

Civic Engagement Fellowship Program

Background and Rationale

The University at Buffalo has endorsed the Civic Engagement and Public Policy Strategic Strength, thereby committing publicly to supporting and encouraging the engaged scholarship of our faculty. The wide variety of social, economic, political, and cultural challenges facing our society provides an important opportunity for public universities to make contributions that not only advance our understanding of the human condition, but which can serve to improve that condition.

The central premise of this strategic strength is that for research and scholarship to raise to the level of civic engagement it must be **public** in nature. Civically engaged scholarship: 1) addresses issues of pressing or persistent concern, 2) seeks to advance knowledge that is both academically sound and advances disciplinary knowledge but is useful to constituencies outside the academy, 3) strives to produce and disseminate knowledge as a public resource beyond the academy, 4) extends throughout the entire university, 5) provides citizens and civic leaders with dependable knowledge, 6) enriches public discourse, and 7) partners with community groups and entities outside the university from the local to the global.

To further advance the UB Strategic Strength in Civic Engagement and Public Policy, the UB Civic Engagement Fellowship Program has been established to support faculty in undertaking research and scholarship that addresses pressing social and/or policy issues in a collaborative fashion with local, regional, national or global community partners. The research and scholarship should advance disciplinary knowledge as well as contribute to public policy and to the community partner's efforts in fostering the social and economic well-being of its constituencies.

Civic Engagement Fellowships Program: Purpose and Eligibility

The purpose of the UB Civic Engagement Fellowships Program is to help advance the civically engaged research and scholarship of faculty members and help facilitate the process of successfully garnering extramural funding. The UB Civic Engagement Fellows Program is especially interested in supporting in proposals that have the potential to evolve into larger studies that advance knowledge and will make a difference in the lives of external constituencies. The UB Civic Engagement Fellowship Program will invite proposals from UB full-time faculty members. The faculty members whose proposals are selected will be designated as "UB Civic Engagement Fellows." Fellows will normally receive a one-semester course replacement to enable them to make significant progress on their research and scholarship. Fellows will be selected by a panel of faculty members associated with the Strategic Strength in Civic Engagement and Public Policy.

Application Criteria

Key criteria in the selection process for Civic Engagement Fellows will be:

- Academic rigor and potential for published scholarship
- Contribution and significance of the research to public policy and the potential of the research to make a difference in the lives of constituencies (local to global) outside the university
- Evidence of community partnership
- Potential for external funding
- Academic record or promise of the applicant
- Dissemination plan back to community partner

Application Procedure

Eligibility: All full-time, tenured, and tenure-track UB faculty member(s) who expect to spend significant time on the research and to investigate the opportunities for continued external funding.

Application deadline: Monday, October 26, 2009 at 2:00 pm for course replacement Spring 2010.

Application submissions: Submit completed proposals together to Laura Mangan at lmangan@buffalo.edu. Please include:

- Application (following the numbered format below)
- Current CV, which should indicate in detail previous and upcoming research support (grants, fellowships, leaves, etc.).
- Signed form from the applicant's department chair that indicates the chair's agreement to free the applicant from one course in return for course replacement funds at up to \$3,500 per course adjunct rate (see form below).

Activities Supported: Course replacement for Spring 2010 may be requested for a wide range of research activities and pursuing external funding. Note: no additional financial resources can be provided with this course replacement.

Selection Process: The Civic Engagement and Public Policy Faculty Advisory Committee will coordinate reviews of all grants applications and make decisions regarding fellows.

Application Form

1, Faculty Applicant:

Name with email address, position, and UB department:

2. Name of Project:

3. Description of Project (100 words):

What is your research question?

4. Research Methodology (100 words):

5. Nature and Relevance of Community Partnership to civically engaged research (200 words):

Identify a community partner, describe their role, and potential benefit of the engaged scholarship to your research and the community partner.

6. Expertise of Faculty Applicant (250 words max):

Describe your prior work and/or publications in the area of your proposed research. If this is a new area of research, explain how you came to it.

7. Anticipated Work Product(s) for this Project (100 words)

Indicate potential scholarly contributions as well as potential external funding outcomes.

8. Dissemination Plan back to community (250 words max):

9: Provide Letter of Support from community partner:

Letter should express clear support for the proposed research project and also identify the community partner's role in, or contribution to, the research. This letter may be sent after the deadline for applications upon receipt of the award.

UB Civic Engagement Fellowship Application

Letter of Support From Department Chair

To: The UB Civic Engagement Fellowships Review Committee

As Chair of my department, I offer my approval for faculty member

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to be placed on Research Leave for the following academic semester

..... Fall Spring 20

should his/her application to be a University at Buffalo Civic Engagement Fellow be successful. I understand that up to \$3,500 will be transferred from the UB 2020 Civic Engagement and Public Policy Strategic Strength's Research Foundation account to my department's operating budget to cover course replacement costs.

Chair signature

Date

Department/School

Dean signature

Date