Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning
Digital Learning | Teaching Excellence

From Our Director

Greetings, Friends,

Welcome back! It's still just the beginning of February, and yet our verrrry early start (whew!) means that we're already into the thick of Spring 2024. We hope you get a chance to catch your breath this week!

Your colleagues at the Stearns Center are excited to continue to provide opportunities for Mason faculty to strengthen your teaching and connect with colleagues. We're kicking off February with our widest range of opportunities yet, such as workshops on low-stakes writing assignments or on trauma-informed teaching, informal communities like Teaching Squares or more formal ones like our second Generative AI mini-course, and invitations to propose a session for our redesigned Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference.

Scroll down or check our Events page for the full list of February workshops, webinars, communities, and deadlines. A few upcoming notable dates:

- Sign up by Friday February 9 to join a **Teaching Square**
- Nominate a long-time faculty member (>20 years) by February 12 for the **David J. King Award**
- Tell us about conversations you've been leading about Teaching with GenAI tools, or volunteer to join our new steering committee, **via our survey**
- Complete this survey by February 29 to provide your insights to help us update our **AI Text Generators: Resource Page**
- **Submit a Proposal** by March 4 for this year's upcoming Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference
- or **Volunteer to be a Proposal Reviewer** for ITL to help us create the most engaging program possible

Your Stearns Center team is also working this spring on some long-term projects to support you through the coming year:

- Collaborating with ITS and others to support your upcoming migration to **Canvas** with wide-ranging

resources and accessible, flexible learning options

- Collaborating with **Mason Core** and the QEP to support you and your colleagues in the Fall 2024 implementation of new courses
- Collaborating with the Office of the Provost to bring you updated **syllabus resources**, policies, and guidance for Fall 2024
- Planning a **website** redesign to provide faster answers and accessible learning pathways through our online resources for all faculty
- And building the Stearns Center's new **Teaching with GenAI Steering Committee** to help coordinate innovative approaches and adaptable resources for faculty across disciplines and levels

Along with our partners (including the Office of the Provost, Faculty Affairs and Development, Writing Across the Curriculum, Mason Impact, OSCAR, CECiL, Mason Core, Graduate Education, GradLife, University Libraries, Classroom and Lab Technologies, and Information Technology Services), we are glad to continue to be your partners in supporting Mason students and the learning you provide for them in all of your classes, laboratories, Zoom calls, emails, site visits, and office hours.

Shelley

E Shelley Reid, Ph.D.
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Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning
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Events & Deadlines

Join a Teaching Square to Connect with Colleagues!

Deadline: February 9, 2024

What do other faculty actually do in their courses? How are they adapting to new opportunities, engaging their students, providing feedback, managing their time, and supporting long-term learning? If you joined a Teaching Square, you could find out!Each semester, Stearns Center will match interested faculty with a Square of colleagues from across the university (usually four people, but sometimes a little larger or smaller) and guide you through a quick four-part approach:

- Each Square meets for about an hour for introductions and planning
- Each member of the Square shares some element of a course they're currently teaching, according to the Square's plan
- Each member provides reflective feedback to the others
- The whole Square meets for a conversation about what they've learned and how they can support one another further

All members of the Mason community who are teaching at least one course during the term (i.e., faculty, graduate student instructors, administrators & staff with teaching assignments) are welcome to participate. **To indicate your interest, please complete our two-minute form. (**See our Events Calendar for upcoming deadlines**.)**

Nominate a Faculty Member for the David J King Award

Nomination Deadline: Nominations for this award are due February 12.

The David J. King Teaching Award is given annually to a faculty member who has made significant, long-term contributions to the overall educational excellence of the university. The winner will be honored concurrent with the spring celebration of Teaching Excellence Awards and will receive a stipend. Please help us identify faculty who should be considered for this recognition.
Nominees will be asked to submit a statement detailing their contributions to teaching and learning at Mason, a complete teaching/instructional CV, and a limited set of evidence related to their contributions. Nominations are accepted on a rolling basis, any nominations submitted after the deadline will be considered for the following awards cycle.

Method: To nominate someone for this award, please write a letter describing the nominee's educational and teaching contributions to the Mason community.

Eligibility: As a career contributions award, nominees must have been at Mason a minimum of 20 years in order to be eligible for this award.

Send Nominations to: The Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning at stearns@gmu.edu.

If you have questions or would like further information, please contact the the Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning.

INNOVATIONS in Teaching & Learning conference

Request for ITL 2024 Proposals!

