Faculty Fellows Program

Our mission is to provide our students with an unparalleled liberal arts education. Engaged, productive faculty are essential to that aim. This Faculty Fellows Program is designed to attract, retain, and support faculty who bring their scholarship to bear on learning.

Guiding Principles

At the University of Richmond, we seek to prepare our students for lives of purpose, thoughtful inquiry, and responsible leadership in a diverse world. Faculty engage with students as committed teachers, mentors and scholars. This Faculty Fellows Program will support tenured faculty in meeting the many demands of doing scholarly work and connecting that research and creativity to student learning. This is a competitive course release program with the purpose of advancing scholarship and creative work. This program will not affect sabbatical accrual. Some key requirements are as follows:

- Proposals explicitly linked to student learning and/or collaborative research with students will be favored.
- Faculty are expected to maintain a regular service and advising load during the course release time.
- This cannot be combined with additional course reductions to yield more than 2 course reductions in any given year.
- Planning must be done collaboratively with the dean and department chair to address timing and teaching needs.

Application

The Faculty Fellows Program offers five annual awards on a competitive basis to promote the scholarly and creative activity of tenured faculty.

- Activities during the fellowship semester must involve research, scholarship, or creative activities anticipated to result in publications, cultural products (performances, art, etc.), and/or significant grant applications. The proposed scholarly work should engage students or be tied in some way to student learning. Some examples of scholarly work tied to student learning are: research or creative activity that directly involves students; scholarship that leads to the development of a new class or significantly shapes curriculum; or scholarship that leads to grants or programs that will engage students.
- Faculty may only take one fellowship between each sabbatical leave.
- Fellowship proposals must present clear outcomes and include a statement from the applicant’s department chair with either a signature or a supporting e-mail from the relevant dean supporting the proposal, as well as a current CV. They should also include a 1-page summary of the proposal for their last university funded leave and the results of that work.
- Tenured faculty may apply for the Fellows Program in the second, third, or fourth year following a University sabbatical
- Faculty may take the two-course release in any of the following variations: one course each year for two consecutive years, one course per semester in a single academic year, or two courses in a single semester.
Criteria for Selection

- Engagement with students/impact on student learning
- Quality of proposal: creative/scholarly goals
- Overall scholarly record of applicant
- Productive use of prior leave time

Reporting

At the end of their fellowship, the faculty member must submit a 1-2-page report, attached to the original application, detailing the work accomplished during the semester released from teaching and how it will be applied to student learning; this is a necessary condition for future eligibility. Fellows are expected to present their work at a national conference and on campus, through a public presentation hosted by their department or the Faculty Hub.

For questions contact the Associate Provost for Faculty.