

(Draft 22 May 2012)

Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) – GRAD 9010/9020
2012-13 Academic Year

Instructor contact info

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About the Preparing Future Faculty Program

The Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) program is a year-long series of seminars, discussions and activities designed to expose graduate students more fully to the realities of teaching, research and service in higher education. The overarching goal of the program is to enable graduates to make the transition successfully to employment in the academic community equipped with a realistic knowledge of academic culture, behavioral expectations and career expectations.

We encourage any PhD student who is considering a career in academia to consider participating in the PFF program. The program is likely to have the most tangible impact on students in their first or second year of study since the experiences gained can be expanded upon and more fully developed during subsequent years of study before entering the job market. The program is however open to PhD students at all stages of their graduate careers (late-stage PhD students are also encouraged) through a simple application process: <http://gradschool.missouri.edu/pffapply>.

History of the PFF Program

Although many future faculty members are trained at research-extensive universities, 75 percent of faculty positions are at institutions that are typically not involved in doctoral education (i.e., community colleges, liberal arts colleges, comprehensive institutions, etc.). To address the training of educators bound for non-research-extensive schools, the Council of Graduate Schools, the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the Pew Charitable Trust and the National Science Foundation established Preparing Future Faculty (PFF). The PFF initiative at the University of Missouri began in the fall of 2001 and is coordinated by the Graduate School.

General Objectives of MU's PFF Program

- To increase MU graduate student readiness to assume faculty roles within a wide range of academic (non-research- and research-intensive) and professional contexts.

- To help graduate students better understand the diversity of expectations and functional realities that exist at different higher education institutions.
- To facilitate the placement of graduates by developing wider institutional and personal networks and mentoring relationships.
- To further enhance the graduate student experience at MU by making graduate study even more responsive to and reflective of student, disciplinary and professional needs.

Mizzou Advantage – Preparing Future Faculty Postdoctoral Fellows

In the Spring of 2006, University of Missouri faculty, students and alumni worked together to identify competitive assets that set Mizzou apart from other universities. These assets underlie the four interdisciplinary initiatives of the Mizzou Advantage: Food for the Future, Sustainable Energy, Media of the Future and One Health/One Medicine. Beginning in 2010, each of the interdisciplinary areas selected a postdoctoral fellow to help extend the impact of the Mizzou Advantage program. The competitive fellowships are supported by Chancellor Deaton's Fund for Excellence. The postdoc fellows are appointed for one academic year. Their responsibilities include research, teaching, course development, including work for the Preparing Future Faculty Program.

Program Elements and Activities

How to Access Course Information

There is a Blackboard site for PFF and we will utilize this as the primary portal for exchange of information and posting of announcements, links and other materials associated with the program and classes. As the program 'evolves' during the school year any syllabus changes will be reflected by changes to the organic syllabus on the Blackboard site. We will also utilize the MU Library ERes (electronic reserves) system to archive and disseminate readings associated with the class (these readings will also be listed on the Blackboard site).

Readings

Though there is no text for this course, there will be occasional assigned readings. Readings will be listed on our Blackboard site and posted for student access through the MU Libraries ERes (electronic reserve) service.

Academic Portfolio

Students will develop a portfolio documenting their teaching, research and outreach philosophies, activities and effectiveness. Students will also be expected to develop their C.V. and potential cover/intent letters for jobs. This will be an ongoing activity throughout the two semesters, mostly done outside of class, though some class sessions will address components of the portfolio. The goal of this exercise is for students to have a portfolio that they use in the search for an academic position!

Faculty Shadowing Experience with a Partner Institution

Students will visit a partner institution to gain exposure to a different institutional context (e.g., something other than the AAU Research 1 environment of MU). The student and the partner-institution mentor will determine the exact nature and agenda of the visit. Past visits have included things such as: discussion of the institution’s mission and academic culture; exploration of faculty roles and expectations; mentoring for teaching and service; opportunity to teach a seminar, unit or course and receive feedback; attendance at faculty, committee or departmental meetings; and participation in faculty development activities.

Class Sessions

The program is structured as one credit hour course for each semester of participation. The program begins in August and ends the following semester in May. Typically the program consists of meetings one Tues evening (4:00-5:30), plus one or two Wed noon (12:00-1:30) meetings each month. See calendar below for Fall 2012 meeting dates:

August	September	October	November	December
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

**All indicated dates will meet in William Stringer 145. Circled dates meet 4:00-5:30 and squared dates meet 12:00 noon-1:30. Additional 'special/extra' (re: non-required) seminars may also arise during the course of the semester and these will be announced in advance.*

Tuesday class sessions are open only to PFF-enrolled students, while Wednesday sessions are more general professional development seminars open to all. For enrolled students, attendance is required at all of the regular scheduled sessions (see above calendar for regular Fall class meetings). One unexcused absence is allowed each semester.

