The University of Wisconsin System Prior Learning Expansion Initiative is seeking faculty and instructional academic staff (IAS) to serve on the Faculty/IAS Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Consulting Group. The project seeks individuals who are experienced in the assessment of learning outcomes, in particular the practice of assessing college-level learning that students acquired outside of the college classroom.

The PLA Faculty/IAS Consulting Group is funded through the UW System Prior Learning Assessment Expansion Initiative, a four-year project funded in part by Lumina Foundation for Education. The aim of the initiative is to expand PLA opportunities available to non-traditional age students. The PLA Consulting Group will provide technical assistance to other UW System faculty and staff who are interested in developing assessment tools to evaluate prior learning and equate this learning to conventional course-based learning outcomes. Through sharing of resources and the provision of technical assistance, the group will:

1. Comprise a cross-disciplinary, systemwide network of faculty and IAS who are experienced in the assessment of prior learning.
2. Provide as-needed training and technical assistance to faculty and IAS to support development of PLA methods that evaluate learning outcomes connected to coursework within their discipline.
3. Develop, disseminate, and evaluate PLA training and prior learning assessment tools.
4. Create a repository of both general and discipline specific PLA tools that may be shared across UW System institutions.

**Faculty/IAS Consultant Responsibilities:**

The specific responsibilities of each consultant will be negotiated with the Lead Faculty/IAS Consultant. Examples of the kinds of services and deliverables consultants may provide include:

- Submit portfolio or challenge exam assessment tools to the UW System assessment tool repository.
- Respond to faculty/staff inquiries/requests for technical assistance.
- Develop a prior learning assessment training tool, such as a webcast or tutorial that may be utilized by multiple users.

Faculty/IAS Consultants will:

- Assist in data collection as a means to develop a repository of inquiries and solutions.
- Log and record information regarding inquiries, including the nature of the inquiry, discipline, type of assessment, and shared information/resources provided.

**Requirements/Qualifications:**

- Be a current or emeriti member of a UW System institution’s faculty or instructional academic staff.
- Have approval to participate from the appropriate departmental/institutional offices.
- Have experience in the assessment of learning outcomes, in particular the development and utilization of tools to assess learning that occurs outside of the college classroom.
- Be willing to be accessible to faculty and staff during the period of service.
- A terminal degree in their discipline is preferred.

**Compensation:** Faculty/IAS consultants will receive negotiated stipend based on a set of agreed services.

**To Apply:** Submit a CV, cover letter, and the name and contact information of the institutional officer to whom you report. In the letter, please address your experience developing and applying learning assessment tools of both formal and informal learning.

**E-mail materials to:** smithlb@uww.edu. Please reference “PLA Consulting” in the subject line.

**Questions may be directed to:** Lauren Smith, UW System Lead Prior Learning Consultant, Associate Professor, +UW-Whitewater; smithlb@uww.edu; 262.490.4326.