

# **Drake University**

## **Slay Fellow for Community Engaged Learning**

Thanks to support from the Slay Fund for Social Justice (<http://www.drake.edu/slay>), the office of Community Engaged Learning (OCEL) is hiring a Faculty Fellow for Community Engaged Learning. The Faculty Fellow position is a two-year opportunity for a Drake full-time faculty member (non-tenure-track, tenure-track, or tenured) to expand, deepen, and disseminate their mastery of community engaged learning to others.

### **Rationale for the Community Engaged Learning Faculty Fellow program**

Drake University is dedicated not only to the intellectual growth of students, but to their ethical and civic development as well. This is demonstrated by our mission which states that we “*prepare students for meaningful personal lives, professional accomplishments and responsible global citizenship*”. Drake is similarly focused on strengthening our role in the local neighborhood and greater Des Moines community. As evident by our inspiration statement, “*Together we transform lives and strengthen communities*”, our institution seeks to respond to prevailing social issues in pursuit of a more just and equitable society. When done well, community engaged learning develops the civic and employability skills of students and addresses community identified needs. However, if not done well, the potential for exploitation, doing more harm than good, or duplicating efforts increases. Faculty Development therefore is imperative to ensuring faculty and students are equipped with the necessary tools and strategies to develop mutually beneficial community engaged learning opportunities that contribute to the health and strength of our communities.

### **Responsibilities of the Fellow**

The Faculty Fellow will work with the Director of Community Engaged Learning on programming and initiatives that support the development of exceptional community engaged experiential learning opportunities. The fellowship is intended to focus on three broad objectives as outline below. The Fellow will collaborate with the Director of CEL to design a specific workplan for their term.

#### **1. *Develop Drake faculty and staff capacity for community engaged teaching, learning and scholarship***

Professional development opportunities for faculty and staff will be the primary focus of this fellow. The fellow will assist faculty and staff with activities related to community engaged research, teaching strategies, reflection, curriculum design, and/or assessment. For example, a faculty fellow may help individual faculty members research, redesign or improve a portion of a course by clarifying learning objectives and aligning objectives with activities and assessments. Other professional development programs led by the Fellow may take many forms: one-on-one consultations, workshops, working-groups, book clubs, and promoting participation in Iowa Campus Compact networking events and professional development opportunities.

#### **2. *Maximize student opportunities for civic engagement and social justice education through development of College/School specific community engagement initiatives***

Each college and school at Drake takes a different approach to integrating community engagement experiences for their students. The faculty fellow will collaborate with department chairs and Deans/Associate Deans to support college/school specific community

engagement scorecard initiatives. This assistance may take the form of presentations to departmental faculty/staff, professional development workshops related to service-learning pedagogy, individual consultations with faculty, staff, or community partners, etc.

### **3. *Engage in scholarship activities related to community engagement***

The Fellow will facilitate the writing and presentation of research which examines community engaged learning. The Fellow will also be encouraged to undertake their own scholarship endeavors related to community engaged learning. The OCEL will assist Fellows in finding outlets for their scholarly work.

#### **Time Commitment**

Fellows will serve a two-year term. The Fellowship will begin on January 1 and concludes Dec 31. Fellows must apply and be accepted each term. It is anticipated that the Faculty Fellow's time commitment will vary somewhat during a given semester, with some weeks including more time and some needing less. Fellows will also meet monthly with the Director of Community Engaged Learning. In general, it is expected that the Faculty Fellow's commitment to OCEL will include an average of 2-3 hours/week. Although the primary work will be during the fall and spring semesters, scholarship work (finalizing a manuscript, etc) may extend in to the summer.

#### **Compensation**

Faculty Fellows will receive a \$3,000 stipend (\$1,500 in June and \$1,500 in December). In addition to the stipend, there is funding to support participation in scholarly activities such as conferences in support of strengthening or promoting community engagement at Drake.

#### **Application Process**

If interested, please electronically submit a curriculum vitae and a statement of interest. The statement of interest should address why you want to serve as a faculty fellow and how this position contributes to your personal, professional, and scholarly development.

Application materials should be sent to Renee Sedlacek Lee, Director of Community Engaged Learning, (renee.sedlacek@drake.edu) by Dec. 2nd.