



Office of Academic Programs and Educational Innovation (APEI) 2018-19 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 2018-19 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 for 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 campus. 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.

What is SoTL?

The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning approaches teaching as a site of research. In this sense, SoTL is concerned with teaching and learning or, in other words, pedagogical scholarship. As with any scholarship, SoTL makes public one's scholarly inquiry, opening it up to critique, review, analysis, application, and modification. The WTFS Program creates a community of SoTL practitioners who represent the UW System's two doctoral institutions, the 11 comprehensive institutions, UW Colleges, and UW-Extension. The diverse range of institutions and disciplines ensure a lively mix of participants and, consequently, multi-faceted dynamic discussions. The learning community that emerges in WTFS is vibrant, challenging, and career-enhancing 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 fellow participants and the program co-directors through year-long activities at the end of which SoTL projects will be made public. WTFS participants are encouraged to share their projects with one of the growing number of SoTL publications or a SoTL conference. Note that 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 29 to June 2, 2018 – UW-Richland Center
 - Summer Institute – June 11-15, 2018 – the Madison Concourse Hotel
 - Winter Institute – January 2019, 2 days TBD
 - Final meeting –1 day, TBD
- Consultation and recording of SoTL project's progress throughout the program year.
- Submission of SoTL project abstract to UW System's APEI.

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. The range of experiences informs the depth of discussions in the WTFS Program.

Application Process

Each UW institution has its own application deadline. Please contact your Provost's Office for their deadline. For additional information, you may contact your [OPID Advisory Council Member](#) or Director of your institution's [Center for Teaching & Learning](#) if your campus has one. 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 David Voelker, voelkerd@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 afgp@uwsa.edu in a single pdf by Monday, December 4, 2017, but are due at your institution prior to this. Appointment letters will be sent out in December.

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