Call for Applications: Diversity Scholars Program 2017-2018

KU faculty are invited to apply for the 2017_2018 Diversity Scholars Program to promote broader faculty adoption of teaching methods, strategies, and course materials that enhance inclusivity and respect for diversity in KU classes.

The Program

The Diversity Scholars Program is led by the Center for Teaching Excellence, in consultation with the Office of Diversity and Equity, and funded through the Offices of Faculty Development and Academic Affairs. The program is a collegial, hands-on, monthly seminar for a small cohort of interested faculty who would like to engage in these topics at a deliberate and self-reflective level. Led by program facilitators Marta Caminero-Santangelo (English), Darren Canady (English), and Shannon Portillo (School of Public Affairs & Administration), faculty in the seminar will work together—through readings, discussion, and the workshopping of ideas—on incorporating greater attention to diversity (broadly defined) and more inclusive practices in their classes. Participants will also discuss department- or unit-specific strategies for working with colleagues in their own areas to promote and facilitate inclusive teaching and mentoring strategies in their departments / units. **Every participant will receive a stipend of $3,000 for regular participation in the seminar** and for successful implementation of a plan for course redesign and unit-level dissemination.

Outcomes

At the end of the academic year, each participant will have formulated:

1. A plan for a course redesign incorporating new / enhanced practices, materials, and content that promote inclusivity and respect for diversity, broadly defined (documented by a poster / portfolio after the new iteration of the course has been taught)
2. A plan for outreach and collaboration activities to foster adoption of similar review and redesign among colleagues in their own units

Further, by more systematically embedding inclusive practices, content, and attention to diversity in courses, we hope to improve the retention, progression and academic success of students from underrepresented groups, as well as to increase all our students’ understanding and respect for diversity.

Timeline

During the first part of the seminar, Fall 2017, we will engage with readings and discuss best practices and general guidelines. During Spring 2018 we will design or redesign our target courses according to these guidelines and best practices, and develop plans for dissemination within our home units. By the end of the Spring 2018 semester, each participant is expected to have an actionable course redesign plan (for a course to be taught in AY 2018-2019) and a proposal for action steps to serve as ambassadors / leaders facilitating diversity initiatives within their units. Participants will be expected to prepare a poster (with support from a CTE graduate
assistant) detailing their course redesign plans to share with the larger KU community at the Center for Teaching Excellence end-of-year reception in May 2018. At the end of the 2018-2019 academic year, participants will assess the success of their course to incorporate into an online portfolio and provide a brief report on measures taken in home units.

Payment will be in the form of a $3000 stipend in June 2018, after completion of course and unit plans.

Application

Faculty from any department or program on the KU Lawrence campus (including multi-term lecturers or teaching specialists with an ongoing role in their unit) are eligible to apply. Interested faculty should submit a brief application detailing 1) their interest in the topic (100 words); 2) the course they would like to consider in a redesign, and why (100 words), and 3) possibilities for leading or facilitating subsequent unit-level efforts to diversify teaching (100 words). Priority will be given to applicants who can make the broadest impact and to courses in the KU Core that do not meet Goal 4.

Please include a brief statement from the chair (two or three sentences) that includes (a) an endorsement of the faculty member’s availability to teach the target course in AY 2018-2019, (b) and a commitment to supporting / facilitating the faculty member’s unit-level outreach and collaboration efforts.

Submit applications and Chair endorsements at this link by Friday, August 25: https://cte.ku.edu/diversity-scholars-applications.

If you have questions about the program, please contact Marta Caminero-Santangelo at camsan@ku.edu or Judy Eddy at jeddy@ku.edu.