

Faculty Affairs Monthly

8/21/2024

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 the summer months have provided you with a blend of scholarly and creative endeavors, relaxation, and inspiration, preparing you for the exciting academic year ahead.

This coming year, we will continue supporting you and your success. 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 Mentoring Program](#), [Peer Mentoring Circles](#), [Mentoring Graduate Students](#). In collaboration with the [Teaching and Faculty Support Center](#), we will 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.

2024 Department Chair/Head Summer Institute

On July 30 and 31, the Office for Faculty Affairs offered the second Summer Chairs/Heads Institute. We hosted 60 department chairs/heads and associate deans. Provost Martin kicked off the event. Attendees heard information related to legal and ethical issues, free speech and campus activities, student conduct, and faculty compensation as well as updates about undergraduate and graduate enrollments, research and innovation, and economic development. The next Institute will be held in January 2025. All department chairs and heads are strongly encouraged to attend.

2024-2025 Provost Fellows



Fiona Goggin & Becca Muenich

Fiona Goggin, professor of entomology and plant pathology, and Becca Muenich, associate professor of biological and agricultural engineering, were named the U of A Provost's Fellows for the 2024-25 academic year.

Goggin will serve as the Provost's Fellow for Mentoring. During her fellowship, Goggin will focus on assisting the Provost's Office in supporting the university's reputation as an employer of choice and by leveraging the current infrastructure of the Bridge Mentoring Program and the UA ENGAGE Leadership Exploration Program to expand and deepen faculty connections to faculty life on campus and with each other around research, teaching and leadership development.

Muenich will serve as the Provost's Fellow for Honorary Awards. During her fellowship, Muenich will focus on assisting the Provost's Office and the Division of Research and Innovation with increasing the number of faculty nominations for honorary awards in the areas of scholarship, creative endeavors and teaching, with the goal of elevating the national reputation of U of A faculty and enabling the university's reputation as an employer of choice.



Professional Development Opportunities at your own pace

The University of Arkansas is an institutional member of the Faculty Success Program by **NCFDD**

The mission of the NCFDD is "Empowering faculty for lasting success with programs, coaching, and on-demand support."

Our faculty, postdocs, and graduate students can access professional development webinars, courses, mentoring tools, and workshops focused on strategic planning, writing, work-life balance, and more. You can sign up for a free account with your uark email address.

Teaching Camp 2024



Chancellor Robinson gives greetings.

Provost Martin provides remarks.

The Teaching & Faculty Support Center (TFSC) hosted this year's Teaching Camp at Crystal Bridges & The Momentary. This year's camp had a slightly different format so that more faculty could be included. Over 160 faculty members were able to attend. The keynote speaker was Dr. Lindsay Doukopoulos, Associate Director of Educational Development at the Biggio Teaching Center at Auburn University.

Former TFSC co-director, Carole Shook of the Information Systems department, said, "I loved the energy that faculty brought to Teaching Camp. What I see is a dedication to teaching and a commitment providing students a strong education here at the University of Arkansas. I know through my work with other SEC schools that the U of A stands out through the faculty commitment to good teaching and from the support of Provost Martin, Chancellor Robinson, and Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Anna Zajicek." Look for a call to participate in Teaching Camp in the Spring of 2025.

Peer Mentoring Circle Program

Are you interested in participating in a peer mentoring circle with a small group of faculty? The Office for Faculty Affairs offers a program that provides mentorship outside of a faculty member's home department. If you want to join a Peer Mentoring Circle, [applications are due Aug 30, 2024](#). Peer Mentoring Circles will begin meeting in October.

Peer Mentoring Circles promote honest and open dialogue about challenges, successes and issues experienced by faculty participants. The goal is not to replace department-level mentoring but to add an additional layer of support for non-tenure track, pre-tenure, and tenured faculty. Peer Mentoring Circles help create new connections across colleges and disciplines and allow faculty members to participate in non-judgmental, inclusive and supportive conversations. To participate, you must be able to attend mentoring sessions once per month during the academic year.

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 and across all other academic units. 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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