Continuing Conversations Faculty Leadership Opportunity

Description: AAC&U Continuing Conversations Faculty Development Leader

As a Catholic, Jesuit university, Marquette’s mission is fostering the development of women and men, people for others. For this mission to be successful, we need open and authentic dialogue on campus pertaining to elevating marginalized students’ experiences, issues of equity and social justice. Moreover, with social divisions elevated in the contemporary political climate, it is especially important that we equip our student community with the ability to empathize and to understand multiple perspectives and experiences.

The Center for Gender and Sexualities Studies and the Center for Teaching & Learning: Service Learning are seeking faculty interested in making long-lasting change on campus culture and the lives of individual students. With funding from the American Association of Colleges and Universities selected faculty will host a series of course-based dialogues with faculty and student facilitators. The discussions touch upon six themes that are not only AAC&U identified as national civic challenges, but are persistent here at Marquette as well. These are conversations on: race and ethnicity; gender and gender identity; sex and sexuality; religious and spirituality diversity; immigration and migration; and the relationship between Marquette and the Milwaukee community.

We are inviting 20 faculty to be paired with 10 student leaders to promote and facilitate dialogue on these topics in the classroom and within on-campus social networks. These faculty can be the vanguard for Marquette as the Core Curriculum appears to be pivoting in the direction of stressing student competencies around engaging social systems and values.

Selected faculty participants will:

- be part of a larger faculty community of practice for idea exchanges and mutual support,
- have opportunities to incorporate new crucial conversations in their courses, and
- each will have a trained student discussion leader assigned to them who will act as a co-facilitator.

Student discussion leaders will have approximately 40 hours of training on leading conversations about critical reflection, identity and social values. They will:

- work with faculty on their discussion assignments for best engagement,
- be committed to engaging their peers inside and beyond the classroom, and
- take the knowledge of facilitation training and their faculty co-educators’ experiences as well.

As such, Continuing Conversations Faculty Leaders will be recognized for their contributions to impacting conversations on social justice and intercultural engagement at Marquette not only within their own classrooms, but also for spreading critical discussion skills across campus.
All permanent and tenure track faculty who are teaching face-to-face courses in the Fall 2017 semester are welcome to apply. Preference will be given to faculty who teach courses that have enrollments of over 20. Responsibilities include:

- Revise one course faculty plan to teach in Fall 2017 to incorporate opportunities to engage students on some of the topics addressed in the dialogue sessions (case examples will be given)
- Work with PIs to help monitor student progress
- Facilitate dialogue with students and with student discussion leaders
- Mentor student discussion leaders
- Provide assignment and course work that will facilitate a better understanding of and appreciation for diverse cultures and identities
- Attend a total of 6 one-two hour trainings and in-service workshops to study techniques, structures, and best practices in facilitating critical conversations

The first training will take place Wednesday, May 17th at 12:30. The following five trainings and workshops will take place during the fall 2017 semester.

Faculty participants will receive the following:

1) A student facilitator to help create and co-facilitate deep discussions on race, gender, social economic status, power and privilege, and religion
2) An honorific title as a 2018 Continuing Conversations Faculty Leaders
3) Affiliation with an AAC&U grant
4) Letter of acknowledgement for participating in the grant sent to the dean/department head

Applicants should include the following:

- Name
- Department
- Position at Marquette
- Attach an updated CV
- Course syllabus
  - The syllabus for the course the dialogues will take place in that provides a clear course description and clearly articulated learning goals and objectives, and a list of readings, articles, texts, etc.
- Instructor information:
  - In no more than 250 words, briefly describe your background and why you want to participate in this program

Application Deadline: April 21, 2017

Please submit to the Center for Gender and Sexualities Studies: cgss@marquette.edu