



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

Faculty Affairs Newsletter



Message from the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Dear Colleagues,

As we conclude another enriching academic year, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your dedication and service. This has been a year marked by meaningful progress and notable accomplishments across our campus. I am especially appreciative of your engagement in professional development opportunities offered through the Office for Faculty Affairs, the Teaching and Faculty Support Center, and the Teaching Academy. This year, we have expanded programming, deepened mentoring and leadership initiatives, and taken important steps toward enhancing faculty support and success across career stages.

Together, we have also made important strides in recognizing faculty achievements, strengthening pathways for faculty development, and building structures that support clarity, consistency, and growth in our academic environment. These collective efforts are already making a meaningful impact on our academic community. Your participation and commitment to these efforts are critical to fostering a culture of excellence, collaboration, and continuous improvement.

I hope you have a well-deserved, restful, and rejuvenating summer. I look forward to the new ideas, energy, and perspectives you will bring in the coming year, and to our continued work together.

Anna Zajicek, Ph.D.

Now Accepting Travel Award Applications

As part of the Provost Office's commitment to supporting faculty development and enhancement, all **full-time tenure or non-tenure assistant** and **associate professors** are eligible to apply for travel assistance if they present original scholarship as a primary author at a national/international professional conference or creative activity at an exhibition, performance or other related professional venue.

Up to 20 applicants could receive up to \$700 of travel assistance if selected/accepted to present as a primary author, artist, or performer. Before travel, an expense authorization should be completed through the home department. To receive reimbursement, awardees must submit their expense report number in Workday to the Office for Faculty Affairs upon completion of their travel.

Applicants must:

- Be accepted or invited to a professional conference, exhibition, or performance.
- Be primary author, artist, or performer.
- Receive endorsement from their department chair/head as part of the application packet.
- Be 100% appointed faculty.
- For international travel, please provide expense authorization while applying for travel funding.
- Acknowledge receiving funding support from the Provost's Office.

Applications are open through June 8, 2026, for conference travel July 1 through December 31, 2026.

Learn more about the Travel Assistance Program and how to apply on the [Faculty Affairs website](#).

COHEP "WE CARE" Speaker Series



The College of Education and Health Professions has continued to support early-career faculty members this spring. As part of its First-Year Faculty Networking and Engagement Series, the college hosted a mentoring lunch with Matt de la Peña, a *New York Times* best-selling author, creative writing professor, and this semester's WE CARE Speaker Series lecturer. The college also supported two tables for first-year faculty at the inaugural trivia night hosted by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. This semester, the college has held two sessions in its Early-career Faculty Research Engagement and Mentoring Program that covered engaging Honors students to support research, effectively leveraging start-up funds, planning for successful summers, and preparing for third-year reviews for newer tenure-track faculty. The efforts are supported by the college's WE CARE Strategic Plan.

SAVE THE DATE

See below important events occurring this summer and the beginning of Fall semester.

2026 New Chairs/Department Head Leadership Institute
July 13-17th

2026 Summer Department Chairs/Head Leadership Institute
July 30-31st

2026 Teaching Camp
August 3-4th

2026 New Faculty Orientation
August 11th

2026 Faculty Mentoring Graduate Student Workshop Series
Bi-weekly beginning week of August 17th

2026 Bridge Program Workshop Series
Bi-weekly beginning week of August 24th



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.”

Other resources and upcoming webinars and events can be found on the [NCFDD site here](#).

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.

See their summer workshop schedule below!

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MAY, 2026



PUBLIC WEBINAR

Every Summer Needs A Plan

Rachel McLaren, PhD,
Associate Professor, University of Iowa

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JUN, 2026



PUBLIC WEBINAR

How to Revise a Book Manuscript for Publication

Laura Portwood-Stacer, PhD, Publishing
Advisor and Developmental Editor for
Scholarly Authors, Manuscript Works

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JUN, 2026



GUEST EXPERT

Building a Successful Research Laboratory: Creating a Home for Science and Collaboration

Sabrina Noel, Associate Professor,
University of Massachusetts Lowell

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JUN, 2026



CORE CURRICULUM

Moving From Resistance to Writing

Angelique Davis, JD
Professor, Seattle University

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JUL, 2026



CORE CURRICULUM

The Art of Saying 'No': How to Create Healthy Boundaries

Pamela Yeh, PhD, Professor, University
of California Los Angeles

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JUL, 2026



GUEST EXPERT

How to Peer Review a Journal Article in No Time

Rachel McLaren, PhD, Associate
Professor, University of Iowa

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AUG, 2026



PUBLIC WEBINAR

Every Semester Needs a Plan

Joy Gaston-Gayles, PhD, Professor,
North Carolina State University

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AUG, 2026



GUEST EXPERT

Ready, Set, Launch Committees: A Constellation Mentorship Model for Onboarding New Assistant Professors

Jennifer Henry, Launch Program Manager,
University of Michigan

Denise Sekaquaptewa, PhD, Director of
ADVANCE & Professor, University of
Michigan

CORE CURRICULUM

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AUG, 2026



Cultivating Your Network of Mentors, Sponsors & Collaborators

Ndidiamaka Amutah-Onukagha, PhD,
Professor, Tufts University

RECURRING MONTHLY WEBINARS



The Weekly Meeting

Lisa Hanasono, PhD, Professor,
Bowling Green State University

Bi-Monthly on Fridays
12 PM ET

May 1 | May 15 | May 29
June 12 | June 26
July 10 | July 24
Aug. 7 | Aug. 21



Virtual Writing Session

Carlita Favaro, PhD, Professor,
Ursinus College

Bi-Monthly on Mondays
12 PM ET

May 4 | May 18
Jun. 1 | Jun. 15 | Jun. 29
July 13 | July 27
Aug. 10 | Aug. 24

NCFDD.ORG

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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