

# Walter & Pauline Adams Academy of Instructional Excellence and Innovation Fellowship Program

*The program will begin September, 2018. The deadline for applications is April 30, 2018*

## Background

The Adams Academy is named in honor of former MSU President Walter Adams and his wife and MSU faculty member emerita, Pauline Adams, in recognition of their sustained commitments to promote instructional excellence. The program brings together a cross-disciplinary group of faculty and academic staff for a year-long fellowship focused on teaching and learning. Adams Academy participants explore the literature on effective university teaching and learning practices and consider how this robust body of research can be used to guide instructional decisions in the courses they teach. Participants learn from and contribute to a community of teacher-scholars committed to excellence in teaching and learning. Up to twelve Adams Academy members will be selected for the 2018-2019 cohort. Criteria for selection include evidence of the applicant's interest in and commitment to teaching and learning, potential to be an excellent teacher, and potential and willingness to serve as a mentor and advocate for excellent teaching among peers.

Each participant will be provided with \$3,000 to be used for professional development in teaching and learning. The Office of the Provost will provide \$1,500 to each of up to 12 fellows in the first year of their Adams participation. Each Fellow's home unit is expected to provide \$1,500 in matching funds.

## Program Activities and Expectations

**Instructional Responsibilities:** Academy applicants must plan to teach one or more courses or have other instructional responsibilities during their participation in the Academy.

**Monthly discussions on scholarly teaching:** Adams Academy members attend monthly, facilitated cohort seminars (September-April) that focus on teaching and learning topics. Members spend 3-5 hours on readings and preparatory activities prior to each seminar. Attendance at the monthly meetings is mandatory. If a fellow is unable to attend due to unavoidable circumstances such as illness or a death in the family, it is the fellow's responsibility to communicate with the facilitators to keep current with the work.

**End of the year reflective essay:** Participants are asked to submit a short reflective essay, blog post or video clip sharing insights about teaching based on their experiences during the fellowship. This will be shared with the institutional community and help to reinforce teaching excellence across campus.



**Optional second year program:** Adams Academy Fellows completing their initial year will be welcomed and encouraged to participate in a subsequent year that will center on providing mentorship opportunities for the new cohort of Adams Fellows, in addition to exploring leadership, career trajectories, and culture change and agency across the institution.

## 2018-2019 Schedule

### Monthly meetings:

- Monday September 10, 2018 (1:00-3:30 p.m.)
- Monday October 8, 2018 (1:00-3:30 p.m.)
- Monday November 12, 2018 (1:00-3:30 p.m.)
- Monday December 10, 2018 (1:00-3:30 p.m.)
- Monday January 14, 2019 (1:00-3:30 p.m.)
- Monday February 11, 2019 (1:00-3:30 p.m.)
- Monday March 11, 2019 (1:00-3:30 p.m.)
- Monday April 8, 2019 (1:00-3:30 p.m.)

**Recognition Dinner:** Thursday, April 18, 2019 (5:30-8:00 p.m.)

## Application Process

**Eligibility:** All faculty and academic specialists who will have instructional responsibility as part of their appointments in 2018-2019 are invited to apply for the William and Pauline Adams Academy for Instructional Excellence & Innovation. All applicants must be in at least the third year as a tenure stream or fixed term faculty member or academic specialist at MSU with significant teaching responsibilities.

The following documents must be submitted for consideration. **Deadline is April 30, 2018.** Please submit your completed application packet to the AAN office: Attn: Patti Stewart, Academic Advancement Network, 426 Auditorium Road, Room 308, East Lansing, MI 48824.

1. Completed application sheet (at bottom of this)
2. Two letters of support.
  - a. The primary letter must be from the applicant's primary chair, director, or dean.
  - b. The additional letter of support may come from an MSU faculty member, student, academic staff member, or administrator.
3. A Personal Statement clarifying why you wish to participate in the Adams Academy at this time and how participation will benefit you and/or your unit. The Personal Statement should be no more than one page (approximately 250-300 words).
4. A current curriculum vitae.
5. A list of courses taught at MSU detailing size and type (graduate, undergraduate major, non-major) as well as annual course load and advising responsibilities.



## Criteria for Selection of Adams Academy Fellows

1. The applicant must plan to teach at least one course or provide library instruction as a part of a course during their participation in the Adams Academy.
2. Quality of endorsement from unit supervisor and additional reference in letters of support.
3. Evidence of interest in and commitment to improving student learning.
4. Evidence of the potential for instructional excellence.
5. Willingness to advocate for excellent teaching among peers.
6. Willingness to commit the time needed to fully benefit from Adams Academy membership, including participating in ALL monthly meetings plus at least four additional opportunities identified by participants in consultation with AAN.



## Walter & Pauline Adams Academy of Instructional Excellence and Innovation APPLICATION

Applicant Name:

Academic Rank/Title:

Lead College:

Department(s):

Campus Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Course(s) you plan to teach in Fall 2018 or Spring 2019:

Lead Chair/Director/Supervisor of Unit (Letter of Support Attached)

Name	
Department/Unit	
E-mail	
I give my support for the applicant to participate in the Walter & Pauline Adams Academy for Instructional Excellence and Innovation for 2018-2019. Our department will match professional development funds in the amount of \$1500 in support of this candidate's success and scholarship in this teaching and leadership program. I certify that the applicant will also be teaching the course(s) named above.  <i>Signature</i>	

Name of person writing additional letter of support:

Title:

Department:

### Application Materials Checklist

Completed Application

Primary letter of support must be from the applicant's lead chair, director, or dean

Second letter of support

Personal Statement about teaching and how you view this program contributing to your own development, as well as benefits to the department/college/institution

Curriculum vitae

Description of annual course load and advising responsibilities

