

Call for Applications: UWGB Teaching Scholars (2019-20)

Dear Colleagues:

I hope you will answer this call to apply to become a 2019-20 UWGB Teaching Scholar. The theme for the year will be “Transitions.” Think about the many ways that could apply to pedagogy! You might be thinking about first-year experiences and facilitating the move from high school to college or helping transfer students negotiate their transition to UWGB. What about people teaching capstones who help students as they move from college to the world of work? There are also faculty members’ own professional transitions, such as from early career to mid-career professional or from primarily face-to-face to online instruction. What are the ramifications of our own changes to teaching and learning, and how do we assess them? Do you have interest in a topic related to students, teachers, or learning that relates to transitions? Please consider applying to become a 2019-20 Teaching Scholar.

The Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning (CATL), with financial support from the Office of the Provost, is currently accepting applications for the UWGB Teaching Scholars program. This program provides faculty and instructors *of all experience levels* – from new instructors to the most senior tenured professors – the opportunity to share their teaching expertise and further develop their craft. Being a Teaching Scholar is an honor and a recognition of teaching excellence. It is also a professional development opportunity designed to promote continuous growth as an educator.

Directed by Kris Vespia (Human Development/Psychology), the program offers opportunities to discuss teaching with other talented colleagues, develop new strategies, read engaging materials related to the annual theme, and conduct a formal scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) project within a supportive environment. The program selects a new theme each year to enhance the Scholar experience and provide a new, potentially repeatable professional development opportunity each year. Note that the Transitions theme is being defined very broadly, and applications are welcome from individuals who are participating in other, potentially related CATL professional development programs. In another important transition, by the way, we are also thrilled this year to officially welcome faculty members from our branch campuses to apply to the program.

The Teaching Scholars program has the following major components:

- Scholars will attend at least four of five scheduled meetings. Two of those will be on the date of Opening Convocation (August) and the date of the CATL Instructional Development Institute (January). That scheduling alignment is intended to help ensure at least two face-to-face meetings with branch campus participants. The other meetings will be on the following dates from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.: Oct. 11, Dec. 6, and April 17.*
- Scholars will read and discuss materials (e.g., chapters, articles) selected to fit with the annual theme and the selected scholars’ particular interests within it.
- Scholars will develop and implement a scholarship of teaching and learning project with guidance from the director.
- Scholars will participate in a formative peer-review of their teaching.
- Scholars will share the results of their SoTL project with the campus community in the Fall of 2020.

*Notes: Skype options will be available. Although not guaranteed, it is possible we could change the meeting times after Scholars are selected, so please do not let that be an obstacle to applying.

Up to five faculty members and instructors will be selected, and each will receive \$500.00 of S&E funds. Preference will be given to applicants who plan to design their SoTL project in the Fall of 2019 and implement it in Spring 2020.

To apply for this professional development opportunity, please submit the following **as one PDF** to CATL (catl@uwgb.edu).

- A 2-3 page letter of interest detailing your: a) teaching philosophy, b) teaching accomplishments, c) interest in the year's selected theme (very broadly defined), and d) a rough description of a teaching or learning challenge or problem you propose to address with a SoTL project. Please include a sentence or two indicating your commitment to attend at least 4 of the 5 scheduled meetings, along with your availability on the currently selected days/times.
- A brief CV (approximately 2-3 pages, with an emphasis on teaching and any SoTL experience)
- A simple one-sentence statement of agreement from your unit chair indicating they are aware of and support your application to the program.

UPDATED Deadline: May 1, 2019

Sample proposals from previous Scholars are available on the CATL website if you would like additional guidance on the letter of interest.

If you have any questions about the program or your proposed SoTL project, please contact Kris Vespia (vespiak@uwgb.edu).