

CITL Faculty Fellows Program 2019-2020

Engaging Mental Health and Disability in University Teaching and Learning Environments

Application deadline: May 15, 2019

The Center for Innovations in Teaching and Learning (CITL) at UC Santa Cruz invites senate and non-senate faculty to apply to join our third cohort of Faculty Fellows.

[CITL Faculty Fellows](#) constitute themselves as a community of peers engaging with higher education research, reflecting on their teaching, exploring campus policy and practice with relation to issues facing students and faculty, and supporting the culture of teaching and learning on campus.

For the first time, in 2019-20 we will organize our learning community around a theme: mental health and disability in university teaching and learning environments.

- How are teaching and learning on our campus affected by what many have described as the “mental health crisis” facing colleges and universities?
- How do we promote our collective resilience at the individual and community level while also holding the institution accountable for the structural conditions that exacerbate mental health concerns, stress, and overwhelm among students, faculty, and staff?
- Are there ways that we can design and teach courses that prioritize mental health and accessibility in ways that may better support the learning, well-being, and overall performance of all students?
- In our course design and delivery, how do we balance the need to keep courses accessible with faculty prerogative to set learning goals and guidelines for our courses and to maintain high expectations for students?
- What responsibilities do faculty have with relation to supporting graduate and undergraduate students facing academic and personal challenges?
- Given resource scarcity and workload pressure, is there anything the campus could be doing to better support faculty mental health and well-being?

Fellows will be expected to attend 3-4 meetings per quarter, including hands-on workshops, reading group-style discussions, visits by campus experts in research and practice related to disability and mental health, and occasional special events involving outside speakers. The Faculty Fellows will have the opportunity, if they so desire, to invite speakers to address the Fellows group and/or the campus as a whole and to host events, town halls, and initiatives related to our thematic focus.

Fellows are eligible to receive a research fellowship of \$2,000. These research funds may be used to support any research-based project that enhances the culture and practice of teaching and learning at UC Santa Cruz by addressing issues of mental health and disability, and/or promoting resilience through educational programs. We also welcome applications from faculty members interested in serving as Fellows without grant funds.

Application Information

Please submit the following materials only, **by 5:00pm on Wednesday, May 15** to citl@ucsc.edu:

1. A statement of **no more than one page** detailing why you are interested in being a CITL Faculty Fellow and why the 2019-20 theme is of particular interest to you.
2. Where applicable, a statement of **no more than one page** describing one research-based project or initiative related to mental health, disability, and resilience at UC Santa Cruz that you would like to undertake, possibly in collaboration with others, with CITL support, during your tenure as a Fellow. This statement should detail your proposed use of the \$2,000 in research funding. If faculty research inquiry teams form during the tenure of the fellowship, we may be able to award these funds at a later date, though there is no guarantee that funds will remain available throughout the year.