

TO: Deans and Department Heads
FROM: Frank J. Dooley
Chair, Faculty Mentoring Network Committee
DATE: August 11, 2009
SUBJECT: Encouraging Participation of Junior Faculty in the Faculty Mentoring Network

The *Faculty Mentoring Network* program (FMN) is sponsored by the *Purdue Teaching Academy*. The FMN provides new, junior faculty with mentors, who are accomplished teachers and committed to helping junior faculty become stronger instructors. By working with these mentors, junior faculty members can gain new perspectives and insights into teaching strategies and the Purdue culture. The FMN needs your help in two ways.

First, please encourage your junior faculty members to participate in the FMN. Past participants described the program as a good source of professional growth and support as they began their careers at Purdue. Please, alert your new faculty to this professional opportunity and encourage them to participate.

Second, the FMN is looking for faculty members who might be interested in serving as a mentor in our program. Mentors need to be at least an Associate Professor and recognized as a strong and accomplished teacher, e.g., a winner of teaching awards. We are very much in need of mentors. If you have any colleagues who would be a good candidate, please send your nomination along with a brief rationale for your nomination to: FMN@purdue.edu or mail to Letitia Casebourn, CIE, YONG 730 (fax 496-1749).

Enclosed is a brochure which describes the FMN program. You also can learn more about the FMN at <http://www.teachingacademy.purdue.edu>. Also provided is the *FMN Request to Become a Mentee* form, which you may distribute at will to your new faculty. If you have questions about the program, please contact Frank J. Dooley (dooleyf@purdue.edu).

enclosures

Frank J. Dooley

Received
Office of the Dean

AUG 12 2009

College of Education
Purdue University

FACULTY MENTORING NETWORK --- Request to Become a Mentee

Name _____
School _____
Department _____
Building _____ Phone _____
E-mail _____

Please place a check next to the one or two areas in which you would like to work with a Mentor for the remainder of this academic year. If there is an area in which you would like to be mentored, but do not find it on the list, please write it in the blank next to "special request" below. Based upon this information, we will do our best to match you with a Mentor from a different department/college/school.

- _____ Large lecture teaching
- _____ Problem-based learning
- _____ Use of case studies
- _____ Use of technology to improve teaching
- _____ Writing articles and/or conducting research on teaching and learning
- _____ Obtaining external funding to improve teaching
- _____ Evaluating student performance
- _____ Advising and counseling students

SPECIAL REQUEST: _____

If there are particular Mentors from another department/college/school with whom you would prefer to work, please list those individuals below. We cannot guarantee that you will receive one of those Mentors, however.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Please return by September 15, to Letitia Casebourn, CIE, YONG 730 (or fax to 496-1749)

The Faculty Mentoring Network...

- Facilitates effective teaching and learning at the undergraduate, professional, and graduate levels
- Develops a network for faculty to interact about teaching and scholarship
- Develops a community of faculty who share a responsibility in learning
- Strengthens the community of teacher-scholars
- Helps faculty learn the Purdue culture

For more information on the Teaching Academy consult the web site at:

www.teachingacademy.purdue.edu

or contact a member of the Faculty Mentoring Network Committee:

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Faculty Mentoring Network

Sponsored by

The Teaching Academy

Fostering teaching excellence throughout the Purdue community

Purdue University
West Lafayette, Indiana

What is the Teaching Academy?

The Teaching Academy was established by the Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs to enrich the educational experiences of the entire Purdue University community.

The Mission of the Teaching Academy is to provide leadership and serve as a catalyst to enhance and strengthen the quality of undergraduate, graduate, and outreach teaching and learning.

The Teaching Academy is comprised of a dedicated and dynamic network of teacher-scholars committed to the continual improvement of teaching and learning at Purdue University.

The Faculty Mentoring Network

The Teaching Academy organized the Faculty Mentoring Network to provide Purdue faculty of all ranks with an opportunity to work collaboratively to improve their teaching skills.

The Faculty Mentoring Network complements existing departmental mentoring programs by providing mentors from diverse disciplines with experience, interests, and expertise in various types of pedagogical techniques and teaching contexts.

The Faculty Mentoring Network organizes activities fostering educational creativity, innovation, and effectiveness both in and outside the classroom.

Faculty Mentoring Network Program

This program facilitates the development of reciprocal relationships between faculty members seeking assistance and experienced teacher-scholar mentors. Mentoring relationships are the foundation of the program and may develop one-to-one or in small groups. Faculty mentors often come from different disciplines, providing new perspectives and insights into teaching strategies and a broader understanding of the Purdue culture.

- Fellows of the Teaching Academy and other accomplished, experienced faculty are invited to volunteer as mentors.
- Faculty are matched as much as possible with mentors who have common interests.
- Mentors and faculty are free to develop their own agenda for learning and discussion.
- Mentors and faculty are asked to commit to periodic meetings during each semester.