

Faculty Affairs Monthly

8/16/2023

Message from the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Dear Colleagues, I'd like to welcome you to campus! Whether you are a new faculty member or returning to campus, the Office for Faculty Affairs is excited you are here. We hope that the summer months have provided you with a blend of scholarly and creative endeavors, relaxation, and inspiration, preparing you for the vibrant academic year ahead.

In this coming year, we will continue to support and invest in you. With the support of Provost Terry Martin, we will further elevate our efforts to provide you with professional development and leadership opportunities, including the [Bridge Program](#), [Provost's Fellow](#), [Co-Directors for UA NSF ADVANCE ENGAGE](#), and et's continue to nourish an environment that fosters growth, creativity, and transformative learning experiences for our students. Once again, welcome back to the fold. Wishing you an enriching and fulfilling semester ahead!

Warm regards,

Anna Zajicek, Ph.D.

Department Chair/Head Summer Institute

Faculty Affairs hosted a Department Chair/Head Summer Institute August 1-2, 2023. Approximately 45 chairs and department heads attended. The sessions covered a variety of topics including but not limited to legal and ethical considerations, managing internal and external communications, building departmental collegiality and community, mitigating conflict, managing change, and several more. The 2-day Institute provided new and not so new chairs and department heads the opportunity to network, hear from past chairs and administrators on best practices, and gain a better understanding of the resources available. The event closed with a reception hosted by Provost Terry Martin.



Professional Development Opportunities at your own pace

The University of Arkansas is a member of the **National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity**. You can log on with your uark email, create your password and enjoy the curriculum!

Upcoming Events Scheduled 1:00pm-2:30pm CST

Thursday August 17th - Live on Zoom: Every Semester Needs a Plan

Tuesday August 22th - NCFDD Discussion Panel: What I wished I would have known after becoming a full professor

Wednesday September 13th - Live on Zoom: Overcoming Academic Perfectionism

Tuesday October 12th - How to Engage in Healthy Conflict

Tuesday October 24th - How to Engage Audiences at Conferences, in the Classroom, and Beyond!

2023-2024 SEC Emerging Scholars

The SEC Emerging Scholars Program is designed to provide professional development and networking opportunities for current doctoral students and postdocs who are considering careers in higher education with a focus to seek out employment and mentorship within SEC member universities.

Meet our 2023-2024 Scholars!



Bonsu is from Accra, Ghana. She holds a bachelor's degree in biochemistry, cell biology and molecular biology from the University of Ghana and a master's degree in chemistry from Missouri State University. She is a Ph.D. candidate in chemistry and biochemistry.

Her doctoral research focuses on the collagenase enzyme that has served several purposes in therapeutics. Her research goal is to investigate the role of the polycystic kidney disease (PKD)-like domain of collagenase in collagen degradation. This research can aid in designing targeted drugs for quick wound healing and other applications.

In addition, Bonsu has been awarded funding from the National Science Foundation for her research and serves as research assistant in the Membranes for Virus Purifications (MVP) project, an NSF-funded EpSCoR project for gene therapy and vaccine applications.



Campitelli is from eastern Washington. He received a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in kinesiology from Eastern Washington University. After completing his master's degree, he became an adjunct lecturer, which allowed him to realize his dream of becoming a college professor. He decided to obtain a doctorate degree from the University of Arkansas and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in exercise science. He is also concurrently pursuing a second master's degree in statistics and analytics.

His doctoral research focuses on health interventions for Alzheimer's disease. Campitelli also teaches undergraduate courses at the University of Arkansas.



Foley received her bachelor's and master's degrees in chemical engineering from the University of Oklahoma. Foley is a postdoctoral fellow in chemical engineering.

Her research involves the synthesis and characterization of polymerized ionic liquids (PILs). In particular, her work focuses on two major areas related to PILs -nanoscale self-assembly behavior and stimuli-responsiveness. In addition, she has conducted research on optimization of the melt blowing process, which is a polymer processing technique for developing nonwoven polymer fiber mats.

During her academic career, she participated in multiple leadership roles in several student-lead organizations, including the Chemical Engineering Graduate Society and the Society of Plastic Engineers.



