

Faculty Development and Professional Support Programs 2023-24

This document outlines a variety of resources allocated to faculty development and professional support. Opportunities are categorized by purpose, either highlighting support for research and creative activity or support for the enhancement of teaching and curriculum.

Support for Faculty Research or Creative Activity

Professional Travel Funds. The total fund to support and encourage scholarly activity and conference participation is \$655,100. Each college dean manages a travel budget drawn from this total and based on the number of full-time faculty in the college. You may find the *Faculty Travel Guidelines* on the Provost's web page.

Research Innovation and Scholarly Excellence Grants. The Faculty Grants Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Provost for grants of up to \$10,000 for individual projects or \$15,000 for collaborative projects. Funds are awarded on a competitive basis to faculty who demonstrate how the grant will complement previous scholarly achievements and promote the continuing development of a research agenda that results in scholarly output appropriate to the faculty member's field. Funds may be used for stipends, travel, fees, supplies, student assistance, publication expenses, computer hardware and software and other equipment. Approximately \$300,000 is available annually and is made possible by contributions from three funding sources: (1) the University of Tampa in honor of Dr. David Delo, who served as President of The University of Tampa from 1958 to 1971; (2) the Dana Foundation; (3) and the University of Tampa Alumni Association.

Professional Development Awards. The PDA program promotes the intellectual growth of tenured or tenure-track faculty members who have taught at the University for a minimum of two years by granting release from one course per year. PDA activities should lead to a) curricular innovations, b) pedagogical enhancements, or c) scholarly ventures. The Faculty Grants Committee reviews PDA proposals and makes recommendations to the Provost. Up to four PDA awards are made annually.

Faculty Sabbatical Leaves. Sabbatical leaves (half-year at full pay or full-year at half-pay) are available to tenured faculty members on a regular seven-year cycle. In this academic year, 25 faculty members will be on semester and 2 on full-year sabbatical leave. Further information about this program may be found in the *Faculty Handbook* and by contacting the Chair of the Faculty Sabbatical Committee.

Board of Fellows Grants. The UT Board of Fellows provides \$15,000 to fund faculty projects that impact both the students and the broader university community. Calls for proposals are sent to faculty by each of the college deans early in the Fall semester each year. Each college may submit 3 applications per year.

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Support for Teaching and Curriculum Development

SEE Workshops and Experimental Education Academy. The University of Tampa, through the Center for Teaching and Learning, provides funding for faculty to attend conferences and workshops held by the Society for Experiential Education. We encourage faculty to complete the Experiential Education Academy Certificates. A fund of \$12,000 supports faculty registration fees and travel for conferences and workshops.

Teaching Innovation Funds. Each college dean has a fund of \$10,000 allocated at the dean's discretion to promote teaching excellence, amount to a total fund of \$40,000. The Director for Graduate and Continuing Studies also has a fund of \$21,000 annually to support innovation in graduate, adult, and summer programs.

Learning Enrichment Grant. The Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning administers a fund of \$55,000 that is intended to promote excellence in general education curriculum and student experiences. The Spartan Studies Committee reviews applications and provides funding recommendations to the Associate Dean.

International Faculty Development. The Office of International Program allocates approximately \$80,000 annually to fund international faculty development seminars, as well as provides an additional \$7,000-\$10,000 for international conference participation and travel. To fully support UT's international portfolio of programming, \$40,000 is earmarked for stipends for faculty who lead or assist on UT Travel Courses Abroad and an additional \$6000 to \$9000 is used to support faculty who scout destinations for future student programs.

Student Travel Fund. A fund of \$51,840, shared equally by the college deans, supports student traveling with professors to academic conferences.

Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry. The Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry (OURI) has a budget of \$311,200 to support approved faculty and student research and inquiry projects. OURI will also provide funds for faculty training, certain faculty and student travel, and those non-course-related items that support the university's inquiry-based experiential-education initiative. A required assessment protocol must be followed. The funds are awarded through an application process coordinated by the OURI.