Teaching Technology Fellowship

Program Overview

The Teaching Technology Fellowship program is a joint initiative sponsored by the Academic Affairs Division and the Information Technology Division at WPI. The Fellowship is administered by the Academic Technology Center and actively networks with other instructional and information technology services groups on campus such as the Computing and Communications Center (CCC), the Gordon Library, and other departments within the Academic Affairs Division.

The Teaching Technology Fellowship Program is offered to assist faculty with:

1. Improving student learning through the use of technology;
2. Building awareness of instructional technologies and the criteria used to best evaluate their appropriate use;
3. Increasing communication and collaboration among users of IT;
4. Recognizing excellence in teaching with technology.

The Fellowship program operates over a two-year period and provides accepted faculty members with an opportunity to systematically address problematic aspects of an existing course at WPI through the creative application of technology.

More details about the program, including past projects, are available at [http://www.wpi.edu/+Collaboratory/Programs/TTF/](http://www.wpi.edu/+Collaboratory/Programs/TTF/)

Program Commitments

In order to sustain a development cycle that allows for exploration, project planning, implementation and evaluation in a relatively short period of time, it is critical that award recipients be accessible and able to provide content in accord with project timelines. Faculty who anticipate extended periods of time away from campus should consider the following expectations of being a Fellow before applying:

**Year One**
- attend ½ day orientation
- meet regularly with an assessment consultant
- meet monthly with assigned Fellowship coordinator
- draft Fellowship project plan
- attend Fellowship sessions once per semester

**Year Two**
- meet monthly with assigned Fellowship coordinator
- attend Fellowship sessions once per semester
- implement and assess Fellowship project
- submit final Fellowship project report

While projects are typically focused on teaching and technology innovations that address individual instructional challenges, the program as a whole aims to foster a community of practice that actively discusses the relationship between pedagogy and technology. To that end, recipients are encouraged to share their experiences with the larger WPI community in a variety of forums.

Eligibility, Selection Criteria and Award Features

All WPI full-time faculty members are eligible to apply to the Teaching Technology Fellowship program. Teams of two who wish to collaborate on a joint project are also encouraged to apply. Adjunct faculty members are welcome to apply to the program provided they apply with a full-time faculty member. The program allows for up to six (6) new projects per year.

Fellowship awards are based on department head recommendations and relatively brief statements of intent that should focus on defining issues of teaching and learning that are potential targets for innovation and improvement. Some faculty may already have an idea about how technology can be used to address the issues/challenges raised,
and will want to describe their approach in the proposal. Other faculty may not be ready to do so, and that is entirely acceptable.

Proposals will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- (35%) Potential to improve student learning;
- (20%) Viability of assessment strategy - suggests concrete ways to evaluate and report project impact on teaching and learning in the course it supports;
- (15%) Enhances collaboration among users of information technology;
- (10%) Develops an approach that can be replicated or scaled;
- (10%) Engages faculty or departments that have not previously applied for a TTF award or have not used instructional technology tools and practices to enhance instruction;
- (10%) Overall impression of project, its feasibility and its likelihood of success.

The awards package for each proposal consists of the following allowances to assist Fellows in their project work. Teams of faculty submitting a proposal will split these allocations:

- $2000 resource allowance to be used in support of the project (this may include paid student assistance);
- $1000 earmarked for working with an assessment consultant in order to assess the project;
- $1500 to be deposited in the fellow’s professional development account upon submission of final report.

**Contact Information**

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