Meeting Date	Topic	Speaker(s)/Discussion Leader(s)
Aug. 21	Meet & Greet – Discussion of course objectives and procedures	<i>Lee Wilkins and Mannie Liscum</i>
29	Playing to Your Strengths: StrengthsQuest	<i>Craig Benson, Director of Career Exploration in the MU Career Center</i>
Sept. 4	Developing an Academic Portfolio	<i>Mary Grigsby, Associate Professor and Chair, Rural Sociology</i>
5	Cultural Literacy: Excellence Through Diversity	<i>Panel: Noor Azizan-Gardner, Chief Diversity Officer & Director of Diversity Programming and Professional Development; Tony Castro, Assistant Professor, LTC;</i>

		<i>Traci Wilson Kleekamp, Diversity Coordinator, School of Medicine; others TBA</i>
12	The Community College	<i>Terry Barnes, Assistant to the Provost for Community College Relationships; Joe Seabrooks, President, Metropolitan Community College (MCC)-Penn Valley; Al Dimmitt, Dean of Instruction, MCC; Jeff Lashley, Vice President for Instruction, Moberly Area Community College</i>
Oct. 2	The Small Liberal Arts Institution	TBA
3	Preparing for the Job Interview: SKYPE Your Way to a Job	<i>Mark Smith, Curators Professor, History</i>
10	‘Wither the Humanities’	<i>George Justice, Vice Provost for Advanced Studies & Dean of the Graduate School; Kristin Schwain, Associate Professor, Art History & Archeology</i>
Nov. 6	Negotiating the First Job Contract <i>Due today – Curriculum Vitae</i>	<i>Esther Thorson, Professor and Dean of Graduate Studies/Research, Journalism</i>
7	Teaching Bright Students: Embracing the Honors College	<i>Nancy West, Director of the Honors College and Professor of English</i>
14	Teaching in a Large Lecture	<i>John Adams, Professor, Chemistry; Michael Porter, Professor and Chair, Communication</i>
Dec. 4	NTTs and Other Rewarding Academic Positions <i>Due today – Cover letter (for dream job at a non-R1 school)</i>	<i>Bethany Stone, Associate Teaching Professor, Biological Sciences; Alan Strathman, Teaching Professor, Psychological Sciences</i>
Jan. 22	<i>Discussion of Faculty Shadowing Experience</i>	<i>Lee Wilkins and Mannie Liscum</i>
23	State of R1 University Research	TBA
Feb. 5	Cultural Literacy: Mutual Expectations	<i>Noor Azizan-Gardner, Chief Diversity Officer & Director of Diversity Programming and</i>

		<i>Professional Development; others TBA</i>
6	Learning Communities: Center for Integrated Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL)	<i>Mannie Liscum; others TBA</i>
13	Spotting and Helping the At-Risk Student	<i>David Wallace, Director, Counseling Center; Christy Hutton, MU facilitator of Mental Health First Aid; Cheryl Black, Associate Professor, Theatre</i>
Mar. 5	Mentoring Students <i>Due today – Drafts of Teaching & Research components of Academic Portfolio</i>	<i>Angela Speck, Professor, Astronomy & Physics; Mark Kirk, Professor, Biological Sciences</i>
6	Turning Academic Dishonesty Into a Teachable Moment	<i>Brenda Peculis, Associate Professor, Biochemistry; Martha Pickens, Academic Advisor, Journalism</i>
13	Addressing and Resolving Conflict	<i>Paul Ladehoff, Director of LL.M. in Dispute Resolution Program; Director of the Campus Mediation Service</i>
Apr. 2	Promotion and Tenure: What, When, How & Why	<i>Frank Schmidt, Professor, Biochemistry</i>
3	Changing Face of Higher Education: Campus Climates	<i>Jeni Hart, Associate Professor, Education Leadership and Policy Analysis</i>
May 7	Final Wrap Up <i>Due today – Complete Academic Portfolio</i>	<i>Lee Wilkins and Mannie Liscum</i>

We may add additional ‘special’ meeting times to accommodate additional discussion topics. Though attendance at such sessions is highly suggested, they will not be part of the core, required attendance. Additional topics we may cover during the course of the year include:

- Careers outside academia
- Inter/Multidisciplinary academics
- Intellectual property: What is it and how do you protect it?

- FERPA
- IRB issues
- Debt and financial planning

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