



SMU®

Office of the Provost

August 20, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

As mentioned in my [newsletter](#) last week, I am pleased to announce the invitation for faculty to apply for the inaugural cohort of the Provost's Faculty Fellows program. This program is intended to provide faculty with opportunities for leadership experiences by working with the Provost's Office on strategic initiatives and on day-to-day decision-making and operations. We believe that expanding faculty involvement across a number of projects will enhance the university academic priorities and provide pathways for faculty to explore their interests in pursuing academic leadership roles. We will fund up to 5 Faculty Fellows each year who will collaborate with the Provost's Office across several priority areas.

All full-time faculty are eligible to apply and can find more details in the attached call for applications. Questions and application materials (due September 18) can be addressed to Paige Ware, Associate Provost for Faculty Success, at pware@smu.edu.

Sincerely,

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Provost's Faculty Fellows Program

Goals of the Faculty Fellows Program

- Offers faculty opportunities for leadership experiences by working with the Provost's Office on strategic initiatives and on day-to-day decision-making and operations.
- Enriches the Provost's Office by expanding ongoing faculty involvement in developing and implementing projects that enhance academic priorities.
- Creates mentored pathways for faculty to explore interests in pursuing academic administrative roles while gaining insight into budgeting, strategic planning, and challenges in higher education.
- Establishes a collaborative team to work with Associate Provosts to generate and implement specific, high-priority programs essential to faculty and student success.

Priority Areas of Focus for 2020-2021

- Provost's Faculty Fellow for Equity and Inclusion
 - Supports equitable and inclusive faculty recruitment and retention plans.
 - Promotes and amplifies visibility and reach of initiatives across campus related to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
 - Supports efforts to develop feedback loops about student and faculty experiences.
- Provost's Fellow for Undergraduate and Graduate Student Success
 - Works with student advisors and department chairs to refine data-based systems for strategic planning and action.
 - Collaborates on projects to enhance students' experiences.
 - Supports retention through initiatives that promote a healthy culture and sense of belonging.
- Provost's Fellow for Research Enhancement and Scholarly Impact
 - Augments systems for increasing scholarly impact (e.g., performance, research productivity, external funding).
 - Enhances ways to amplify faculty visibility through national awards and recognition opportunities.
 - Supports initiatives related to the Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies.
- Provost's Fellow for Strategic Communication
 - Works to design a strategic visual and verbal messaging system for the academic enterprise.
 - Collaborates with the Provost's Office to highlight faculty research and teaching success.
 - Develops an understanding of university-wide communication efforts and develops strategic collaborations for increased effectiveness and timeliness.
- Provost's Fellow for Institutional Planning and Data Analytics
 - Offers outreach and guidance for curriculum mapping and strategic planning for academic units.
 - Works collaboratively with the Center for Teaching Effectiveness on issues of learning analytics.
 - Works with the Provost's Office on large scale research and analytics projects.

Eligibility

- Up to 5 Provost's Faculty Fellows (one per priority area) can participate each year, with the option to request extensions annually each spring for up to two additional years.
- All full-time faculty members can apply, with a preference for tenured faculty or non-tenure track faculty who have demonstrated interest and experience in an area that matches one of the priority areas outlined above.

Details

The inaugural cohort of Faculty Fellows for 2020-2021 will begin in an off-cycle year on October 1st, and the application process in subsequent years will take place in the spring semester of each academic year to identify Faculty Fellows to begin in the fall semester of each year. Fellows will receive an annual stipend of \$10,000, which covers contributions over the summer. Faculty Fellows will meet as a cohort at least once per month and will have ongoing engagement with a mentor inside the Provost's Office who is most closely aligned with the priority area.

Application

The inaugural cohort is an open call. Applications are due September 18th and should include the following components in either Word or pdf formats. Questions and application materials can be addressed to Paige Ware, Associate Provost for Faculty Success, at pware@smu.edu.

- Contact information (name, department, email, phone).
- Statement of career goals and interest in academic leadership, including a description of formal and/or informal leadership experience (1-2 pages).
- Identification of one priority area above, with a description of how your skills and background align with this area.
- Endorsement (via email) by the department chair and dean acknowledging that your service commitment for the year will be oriented to the Faculty Fellow role.