



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

Faculty Affairs Newsletter

Faculty Appreciation Week - April 6-10

As we begin planning for Faculty Appreciation Week we are asking for your feedback. If you have ideas that you would like to share please complete the following survey.

Faculty Appreciation Week



FINAL REMINDER!

We Are Accepting Applications for Provost Award for Mentoring Excellence

The Office for Faculty Affairs is accepting proposals for the Provost Award for Departmental Excellence in Faculty Mentoring through Feb. 28, 2026.

The Provost Award for Departmental Excellence in Faculty Mentoring recognizes an academic department/unit on campus that has a strong faculty mentoring program, including professional development opportunities, for tenure-track and non-tenure-track faculty. Faculty can nominate their department/unit and [submit a proposal](#) to be considered for this award.

The winning department will receive \$10,000 and a university plaque recognizing their achievement. The winning department/unit will also be asked to share and showcase its mentoring program with other units on campus.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28, 2026, on the [Faculty Affairs website](#).



Nominate an Outstanding Mentor

To promote excellence in mentoring and recognize outstanding faculty mentors, we encourage non-tenure track, pre-tenure, and mid-career faculty members on our campus to consider acknowledging their faculty mentors.

Outstanding faculty-to-faculty mentors cultivate career advancement and assist their mentees with building excellence in teaching, research, and/or service while encouraging a healthy balance of work and home life. Outstanding mentors assist mentees in building their professional networks, advocate for their mentees, and create avenues for mentee

recognition. For more information on the nomination process or to nominate, please visit our [website](#).

Deadline to receive nominations is March 1, 2026.

TFSC Co-Director Applications Now Open!

Are you passionate about teaching and student learning? Do you relish working with a team of innovative pedagogical leaders on campus? Co-directing the Wally Cordes Teaching and Faculty Support Center may be your destiny!

Directors serve staggered three-year terms, and Hope Ballentine, School of Nursing, will finish her term as co-director this summer. Edward Holland, Department of Geosciences, and Aysa Galbraith, First-Year Engineering Program, will continue their service.

The TFSC and the Office for Faculty Affairs seek a dynamic individual who models teaching excellence and effective leadership to join the team. Any tenured or non-tenure track full-time faculty member is eligible to apply. The directorship comes with extra compensation or a course buyout package and summer funds.

To complete this application, please be prepared to upload a letter of application, your CV and a letter of support from your department chair/head. Your letter should state why you are interested in co-leading the Teaching and Faculty Support Center, what unique experiences or talents you would bring to this leadership role and a statement of how you would contribute to broadening faculty engagement and fostering a holistic approach to faculty support with emphasis on teaching excellence. Applications <https://forms.uark.edu/xfp/form/835> are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 13, 2026.

About the Wally Cordes Teaching and Faculty Support Center: The Wally Cordes Teaching and Faculty Support Center (TFSC) was founded in 1992 by Wally Cordes, Ro Di Brezzo and Paul Cronan. TFSC invests in faculty excellence, promotes innovation in teaching and learning, and supports programs to advance student success. The center provides educational opportunities for faculty, including teaching and learning workshops, teaching symposia, and new faculty orientation. TFSC offers competitive teaching and learning grants for faculty, celebrates effective teaching with several awards and events, and promotes faculty-to-faculty mentoring through classroom observation. More information about TFSC can be found on [their website](#) or by following them on [LinkedIn](#).

2026 Research Camp Recap

Research Camp 2026 held January 6–7 at the University of Arkansas School of Law, brought together faculty from across the university, representing a wide

range of disciplines and colleges. Hosted jointly by the Division of Research & Innovation and the Office for Faculty Affairs, Research Camp was designed as a two-day professional development experience.

Day one focused specifically on early-career faculty, with sessions on research administration, strategic planning for promotion and tenure, early-career grant programs, and building scholarly reputation. Day two expanded to all faculty, featuring programming on science communication, AI guidelines for research, transdisciplinary teaming, major federal, state, and foundation funding opportunities, project management, and research commercialization.

The event also included a research showcase, opportunities to engage with campus research support units and core facilities, and a networking reception and awards ceremony, highlighting Research Camp's role in strengthening research capacity and collaboration across campus.





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. Please [sign up](#) TODAY for your free membership using your uark email address.

If your college or department is interested in highlighting a professional development opportunity please submit your article for consideration by the 1st Friday of every month.



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Faculty Affairs, University of Arkansas
ADMN 421
1125 West Maple Street
Fayetteville, AR 72701
[Email](#)
[Website](#)

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