.edu, (608) 263-2684.

Applications are due to UW System via apei@uwsa.edu in a single pdf by Monday, December 3, 2018, but are due at your institution prior to this. Appointment letters will be sent out before Spring semester.

Note: Components of the WTFS Program are subject to UW System's Academic Programs and Educational Innovation (APEI) budget. Dates are subject to change.