UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
Teaching & Learning Transformation Center

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Elevate Fellows Cohort 2018:
Application Announcement

The Teaching and Learning Transformation Center (TLTC) seeks applicants for the Elevate Fellows program, Elevating Teaching and Learning through Course Transformation. Elevate Fellows' mission is to help faculty redesign courses to improve student learning outcomes and increase outcome equity. Through backward course design, faculty fellows apply evidence-based approaches to create student-centered, active teaching and learning environments. Fellows are funded by the Provost's Office ($7,000) and a small matching fund ($1,000) from their department or academic unit to support the course redesign.

The Elevate Fellows program is open to all full-time faculty members and instructors committed to teaching excellence. We welcome all applicants who want to redesign an undergraduate course they teach, learn more about teaching in higher education, and enliven their teaching. We also encourage multiple instructors who teach the same course to apply. While each instructor must submit an individual application, we have had instructors successfully collaborate to redesign a course in prior years. Read more about previous faculty fellows.

Application Details

The Elevate Fellows application consists of three parts and should take approximately 1 hour to complete. Please review the Time and Program Commitments described below before applying. When you have completed and gathered all three parts, applications should submitted at go.umd.edu/elevate-apply-2018.

Part I: Course Information, Goals, and Personal Statement
Part I should be typed and limited to two pages, and should include the following:

Course Information: Identify one undergraduate course that you regularly teach and would like to redesign. Include the following information about your course:
a. Course number
b. Course type (GenEd, prerequisite, major requirement)
c. Current enrollment(s) (by semester, per section, and number of sections)
d. Current structure (days per week, face time hrs/wk, discussion time hrs/wk, major class activities)
e. Current instructors that typically teach the course
f. Contact information (email, campus mail addresses, and phone numbers)

Course Involvement: Describe your history of involvement with the proposed course you would like to redesign (e.g., how long and how often have you taught the course; what innovations have you implemented in the course; how has the course evolved over time)

Course Redesign Goals: Describe your goals for redesigning your course. These goals can be areas for improvement within the current course design and structure (e.g., improving student engagement, achievement, and/or retention; addressing achievement gaps for certain

groups; increasing use of technology) or larger changes to course design and structure (e.g., teaching in a new setting, such as a TERP Classroom; transforming from a lecture to a project-based or team-based course). Consider reading the Funding information below and including ideas about how you would use Elevate funding to support your course redesign goals.

Personal Statement: Explain your interest in joining the Elevate Fellows program and goals you have for your own teaching practice (e.g., gaining a better understanding of learning theory and evidence-based teaching; increasing your satisfaction with teaching; collaborating with instructors across campus). Highlight any prior engagement with teaching and learning innovations on campus or any academic, pedagogic, or technical interests and expertise.

Part II: Syllabus
Include the current course syllabus for the course you plan to redesign.

Part III: Letters of Support

Letter from Department or Unit: Include a letter from your department chair or unit head that describes the strategic value of the course redesign to the department. This letter should also include a commitment from your department or unit to provide $1,000 of matching funds that will be made available to you upon acceptance and signing the Elevate agreement form.

Letter from Dean: Include a letter from your dean endorsing your participation in the Elevate Fellows program.

Both letters can either be turned in with the online application, or e-mailed directly to Scott Roberts at tltc@umd.edu.

Funding

Faculty Fellows will receive a total of $8,000 ($7,000 of Elevate Fellows funds and $1,000 of matching department/unit funds) to support the redesign of their course. Funding will be distributed in three installments: at the start of the program, before the start of the redesign (this will differ depending on whether you pilot in Fall 2018 or Spring 2019), and at the end of the program. Timely distribution of funds is dependent on completion of specific program requirements. Funds can be used for professional needs related to teaching, but not research or course buy-outs. Approved funding options include, but are not limited to, supporting graduate or undergraduate students to produce materials for course redesign, purchasing software or supplies related to the course redesign, attending a teaching and learning conference, or paying yourself a summer salary to work on course redesign (9 month employees only).

Time and Program Commitment

Fellows will be expected to commit 6-8 hours a month to the program. You will join a faculty learning community that will meet every other week for 75 minutes in Spring 2018 and Fall 2018. You will also complete short homework assignments, required reports, and assessment activities. See program description for more information, including a sample syllabus.

Timeline

Applications will be evaluated on alignment of goals with TLTC's [mission](), demonstration of commitment to teaching excellence and interest in student-centered, active learning approaches, and the strategic value of the course or instructor to the department or campus.

Applications Due: November 10, 2017
Decisions Announced: December 8, 2017

Contact Information

If you have questions, please contact:

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