**Peer Review of Teaching Project: 2015-2016 Advanced Program**

### What is the Advanced Project?

As a result of your participation in the Peer Review of Teaching Project, do you have more questions about your students’ learning that you would like to explore? The advanced project provides you the structure to further your inquiry into your teaching and your students’ learning.

The advanced program offers a space for continued conversations and written reflection about teaching and improving student learning. Specifically, the advanced program is designed to support faculty interested in revising their existing course portfolio (based on a subsequent offering of the course), writing a new benchmark portfolio for a different course, developing Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL) manuscripts, and/or creating an “inquiry” course portfolio.

**What is an inquiry portfolio?** In comparison to the benchmark portfolio that you developed in the first-year program, an inquiry portfolio focuses on answering a specific question or issue regarding teaching practices, course structures, and/or student learning over time (e.g., effectiveness of a semester project or impact of essay examinations on your students’ learning). **As such, a key aspect is posing a question you want to answer about your teaching and/or students’ learning and then mapping out an assessment plan to be able to answer it.** Past advanced program participants have used their inquiry portfolios as the basis for department discussions, conference presentations, and scholarly publications.

### How is the Project Structured?

Depending upon faculty interest, we are looking to form interdisciplinary advanced faculty teams (of 4 to 5 people each). Each team will have a former peer review participant as a team leader. This person will take the lead in coordinating with your team to plan meetings and facilitate group conversations. In addition, he/she will be available to answer questions and offer advice to you as you develop your portfolio. We also offer structure and support for those interested in completing a manuscript or conference paper than can be submitted to a SOTL conference or journal (e.g., assistance with approval for human subject research, method and data analysis consulting, identifying suitable outlets for work).

### Is the Advanced Project Similar to the 1st Year Program?

The advanced program offers you structure to develop a classroom inquiry project that benefits you and your students, but it is less structured in terms of meetings and format. Similar to the first-year program, the course that you focus on and write about must be a **Spring 2016** course. In the fall, you will define your project and then in the spring when teaching it, you will collect examples of student learning. We know that this structure impacts those who want to focus on a fall course, but given our budget follows the fiscal year and our project support cycle (graduate student support, meetings) mirrors the academic year, we don’t have the capability to support a focus on a fall course.

**As an advanced participant, you will also be required to present your work in the project at the end-of-the-year retreat in May as part of a poster session.**

Space is extremely limited so please contact us as soon as possible. Preference for participation will be given to faculty members whom have not previously participated in the advanced program. Depending upon interest and our available funding, we are open to supporting returning faculty who think that the program structure will benefit them and their students.

### What financial support is provided?

We have **two options** for the advanced project. For those who wish to revise a benchmark portfolio, write a new portfolio, or create an inquiry portfolio, you will receive a stipend of $500 if you successfully complete a course portfolio by early June 2016. If you are interested in developing a manuscript, abstract, or poster in addition to the portfolio to submit to a conference or journal, you will receive a stipend of $1000 if you complete both portfolio and submission requirements by early June 2016. More information on these options will be available during the orientation.

### What is the timeline for the year?

- **August 21**
  - 12:30-1:30 pm (Orientation)
- **October/November**
  - Small Group & Individual Meetings (coordinated with group leader)
- **February/March**
  - Small Group & Individual Meetings (coordinated with group leader)
- **May 10**
  - 9:00-2:30 Final Project Retreat & Poster Session

### Who can I contact for more information?

Jordan Soliz  
E-mail: jsoliz2@unl.edu

Jody Koenig Kellas  
E-mail: jkellas2@unl.edu