

Dear colleagues,

The start of a new academic year is always a time of great excitement and energy on campus. Faculty are a vital part of what makes this university great, and our participating faculty, especially, have a direct and substantive impact on the experience of our students.

To that end, we wanted to share a few updates on the work of the Participating Faculty Task Force, which has been charged by Provost Kimo Ah Yun to develop policies, procedures and strategies to address the 22 recommendations to improve the lived experience of Marquette's participating faculty, which were outlined in a report delivered to him in September 2019.

\$20,000 allocated for participating faculty research and professional development

Based on the recommendation of the Task Force, Provost Ah Yun has approved \$10,000 for professional development *and* \$10,000 for research funding for participating faculty for this upcoming academic year. Watch Marquette Today and the weekly email from the Provost (Provost Briefing) for more information about award guidelines and application processes.

Participating faculty resource database

Outside the collective work of the Task Force, two of our members, Melissa Shew (Philosophy) and Jennifer Henery (Theology), are working on developing a database that captures the many resources available to participating faculty across campus. They initiated the idea earlier this summer and the Office of the Faculty Affairs was able to provide funding for this important work. The goal is to have the database accessible for all participating faculty via a Teams site by the end of the calendar year.

Participating Task Force initiatives for the upcoming academic year

Since we began our work together in October 2019, the Task Force has addressed 13 of the 22 recommendations in the initial report delivered to the Provost in September 2019. During this academic year, the Task Force will continue to work on recommendations related to promotion standards and review of participating faculty titles. We will also take up five more of the original 22 recommendations:

1. Increase the standardization and accessibility of policies related to full-time non-tenure-track and part-time faculty contracts
2. Expand access to online teaching opportunities in relevant academic areas for participating faculty who are interested, especially for summer and J-term
3. Establish a mentorship program open to all participating faculty
4. Invite full-time faculty to department meetings and all faculty to department events
5. Incorporate NTT faculty into decision-making processes

Update on multi-year contracts

We have made significant progress on securing multi-year contracts for participating faculty:

- As of August 2021, 81% of participating faculty are on funded lines, which creates the potential eligibility for multi-year contracts. 44% of those participating faculty already have multi-year contracts and 41% of participating faculty on funded lines do not yet qualify for multi-year contracts (most due to insufficient years of service).
- 19% of participating faculty are not on funded lines. 18% of participating faculty on unfunded lines would be eligible for multi-year contracts if they were on a funded line. 82% of participating faculty on unfunded lines would not yet qualify for multi-year contracts (most due to insufficient years of service) even if they were on funded lines.

- The Participating Faculty Task Force will continue to make securing multi-year contracts for participating faculty a priority.

Social Hour, Oct. 7

Our first Participating Faculty Social Hour of the year is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 7, at 4 p.m. in the AMU, Henke Lounge. It will be a chance to engage with each other and with President Lovell and Provost Ah Yun. We hope to see you there!

As always, please feel free to contact either of us to discuss issues or concerns you may have. We hope through our joint efforts that we can continue our mission of creating a transformative environment for students and faculty alike.

Please accept our best wishes for a happy start to the academic year.

Respectfully,

Pat Loftis, Co-chair, Participating Faculty Task Force
Dr. Gary Meyer, Co-chair, Participating Faculty Task Force