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TO: General Education Instructors, Directors, Department Heads, Chairs and Deans  
DATE: February 16, 2009  
FROM: Richard Rogers, Associate Provost for Academic Technology  
Mathew L. Ouellett, Director, Center for Teaching  
Copper F. Giloth, Director, OIT Academic Computing  
Jay Schafer, Director of Libraries  
Sharon L. Fross, Vice Provost for Outreach  
Martha Stassen, Director, Office of Academic Planning and Assessment

SUBJECT: **2009-2010 General Education Fellowship Nominations**

### NOMINATIONS

We are soliciting applications for the 2009-2010 *General Education Fellowship Program*. Full-time instructors currently teaching General Education courses in any department on campus are invited to apply. This program is co-sponsored by the Provost's Office, Center for Teaching, OIT Academic Computing, W.E.B. Du Bois Library, Continuing and Professional Education and Office of Academic Planning Assessment in consultation with the General Education Council and Task Force.

The *General Education Fellowship Program* provides a forum for instructors of General Education courses to share information, discuss classroom experiences, and learn from each other and from instructional support providers on campus regarding methods for addressing the learning outcomes of the General Education program. In this its second year, the program will focus on the use of instructional technologies to enhance college writing in General Education courses. The Program will sponsor up to *ten* fellows in the academic year of 2009-2010.

Fellows will receive a \$1,000.00 stipend, a high-performance Tablet PC or Mac laptop computer and related software for course development. They will also receive support to redesign a General Education course explicitly addressing writing; assess pedagogical implications of writing with technology; network with other Fellows; consult with peer innovators; and attend campus-wide workshops and seminars on best practices in teaching college writing using emerging technologies.

Application Deadline: **March 9, 2009**

## REQUIREMENTS OF THE AWARD

Fellowships require a one-year commitment and will launch with a one-day workshop and subsequent intensive summer session from **June 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009**. To be eligible for the fellowship, nominees must be available for and willing to participate fully in both, as well as monthly seminars throughout the year. The theme of the second year of this program is, *General Education: Writing with Technology*.

As a part of the award, Fellows will choose one General Education course to redesign that they are teaching in either the Fall 2009 or Spring 2010. The overarching goal is to integrate best practices in teaching writing and explore the appropriate use of emerging technologies in support of the teaching and assessment of General Education writing goals. Fellows will identify specific instructional goals related to General Education learning outcomes. Activities may include assessment and evaluation initiatives at both the course and program levels, work on projects and examples, and practice implementing new strategies and course materials to achieve key General Education learning outcomes.

Interaction among Fellows will be a key ingredient of this initiative. Participants will be expected to:

- Attend monthly seminars over the 2009-2010 academic year. These monthly seminars will be scheduled on *Friday mornings* throughout the year.
- Design and develop course materials for new or redesigned courses
- Contribute to the development and dissemination of teaching and writing resource materials suitable for other General Education courses (both within and across discipline)
- Design and conduct assessment and evaluation of their course materials and pedagogical innovations and student learning outcomes
- Systematically assess and document the teaching and learning outcomes of both their course innovations and the fellowship program
- Present project outcomes at the spring General Education conference.

Fellows are also expected to:

- Meet with Center for Teaching and OIT Academic Computing staff at the start of the grant period
- Participate in at least one informal and one formal classroom student assessment opportunity (e.g., collecting student feedback at midterm *and* completion of the SRTI)
- Complete a project report and brief survey of fellowship program
- Disseminate project outcomes with the broader community of university instructors (e.g., posting it on ScholarWorks through the W.E.B. Du Bois Library, or offering a department or college-based presentation)
- Serve as "peer consultants" to colleagues teaching General Education courses as well as to future General Education Fellows.

*Nomination forms are due to the Center for Teaching by **March 9, 2009***

**GENERAL EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**  
**2009 - 2010**  
**NOMINATION FORM**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name                                      Department                                      Telephone                                      Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Chair/Head

Please submit a proposal describing your project. Each proposal shall be no more than two, single-spaced typed pages. Please review the General Education Outcomes as an aid in developing your proposal ([http://www.umass.edu/cft/fellowships/pdf/GETF\\_Purpose\\_Draft5.pdf](http://www.umass.edu/cft/fellowships/pdf/GETF_Purpose_Draft5.pdf)). In addition, ***attach your Curriculum Vitae to the nomination form.***

**Description of Proposal:** Describe your experiences as an instructor of general education courses, especially any current questions or challenges. Explain how your courses will benefit from this fellowship experience. Please include:

- (1) The title of the General Education course to be re-designed and the semester you will teach it (Fall 2009 or Spring 2010)
- (2) Your goals and objectives for this project, including some of your thoughts or questions about how pedagogy and technology may be used to enhance writing in this course
- (3) Anticipated outcomes (how this project will enhance the teaching and learning experiences of students in General Education courses and/or help develop best practices in the delivery of and assessment of General Education courses)
- (4) Assessment strategy (how you plan to assess the impact of your efforts and from what perspectives (e.g., peer review or student feedback).

Based on the teaching and learning goals of your course project, please indicate if you have a preference for a particular platform:

\_\_\_\_\_ Mac laptop                      \_\_\_\_\_ Tablet PC                      \_\_\_\_\_ No preference

*\* The hardware and software configurations for all computers have been predetermined in consultation with OIT Academic Computing.*

NOTE: These computers are funded through the Provost's Office. Each fellow will receive a new computer that will be for his or her use. Since computers are purchased with state funds, *instructors receiving computers must relinquish them to the Provost's Office* if they resign their employment with UMass.

**Return to: General Education Fellowships**  
**Center for Teaching, 301 Goodell, 545 -1225**

Sample proposals are available at the Center for Teaching. If submitting the nomination form electronically, please attach as either a PDF or Word file and send to [cfteach@acad.umass.edu](mailto:cfteach@acad.umass.edu). More information can be found on the website of the Center for Teaching ([www.umass.edu/cft](http://www.umass.edu/cft)).

**Submission Deadline: March 9, 2009**