

News for Faculty – Friday, December 16, 2022

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### **Penn State Faculty Digest**

The Faculty Digest provides faculty and instructors with relevant news and information about programs and resources that promote faculty success. Watch for these emails on the last Friday of every month (or earlier when there is a campus closure).

### **LATEST NEWS**

#### **Thank you, Faculty!**

For the first time in anyone's memory, we made the difficult decision to close the University Park campus yesterday due to severe weather during finals week, causing exams scheduled for Thursday to be rescheduled during the day and evening on Friday and on Saturday morning. On behalf of students and administrators, we want to express our gratitude to all faculty and instructors for your understanding, flexibility, and creativity, and for rising to the occasion by doing what you could to minimize any negative impacts on our students. THANK YOU!

#### **SDR Exam Center and Pollock Testing Center**

The SDR Exam Center will be open Friday evening and Saturday morning to support the University's rescheduled final exam schedule. Faculty who have SDR students with exams scheduled for Thursday should have gotten an email either Wednesday night or Thursday morning about this from the SDR exam center.

The Pollock Testing Center also will be open to support rescheduled exams and is working directly with instructors on this.

#### **Grade Submission**

Faculty members will have until Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. to submit their grades. This will provide instructors with flexibility as well as ensure timely end-of-term processing.

#### **Faculty Senate Meeting**

At its November 29 meeting, the [Faculty Senate heard updates](#) on the University's efforts to redesign its budget allocation model, Penn State's approach to enrollment management, and the recommendation to reunify the two law schools.

#### **TLT Faculty Fellows**

Eight instructors from two campuses and six colleges worked in teams with Teaching and Learning with Technology over the past two years as part of the [2020-22 TLT Faculty Fellows program](#). As the next cohort gets underway, the previous cohort shared lessons learned from their work.

## Hiring Web Page

The Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs has compiled a list of resources pertaining to recruitment and hiring of faculty. The [web page](#) contains resources for search committees and information about special hiring considerations.

## Administrative Fellows Applications

[Applications are being sought](#) for the Administrative Fellows Program for 2023-24. By serving under the mentorship of a senior level administrator, Fellows who are seeing the background necessary to compete at higher levels of administration will have the opportunity to broaden their perspectives and experience. [Applications](#) must be submitted by January 26, 2023.

## Activity Insight Training

Spring 2023 Activity Insight training will be held on the dates and times below. You do not need to RSVP or sign up in advance. Please do not connect to the Zoom room prior to the event.

- **Faculty focused training** (you only need to attend 1 of the 4 sessions):
  - Tuesday, January 17th, 3:00pm-4:30pm (Zoom Only <https://psu.zoom.us/j/91785196691>)
  - Wednesday, January 18th, 3:00pm-4:30pm (Foster Auditorium, Paterno Library, University Park)
  - Thursday, January 19th, 9:00am-10:30am (Zoom Only <https://psu.zoom.us/j/95561833899>)
- **Administrator focused training** (if you are a proxy or an administrator, it is recommended that you **only** attend this session):
  - Friday, January 20st, 11:30am-1:00pm (Zoom <https://psu.zoom.us/j/99106246583>)

## Promotion and Tenure Workshops

- **Transitioning from Associate to Full in a Tenured Faculty Position**  
Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.  
Join the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and colleagues to discuss how associate professors can prepare for the transition to full professor. This workshop is intended for tenured faculty who are considering applying for full professor.
- For a full list of spring 2023 workshops, please visit <https://vpfa.psu.edu/promotion-and-tenure-workshop-series/>.

## Spring Professional Development Opportunities for Teaching

- Penn State's teaching center, the Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence (SITE), offers [workshops, programs and short-courses](#), [custom workshops](#) for groups and academic units, [individual consultations](#) on any aspect of teaching, and multiple [grants](#) funding opportunities.

- Penn State's [Teaching and Learning with Technology](#) (TLT) units, [Creative Learning Initiatives](#), [IT Learning and Development](#), and the [Learning Design Team](#), offer workshops, programs, and individual consultations for faculty looking to enhance their teaching and learning through technology.
- SITE and TLT offer many continuous learning opportunities and professional development resources for Penn State faculty: [Faculty Professional Development Opportunities - Continuously Updated.docx](#)

### **COVID-19 Resources**

The Biden administration is making rapid Covid tests available for free again this winter through a limited round of ordering. Households can now order a total of four rapid Covid tests for free at [CovidTests.gov](#). According to a release by the White House, orders will start shipping next week, just days before families gather for the Christmas holiday, and deliveries will continue in the following weeks.

Penn State officials are reminding the University community to [continue to take precautions and personal health measures](#) to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses during the holiday gathering and travel season. [CDC guidance for travel during COVID-19](#). These precautions include making sure you are up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines, considering getting tested before travel, following current recommendations for wearing masks in travel and public transportation settings, and getting tested after travel.

The University continues to provide resources to help individuals stay safe and healthy and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Read more about University resources pertaining to masking, testing, vaccines, and more [here](#).

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**To obtain comprehensive, updated information at any time, please review:**

- The Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs [website](#)
- The University's comprehensive [COVID-19 resources](#)
- Previous issues of this [Digest](#)