Faculty Fellowships: Teaching Research with Writing

The Center for Instructional Technology (CIT) and the Thompson Writing Program (TWP) are jointly offering a semester-long Faculty Fellowship program to provide support for faculty interested in developing and evaluating new approaches to teaching research and writing to undergraduates in their disciplines. The Fellows will meet three times during the spring semester 2011 to discuss problems and strategies for more effective teaching of research together with and by means of writing. The Fellows will consist of four A & S faculty members, four faculty from the Thompson Writing Program and up to four graduate instructors or teaching assistants.

Goals
Effective teaching of disciplinary research to undergraduates is one of the major goals of Duke’s undergraduate education. However, faculty rarely have the opportunity to consider how writing – inevitably a part of research projects – can contribute to the quality of students’ research. Nor do they have the time or the expertise to consider how best to nurture student writing even as they teach research. The faculty fellows in this semester-long working group will share their expertise and workshop their plans and ideas for teaching research and writing simultaneously.

Four of the participants will be members of the TWP faculty and four will be teaching faculty in academic departments who teach “R” courses during 2011 (spring or fall semester.) Graduate students can apply independently or with a faculty member. Subject specialist librarians will be available to assist in planning research assignments and a CIT staff member will serve as convener of the group.

Fellowships are available to:

- Faculty scheduled to teach an “R” course during Spring or Fall 2011 (a “W” designation for the course is desirable but not necessary.)
- Thompson Writing Program Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellows
- Graduate Assistants in conjunction with one of the above
- Graduate instructors scheduled to teach an “R” course in 2011.

Fellows program participants will receive:

- $1000 paid to a Duke discretionary/research account (in 2 installments) [$500 for graduate student participants].
- Priority consideration for CIT Materials Development support.
- Opportunities to share teaching experiences and ideas with a cohort of Duke faculty colleagues and to learn strategies for teaching with writing from Writing Program faculty fellows.
- Opportunities to create or modify course syllabus and assignments for “Research” courses.
- Recognition on the CIT’s web site and other venues.

Fellows are required to:

- Attend the Fellowship kick-off session (January).
- Attend three meetings during the semester.
- Create public blog posts sharing their reactions to the Fellowship, and documenting their experiences implementing their course plans with students.
- Participate in program evaluation activities including an end-of-session focus group.
- Create and execute an individual project plan for the duration of the fellowship.

Other details:

- Faculty participants must have full time status during the year of the Fellowship (faculty on sabbatical may not participate unless the Fellowship is the subject of their sabbatical).
- Each faculty and graduate student participant must have access to a Duke account into which the stipend can be paid.
- Each participant must affirm her/his willingness to participate by signing a copy of the initial Fellowship application, or by emailing CIT, prior to the final application acceptance.
Applications are due by November 1, 2010. (Application deadline extended to November 15, 2010.)