FACILITATING PLC PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Oregon State University’s Center for Teaching and learning is committed to inspiring and providing a transformative educational experience for all learners in our educational community. Climates conducive to learning are characterized by the norms of trust, rapport, collaboration, inquiry and humor. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are grounded in positive professional norms and are now being hailed as a “crucial piece within whole-system reform” (Dufour and Fullan 2013).

In a PLC, educators move beyond opinions and personal anecdotes to the formal study of vexing pedagogical issues. Such “study groups” are defined as a Professional Learning Community when the facilitator ensures the participants share a common vision, purpose, and collective commitment to an “action-oriented” improvement of student learning. Facilitating a PLC, therefore requires preparation, and a unique set of skills. **Academic Affairs, through the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), is offering compensation and support to OSU educators who are inspired to design and implement a Program-level Professional Learning Community.**

This fall, participants in the “Facilitating PLCs” will:

- Engage in reading and dialogue with cross-role and cross curricular colleagues about the structure and institutional value of PLCs
- Practice facilitation and group dynamic skills
- Design a curriculum for a program-centered PLC to be implemented Winter and Spring quarter 2015
- Facilitate the PLC Winter and Spring quarters
- Formally reflect upon the continued success of the PLC as a member of a panel at the Spring CTL Symposium

During Winter and Spring quarters the Center for Teaching and Learning will support each program-level PLC by providing $250.00 per quarter for the purchase of food and/or associated supplies. In addition, participants who complete the Fall PLC, will be compensated an additional $500.00 paid as professional development funding.

**Funding**

Academic Affairs, through The Center for Teaching and Learning, will allocate a total of $1000.00 to each participant in the “Facilitating PLCs.” $500.00 is the individual’s compensation for participation in the Fall PLC; the remaining balance will be “paid” in the form of resource support while the participants implement their program-level PLCs: $250.00 for Winter quarter and $250.00 in Spring quarter.
**Timeline**
An initial meeting between the PLC participant and CTL faculty will occur in September or early October, followed by participation in the CTL’s Facilitating PLCs professional learning community during the Fall 2014 term. Participants will implement their program-level PLC during winter and spring quarters 2015.

**Requirements**
Participants must fully participate in the Fall Center for Teaching and Learning PLC, “Facilitating PLCs” learning community, including completion of all readings and attendance at all scheduled face-to-face meetings.

Participants will work with CTL faculty to design a program-level PLC to be implemented winter and spring quarters.

**Submission of Proposals**
Email proposals for the “Facilitating PLC’s” program by **October 3, 2014** to:
  - Kay Sagmiller
  - Center for Teaching and Learning
  - Kay.Sagmiller@oregonstate.edu

**Announcement of Award**
Decisions will be announced by October 6. Upon acceptance, an MOU will be drawn up with the academic unit.

Please address questions to Kay.Sagmiller@oregonstate.edu or call Kay at 737-2819.