Oduola is originally from Nigeria, where he received his bachelor's degree in microbiology. He is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in Cell and Molecular Biology. His research is focused on exploring electromagnetic-driven technology, such as infrared and microwave, in inactivating mycotoxin-producing fungi on grains. The overarching goal of his research is to prevent mycotoxin contamination and accumulation on rice and corn to improve food safety and security and minimize food and economic losses.

Oduola's research has been featured in eight peer-reviewed articles. His recent work "Growth and Aflatoxin B1 biosynthesis rate of model *Aspergillus flavus* NRRL 3357 exposed to selected infrared wavelengths" has been published in the esteemed *Food Control Journal*.

In addition to his research, Oduola gives back to the University of Arkansas community by volunteering in different roles. He has served as the vice-president of the African Students Organization and as president of the International Students Organization. He is currently the president of the Cell and Molecular Biology Graduate Student Association.



Pernet received a bachelor's degree in foreign language teaching from Universidad de Atlántico in Colombia, a master's degree in Online Education from UNAD Florida, and a master's degree in Spanish from the University of Arkansas. Pernet is a Ph.D. student in comparative literature and cultural studies.

Pernet's research focuses on the connection between maps and travel accounts in the 18th century by analyzing the topographic, textual, and visual information about a place and connecting that information to its history, memories, and myths.

Pernet has received prestigious awards and grants for his research, including the Fulbright College Graduate Dissertation Research Award, LALS Graduate Student Research Award, CLCS Research Award, Newberry Renaissance Consortium Grant, Grants for Humanities Research on Systemic Racism, and WLLC Summer Research Award. He was also appointed as a Junior Fellow at the Descartes Center, Utrecht University. Pernet was recently selected to participate in an NEH Summer Institute at Saint Louis University and a Dutch paleography workshop at Columbia University.

Teaching Camp 2023



The Teaching & Faculty Support Center (TFSC) hosted this year's Teaching Camp at Mount Magazine Lodge. The headline speaker was Jose Bowen author of *Teaching Change: How to*

Develop Independent Thinkers using Relationships, Resilience, and Reflection. Chancellor Robinson & Provost Martin gave the welcome and Vice Provost Zajicek and Director of Faculty Development Adams shared resources and professional development options. Lynn Meade the outgoing Co-Director stated, "It is a joy and honor to serve our faculty at teaching camp. The University of Arkansas values teaching and proves it by providing nationally recognized speakers and high-quality facilitators to let faculty know that they matter, and they are supported." This year's camp received several comments of appreciation from their attendees. One of the participants shared, "Thank you for investing in the professional development of faculty. Thank you for understanding that teaching matters."

Faculty Collaborative

Don't forget to visit the Faculty Collaborative if you want a space to write, meet, just have a quiet place to think. To make a reservation for use of the classroom or conference room, you send a outlook calendar invitation to HAPG 703-B (conference room) or HAPG 703-C (Classroom) .



Mentoring Graduate Student Workshop Series

Mentoring Graduate Students Workshop

Want to become a better faculty mentor to your graduate students and postdocs? This semester, learn best practices to inspire, direct and professionally develop your graduate mentees.



Workshops are held every other Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. starting Sept. 7.



Sept. 7

Who are you as a mentor?



Sept. 21

Mitigating Conflict in Mentoring



Oct. 5

Graduate Students and Belonging



Oct. 19

Understanding International Student Needs

Nov. 2

Effective Communications and Setting Expectations

Nov. 16

Promoting Self-Efficacy and Independence

Nov. 30

The Don'ts of Mentoring: Legal and Ethical Considerations

Scan to apply:



Apply by 5 p.m. on August 23, 2023.
Contact facdev@uark.edu for more information.

**UA ENGAGE -- Empower. Lead. Transform.
Women in STEM at the U of A**

The University of Arkansas is proud to be a NSF ADVANCE campus and Faculty Affairs plays a key role in the programming and initiation of UA ENGAGE activities. We are honored to recognize the excellent women

researchers in our STEM departments. For more information on UA ENGAGE, visit the [website](#).

Keep an eye on the Office of Faculty Affairs social media pages to stay up to date. Links to our Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube pages are below.

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