

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Faculty College is an annual professional development institute | retreat for faculty, instructors, and lecturers in the University of Wisconsin System. It originated in 1979 and was held at Marinette County for 20 years then moved to UW-Richland Center in 2000. The 43rd Annual Faculty College will take place at [The Osthoff Resort](#) in Elkhart Lake for the second year.

Who should attend Faculty College?

Faculty College 2023 is conceptualized as an institute | retreat with university teams led by teaching and learning center directors. Universities are invited to nominate up to 10 team members. Team members include: two OPID Advisory Council members, two 2023-24 Wisconsin Teaching Fellows & Scholars (WTFS), and six additional faculty, instructors, or lecturers, with teaching and learning responsibilities.

Suggestions to consider for the six additional nominees (not limited to):

- WTFS 2023-24 applicants who are not selected for the program.
- Faculty and instructors who are interested in deepening their understanding of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in the context of teaching and learning.
- Faculty and instructors committed to supporting their Teaching and Learning Center in expanding social justice professional development for their colleagues.
- Faculty and instructors who were nominated for Faculty College 2022 but did not attend.
- Faculty and instructors from different colleges to ensure representation across disciplines.

What is the focus of Faculty College 2023?

The theme for Faculty College 2023 is: **Teaching & Learning with a Social Justice Lens**. Our guest facilitator is *Dr. Lisa Brock*, Founding Academic Director of the Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership at Kalamazoo College in Michigan. She is our opening plenary speaker and respondent throughout Faculty College.

What are university teams expected to do before, during, and after Faculty College 2023?

Before – University teams should begin interpersonal team building and assessing equity, diversity, inclusion, and justice in professional development programs you have already organized at your university. Consider your strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges regarding teaching and learning with a social justice lens.

During – Come to Faculty College with an open mind. Seek new ideas and possibilities for approaching your work. Interact with colleagues from around the UW System, and engage in structured dialogues with your university teams in the afternoons. Meals, after-dinner programs, and an evening fire circle at the lake are opportunities for socializing and connecting with colleagues. On the last day of Faculty College, each team will have an opportunity to share ideas and visions for the future.

After – Reflect individually and collectively on Faculty College, then begin developing professional development programs for the 2023-24 academic year. OPID looks forward to your experiences and stories about *Teaching & Learning with a Social Justice Lens*.

What is planned for WTFS 2023-24 participants at Faculty College?

The new WTFS cohort will meet for the first time on Tuesday, May 30, at a lunch meeting led by WTFS Co-Directors *Valerie Barske* (UW-Stevens Point) and *Heather Pelzel* (UW-Whitewater). WTFS participants will be assigned shared lodging. Activities tbd.

When does Faculty College begin and end for participants not in the WTFS?

Hotel registration begins at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, May 30. Faculty College registration is located outside of the Conference Center Ballroom and begins at 4 p.m. Dinner and the opening plenary is scheduled at 6 p.m. Faculty College ends on Friday, June 2, by 1 p.m. Box lunches will be distributed.

Who pays for Faculty College?

UW System's OPID will continue to pay for lodging, meals, and programming for up to 10 participants at each institution. Institutions (typically the Provost's Office) are responsible for reimbursing faculty and instructors for mileage and meals & incidentals traveling to and from Faculty College. Carpooling is strongly encouraged. Parking is free.

Is it necessary to stay at The Osthoff Resort or can participants commute from home?

Faculty College is designed to be an institute | retreat. Participants should not only stay at The Osthoff Resort, but stay for the entirety of Faculty College. Participants who are unable to begin and end with the group should postpone their Faculty College attendance.

What lodging accommodations are available?

Participants will be assigned to a double suite, each with two private bedrooms and two bathrooms. Bedding, towels, and toiletries are provided. There is also a fully equipped kitchen, sitting area, flat-screen TV, and wireless connection. Participants are encouraged to bring their own snacks and water bottle. Coffee and tea will be served during morning breaks.

May I request a suite-mate?

Yes, you may request to share a double suite with a specific person. If no requests are made, we will try to assign you to a suite with someone from your field of study. In most cases, you will be assigned a suite with a colleague from another UW university. WTFS 2023-24 participants will be assigned to a suite with another WTFS participant.

May I bring my spouse or guest?

No. Faculty College is designed to be a fully immersive retreat. It is intentionally set at a remote site to minimize distractions. We envision your afternoons and evenings to be spent in dialogue with colleagues from around the UW System. Past participants have said that meaningful exchanges often happen in-between the formal sessions. Book projects have formed in the past.

How should I dress?

Dress is casual and comfortable. Bring a sweater or shawl for air-conditioned rooms. Also pack a light jacket for evenings around the firepit and walks along the lake.

May I request special meals?

Dietary restrictions will be collected during registration. The Catering staff will try its best to provide alternative meals. Should your dietary needs be highly specialized, however, you should be prepared to supplement the catered meals with your dietary needs.

Should I bring spending money?

Yes. Although lodging and meals are covered, you may want to purchase snacks, beverages, or souvenirs.

What recreational activities are available?

Bicycles, kayaks, and pontoon boats are available for rent. We are organizing afternoon pontoon boat rides for a fee (about \$12 or so). You may also bring your own bicycles and kayaks. The Osthoff Resort has a spa with services available at a fee. There are two outdoor swimming pools and an exercise room that are free to Faculty College participants. There are walkable trails in the surrounding woodlands. The village of Elkhart Lake is a stroll away and offers an ice cream parlor, snack bars, and gift shops, including one that sells Nordic yarn.

May I bring a musical instrument?

Yes. In the past, impromptu jam sessions were held around the fire. Guitars, ukuleles, tambourines, a saxophone, and even a plastic bag were part of the music mix. In recent years, karaoke was a popular collective activity.

For questions not listed on this FAQ, contact:

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