Call for Participation: Faculty Learning Community for SoTL Practitioners - Spring 2018

What: A Faculty Learning Community (FLC) for faculty members who are currently engaged in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) or have worked on SoTL projects in the past.

Faculty Learning Communities (FLC) provide support for exploration of an important topic by a committed group of faculty. In addition to providing a collegial environment for professional growth, they can also foster interdisciplinary collaborative projects and scholarship. For more information on Faculty Learning Communities, visit http://www.units.muohio.edu/flc/whatis.php.

Comments from faculty members who have participated in previous CFE FLCs on teaching:

“I always felt teaching was a fairly isolated activity, and this completely changed that mindset. Just having a network of teachers across the University and across disciplines made me start viewing myself as a member of a much larger community.”

Teaching Associate Professor, Economics Department

With Whom: Ten to twelve like-minded individuals who are interested in being part of a community of practice and advancing their own teaching and learning scholarship. The FLC will be facilitated by Steve Buzinski, Teaching Assistant Professor in Psychology and Neuroscience and current CFE Faculty-in-Residence focusing on SoTL.

Who Can Join: Those interested in participating should:

- Have a faculty appointment at UNC;
- Commit to a meeting once per month during the Spring 2018 semester to discuss, think, and learn together. All participants’ calendars will be consulted in the scheduling of these sessions;
- Be willing to actively listen to and share with your colleagues in the group.

How You Will Benefit: By participating, you will share with and learn from campus colleagues who have experience in the systematic assessment of teaching and learning. Participants engaged in a SoTL project may value the opportunity to solicit feedback from peers on their projects and benefit from the structure of a regular meeting. Those not currently engaged in a project may find ideas for new projects, potential collaborators, and new SoTL skills.

During the Spring 2018 semester, the FLC members will meet to discuss SoTL and to develop the FLC’s agenda.

Examples of FLC activities include:

- Generating specific, testable hypothesis from general teaching questions
- Collaborating to improve research methodology, including the potential to utilize
How To Apply: Please write a brief (no more than 400 words) statement of interest in participating in the FLC and send it by email no later than by Monday, March 5, 2018 to Steve Buzinski at buzinski@email.unc.edu. The statement should include 1) a description of the SoTL project you are currently working on or an example of a past project, 2) and what you hope to gain by participating in this FLC.

Statements will be reviewed by a committee of faculty and staff members representing a variety of academic units. Applicants will be notified in early March.

Questions?

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