

## **Announcing the FLAIR Program – 2020**

### ***Faculty Leadership Academy for Interdisciplinary Research (FLAIR) Fellows Program***

Faculty are among the most highly trained individuals in discipline-specific research. They are taught how to think, design, and address research challenges, and execute. What little leadership training they receive, however, is typically acquired “on the job”. The very nature of what drives faculty – curiosity, discovery, and the desire to understand and invent – serves them well for building individual research programs. Yet, the global challenges that universities are poised to tackle cannot be approached as a solo sport; they require a diverse team effort to be successful – and teams need leaders. The most important and game-changing research will be accomplished by a convergence of disciplines, searching, sparring and ultimately succeeding in advancing the knowledge, health and well-being of humanity.

The Faculty Leadership Academy for Interdisciplinary Research (FLAIR) Fellows Program, sponsored by the Office of the Executive Vice President for Research and Partnerships at Purdue University, focuses on training and equipping faculty with the skills and resources they will need to effectively lead large, multi-disciplinary research teams, centers and research-centric administrative offices (including associate dean for research and vice president for research positions). The FLAIR program complements the Office of the Provost’s Insights program that provide faculty training across the broad spectrum of academic leadership. The more focused FLAIR program concentrates on training in building, coordinating and directing large research efforts including interdisciplinary, international programs and centers.

The FLAIR Fellows Program provides training and mentoring in research leadership. It will familiarize faculty with university and external resources available for aiding in writing successful, large-scale, multi-faceted research proposals and directing major multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional research efforts and centers.

Specifically, the FLAIR Fellows Program will include information regarding:

- Purdue resources for supporting, large-scale, interdisciplinary research efforts
  - Proposal development (grant writing)
  - Tools for data-driven decision making
  - Research involving human subjects and animals models
  - Human resources and conflict management
  - Intellectual property, sponsored programs and contracting
- Effective communications, group dynamics and team building
- Leading teams with diverse interdisciplinary backgrounds
- Effective leadership of large-scale multi-disciplinary programs including interdisciplinary centers and institutes and programs involving international partners
- Attracting federal, industrial and foundation support
- Mentorship and follow-up training in areas of specific interest.

Eligibility requirements:

- Associate and full professors

- Successful research record including mentorship of graduate students
- Evidence of a willingness to collaborate and participate in interdisciplinary research efforts including campus-wide centers/institutes
- Evidence of collaboration within or external to the university

#### FLAIR Fellows Program

- Two-semester training program starting in Spring 2020, for selected participants
- Biweekly two-hour meetings, beginning January 27, 2020. A detailed schedule will be sent with acceptance notification.
- Support for relevant travel, external training

Applications should be submitted to Merissa Kessler ([kessler7@purdue.edu](mailto:kessler7@purdue.edu)) by **Monday December 16, 2019** and include:

- Statement of interest (one page)
- Brief description (one page) of applicant's research program highlighting collaborative projects and interests
- *Curriculum vitae* (NIH biosketch not accepted) including:
  - Current and past trainees (postdoctoral, graduate students, undergraduates)
  - Past and current funding: agency, award #, award period, total award amount, role in project (including brief description of role, percent effort, award amount assigned to applicant)

For questions or more information about the FLAIR program contact Carrie Berger ([carrieb@purdue.edu](mailto:carrieb@purdue.edu)).

Comments from past participants:

*"I am very thankful for the time the speakers gave and that each one of them "let their guard down" – they were all really honest about various hurdles they faced, and in some cases the 'price' of success."* – Jason Cannon, Associate Professor, Department of Toxicology

*"I found the different leadership styles refreshing and very informative."* – Eric Munson, Dane O. Kildsig Chair in Industrial and Physical Pharmacy, Department Head, Department of Industrial and Physical Pharmacy

*"I learned about the importance of collaborators. Specifically, how to keep them informed, provide transparent information, and acknowledge them."* – Alejandra Magana, Professor, Department of Computer Information Technology