Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning

Faculty Learning Communities for Non-Tenure Track Faculty

Call for Applications

The Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL) invites applications from non-tenure track (NTT) faculty members at IUB who are interested in participating in one of the CITL’s NTT Faculty Learning Communities for the spring 2014 semester. These NTT Faculty Learning Communities (FLCs) are part of the CITL’s response to a request from Provost Lauren Robel for support for NTT faculty to help them progress along their career paths.

What is a faculty learning community?

The primary goal of an FLC is to bring together a group of instructors, usually from a variety of disciplines or fields of study, to explore a specific topic area or theme as it relates to best practices in teaching and learning. This goal is achieved by providing a safe, supportive community in which members can discuss and experiment with new approaches to teaching and learning, and engage in collaborative research related to the topic of the FLC.

What topics will be addressed in the NTT FLCs?

The NTT FLCs will focus on the career development of NTT faculty, and specifically on concerns of NTT faculty related to teaching and learning. The specific topics to be addressed will be determined by the participants, but may include:

- exploring approaches to improving one’s teaching
- creating an individual professional development plan
- improving teaching through active learning or the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL)
- obtaining mentoring and/or peer support
- gathering evidence of good teaching
- compiling a course portfolio

In addition, we hope the NTT FLCs will provide CITL and the IUB campus with recommendations and next steps for providing campus-wide support for NTT faculty.

The NTT FLCs will be co-facilitated by Lisa Kurz (CITL) and a senior NTT faculty member (either Mary Embry, AMID, or Cindy Smith, CMCL). Participation in these FLCs may be viewed as evidence of the participants’ ongoing commitment to enhancing their teaching. In addition, participation in an FLC may provide leadership opportunities in the future, because co-facilitators of future NTT FLCs may be drawn from current FLC participants.

Who may apply?

Full-time NTT faculty at IU Bloomington, especially those at junior levels, may apply.

What are the responsibilities of FLC Members?
FLC members will be expected to:

- prepare for, attend, and actively participate in all meetings (FLCs will probably meet once or twice per month)
- submit a report by June 30, 2014 on the results of their discussions and findings
- share their work with a larger audience, by giving a presentation on their work, providing resources for NTT colleagues regarding approaches to teaching and learning, or through some other means

Finally, FLC members will be invited to provide feedback at the end of the project about their experience in their FLC, by completing a short survey.

What is the process for applying to participate in one of the NTT FLCs?

If you are interested in participating in one of the NTT FLCs, please complete a brief application that can be accessed through this link. The last page of this application provides a link to a Doodle poll where all applicants can indicate their availability. Based on that information, we will identify meeting times for the FLCs that accommodate as many applicants as possible.

Acceptance into an FLC will be determined mainly by the applicants' availability.

Important Dates

- **Friday, January 31, 2014, at 5:00 pm:** Deadline for applications
- **Wednesday, February 5, 2014:** Successful applicants are notified
- **June 30, 2014:** FLC report due

If you have any questions about the NTT FLCs, please contact Lisa Kurz (kurz@indiana.edu or 856-0647).