The CFDR Program Mission

The Center for Faculty Development and Research (CFDR) provides an infrastructure to advance the expertise, knowledge and skills of faculty. This effort seeks to enhance the overall quality of undergraduate education. The program strives to create and support collaborative environments for teaching, learning, and discovery that are grounded in sound research, and in a thorough knowledge of the integration of technology.

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Applications are available in the Center

“No University is Greater Than Its Faculty!”
Additional workshops and seminars will be developed to meet the requested needs of faculty.

Faculty Lecture Series

The Faculty Lecture Series (FLS) will sponsor experts in various academic disciplines to present to University Faculty. The objective of this initiative is to sponsor prominent scholars to engage university faculty toward promoting a dialogue for improvement.

Faculty Conference Awards

The Conference Awards allow faculty to attend professional development activities in their respective academic areas. A Faculty Development Investment Council (FDIC) was established to advise the director; assist with the development of faculty development activities; and to manage the Conference Awards Program. Faculty receiving awards are required to present learning gains to their colleagues.

Faculty Undergraduate Research Initiative for Junior Faculty Fellows

The purpose of the Faculty Undergraduate Research Initiative (FURI) is to support junior faculty (tenure earning) with beginning, conducting and completing research projects. Concurrently, this initiative is designed to engage undergraduate students as research partners with junior faculty. The FURI will concentrate its efforts toward faculty and students in education, the social sciences, humanities, and arts.

Three FURI objectives are: (1) to sponsor five junior faculty to receive training (conducted at the Florida Education Fund’s Summer Training Institute) to engage undergraduate students in research projects at the university; (2) to sponsor two faculty mentors to receive training; they will then train ten junior faculty to engage undergraduate students in research projects, and (3) to document that five faculty and ten students have a published research project.

Faculty Mentoring Initiative

The Faculty Mentoring Initiative (FMI) utilizes senior faculty, trained in a variety of technologies and experiences with various pedagogical techniques. They will share their expertise with junior, continuing, adjunct, graduate-assistant faculty through Teaching Circles. These interactive workshops will be on a variety of teaching and learning topics. The FMI is established to provide collegial assistance to faculty toward the improvement of classroom instruction.

Planned Teaching Circles include:
- Understanding Learning Styles
- Connecting with Your Students
- Acquiring Classroom Assessment Strategies
- Incorporating Active Learning Techniques
- Helping Your Students Get It?
- Drawing a Professional Conduct Line
- Finding and Using Learning Objects
- Learning by Listening: Interpreting Student Responses
- Motivating At-Risk Students
- Making Abstract Material Relevant
- Including Other Related Topics

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