TPT Pedagogy Seminar Grants

The Tomorrow’s Professor Today Program invites proposals for the spring semester from first- and second-year TPT participants for the creation and delivery of innovative pedagogy seminars.

Proposals for these six-week discussion-based seminars should be firmly grounded in the research and scholarship of learning and teaching and balance discussion of theory with practical classroom implementation. Seminar readings should draw on current primary and secondary sources and can focus either on a single text or a collection of selected articles. Topics should appeal to an interdisciplinary group of 6-12 participants. Sample topics include, among others, active learning strategies, inquiry based teaching in science disciplines, promoting critical thinking though writing, cognitive and motivation theories, discussion leading philosophies and techniques.

Grant recipients will receive either a $300 honorarium for a solo-taught seminar or $200 each for a co-taught seminar, and up to $200 for appropriate resources which might include books, course packets, and/or copied materials for participants. Recipients may also request funds for one lunch meeting at UVa’s Garden Room.

Proposals for the spring semester are due on the first Monday of December. Successful proposals will include and give careful consideration to the following:

- A fully developed description of the seminar topic, including a discussion of specific learning goals
- A brief description of how the seminar will be assessed, i.e. describe how you will measure whether the seminar goals are meet
- A short narrative describing how individual sessions will be conducted
- A list of proposed reading materials and a tentative schedule of meeting dates and times
- A brief description of the intended audience
- An estimated budget with detailed descriptions of all expenditures

Following the grant period, recipients are expected to submit to the TRC final copies of all seminar materials, including schedules, reading lists, session outlines, participants’ feedback, and handouts, along with a short report. The report should summarize and reflect on their experience, including comments on participants’ feedback regarding the usefulness of the seminar series.

Depending on funding, 2-3 grants will be awarded each spring semester. Among other factors, including balance of topics, the selection committee will consider the following:

- connection of seminar topic to overall program goals
- depth, quality and appropriateness of discussion materials
- commitment to learner-centered teaching practices, diversity, and inclusivity

For more information, contact Deandra Little or Michael Palmer at trc-tpt@virginia.edu.