CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: 2020-2021
The Mack Center at Indiana University for Inquiry on Teaching and Learning

MACK CENTER FELLOWSHIP

The Mack Fellows’ work is at the very core of the mission of Indiana University’s Mack Center for Inquiry on Teaching and Learning. The goal of the Mack Fellowship program is to promote and enhance the community of IU faculty engaged in the scholarship of teaching and learning, often known as SoTL. Each year the Mack Center selects a group of fellows to conduct ambitious research pertaining to teaching and learning, and to participate in our community of SoTL scholars. Fellows not only work on their own research with the mentorship of the community, but also have additional opportunities for collaborating on additional research projects. Mack Fellows receive $1,500 in initial research funds and $1,500 after they complete their project and submit a paper to a scholarly journal.

Projects should be innovative, well grounded in the emerging body of knowledge about SoTL and have clear goals to improve students’ learning or advance our understanding of the teaching and learning process. Dissemination through poster sessions and journal submission in an appropriate scholarly peer-reviewed journal are expectations of the fellowship. Further dissemination through other publications and through the successful implementation of new programs is encouraged.

Each of these issues of innovation, significance, and dissemination must be discussed in the proposal. A successful proposal will indicate the importance of the research issues that the applicant wishes to study as well as placing the research within the existing body of literature. While preliminary results may be discussed, they are not required, and applicants new to SoTL are strongly encouraged. As described in the application calendar below, some proposals may be given feedback and an opportunity to resubmit by a secondary deadline.

Eligibility
Fellows must be full-time faculty (tenured, holding tenure track appointments, lecturers, librarians with faculty rank). Fellows may be from any of IU’s campuses, including all programs at FACET Fort Wayne.

Proposal format and review
Proposals are relatively brief: 1,500 words is a guideline for the main body of the proposal. A CV and 2 or 3 letters of support should be appended to the proposal. Since the stipend amount is fixed, no budget is required. Proposals are reviewed for innovation and the significance of the work, and dissemination of results. Several successful proposals are available on the Mack Center site, though proposal format has changed. You can also get great advice from former Fellows. The site also has a complete listing, and there are former Fellows on every campus. Each proposal should be for an individual, but linked proposals for two fellows proposing to work collaboratively will be considered.
The Mack Center for Inquiry on Teaching and Learning: 
Indiana University’s Multi-Campus Initiative

Review process and calendar
A panel of ~4 faculty members with SoTL experience will review the proposals. Former Fellows generally comprise some, though not all, of the panel. The review follows this calendar:

July 15 1st call for Fellows Proposals
September 1 2nd call for proposals
October 15 Final call for proposals
**November 30** Deadline for completed proposals
March 1 Applicants informed of decisions (Accept, Decline, Resubmit with revisions)
March 15 Public announcement of new Fellows

Award Process and Fellow’s responsibilities
The first $1,500 is awarded in June, and the remainder after all responsibilities of the Fellowship has been satisfied. This includes giving a talk (generally a poster) at the FACET retreat approximately 14 months after the award, and submitting a paper to a peer reviewed journal, usually two years later. This is detailed in the award calendar below. We also expect that all Fellows will participate in the community. Each Fellow identifies (or is assigned) a research mentor, and we expect Fellows to contribute by mentoring future Mack Fellows, reviewing proposals, and supporting SoTL activities on their own campus.

May 20 “Mack Camp”: New Fellows are invited to refine projects during the first afternoon of the FACET retreat
June 1 First check for $1,500 to each new Fellow
May 20 (+1 year) Fellows present in a poster session at the FACET retreat
May 20 (+2 years) Deadline to submit an article to a peer-reviewed journal
The second $1,500 is triggered by the journal submission

IRB approval:
By their nature, most SoTL projects will need IRB approval. Some projects may have prior approval, but many will require a new IRB submission. In this case, Fellows may wish to delay IRB submission until after “Mack Camp.” The candidate is responsible for submitting the project to his/her campus review board. Please send a copy of IRB approval to the FACET offices, FACET@iu.edu, once it is attained. The first check will be released when proof of IRB approval has been received.

1 If IRB approval has been granted in advance. Otherwise the first check will be provided once approval is granted.
2 These deadlines may be extended by one year, as long as a progress report is submitted to the Mack Center.