Submit a Proposal by March 4 for this year's upcoming Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference

The Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning invites George Mason University faculty of all ranks and types, staff, administrators, and graduate and postdoctoral students to **submit proposals** and **volunteer as reviewers** for the 1**6th Annual Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference!** The conference will take place **September 19 and 20, 2024.**

This year's conference has a hybrid format with a range of options for sharing your teaching strategies, experiences, and teaching-related research. Interactive Sessions, our 50-minute, in-person sessions, feature interaction with attendees and provide takeaways that participants can use in their own teaching practice or curricular development. Teaching Talks, our virtual, 10-minute individual presentations, allow individuals to share an aspect of their own teaching practice in a more concise format. On Demand Resources allow individuals to asynchronously share teaching artifacts from their courses. Please see

the ITL 24 Session Proposal Guide for details on session types to help you create your proposal. After creating your proposal, you can upload it using the Request for Proposal Form. **The proposal deadline is March 4, 2024.**

2024 ITL Request for Proposals Form

The Stearns Center also seeks proposal reviewers to help us create the most engaging program possible. Typically, we ask people to review 6-10 proposals, and it takes about 1-2 hours to complete. The more volunteers we have, the fewer proposals we will ask you to review—so please help spread the word. Use the Request for Reviewers Form below to volunteer.

2024 ITL Request for Reviewers Form

Feel free to visit the ITL Request for Proposals webpage for additional information and answers to frequently asked questions. If you have further questions, please reach out to Crystal Anderson (cander8@gmu.edu) or email the Stearns Center (stearns@gmu.edu) with "2024 ITL" as the subject.

Contribute to a Research Team on Teaching with Gen-AI Tools
Deadline: February 19

The Stearns Center is excited to support a cross-institutional and cross-disciplinary research project, Preparing Students and Educators for Ethical AI Integration in Higher Education. The goal of this project is to develop capacity within the state to (1) understand how students and instructors are using AI in postsecondary learning environments; (2) develop materials to support instructors in preparing students for future expectations of AI fluency in the workforce; (3) support instructors in integrating AI and the use of AI tools into postsecondary course and curriculum design; and (4) evaluate the impacts of these efforts. Current teams are focusing on the key areas of student onboarding, assignment design, assessment, personalized feedback, accessibility, and open educational resources (OER). Anticipated project outcomes include developing educational resources to support students and instructors in navigating the ethical integration of AI in postsecondary education, including actionable guidelines, pedagogical strategies, and policy recommendations.

Mason faculty, staff, and students interested in contributing to the research projects and/or development of educational resources should contact Breana Bayraktar (bbayrakt@gmu.edu) to learn more about the project, and visit the project website [https://sotl.gmu.edu/ai-sotl].
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Connect to our Community on Teaching with Gen-AI Tools
New Steering Committee

Connect with Stearns Center and others working on GenAI and Teaching: If you have led or faciliated structured conversations about GenAI and Teaching (e.g., course policies, assignment design, strategies for helping students use the tools) this year, and/or if you'd like to be connected to our new Steering Committee for GenAI and Teaching, let us know by completing our **Conversations about GenAI and Teaching survey** before February 29.

AI Text Generators Resource Page: Updates coming!
Deadline to send us your insights: February 29, 2024

The Stearns Center will be updating their **AI Text Generators: Resource Page**. We'd like to know what resources you'd like to see added to the site; **please complete this survey** by February 29th to provide your insight.

Digital Learning

Welcome to Online Teaching in Spring 2024

If you are scheduled to teach a fully-online course in Spring 2024, or if you plan to incorporate online components into your teaching, the Stearns Center Digital Learning Team at George Mason University is here to help.

Here's a list of helpful resources to support your online teaching at Mason.

Stearns Center Website
Check out our website for "one-stop shop" for teaching and learning information for Mason faculty. Find info about asynchronous online teaching, synchronous online teaching, and info for those new to Blackboard.

Syllabus Checklist
As you prepare your syllabus, see our resources for Designing Your Syllabus. Use our Online Syllabus Checklist to ensure your syllabus is complete.

Student Support
See the links provided on Stearns Center website. Support Services include: Office of Academic Integrity (OAI); Learning Services; Assistive Technologies Initiative (ATI); Mason Libraries.

Technology Support
If you need help with technology, including Blackboard & Kaltura, please contact Information Technology Services (ITS) at courses@gmu.edu

Webinars
Visit our website for list of recorded webinars about online course design and teaching, including info about Zoom, Collaborate Ultra; and about other Blackboard Tools.

Help and Consultations
Our Team is happy to help you! We are available via email or through Zoom meeting. Please email us at stearns@gmu.edu to request & schedule a consultation.

Online Quality
As you prepare your online courses, please review the Stearns Center Digital Learning's Quality Checklist.

Download the Checklist and learn more at Stearns Center's Online Course Quality website.

Office of Digital Learning | Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning
Phone: 703-993-6200 | Email: stearns@gmu.edu
Suite 412 Innovation Hall, Fairfax Campus
George Mason University

Spring 2024 Online Teaching at Mason!

Make Spring 2024 a new start for your online teaching!

FIND TEACHING RESOURCES & TECHNICAL HELP:
Know where to find help and resources for online teaching: Whether you're new to online or an experienced online instructor at Mason, here's a list of resources to get your Spring 2024 online course off to a great start!

Plan for Mason's LMS Transition

Canvas has been selected to replace Blackboard as George Mason University's new Learning Management System (LMS).

For Spring 2024, courses will continue to use Blackboard.

View the transition timeline and read a list of frequently asked questions at the Canvas LMS Transition website. The LMS Implementation Committee

Learn Something New!

Want to enhance student engagement in your online course? **Consider using Perusall!**

Perusall is a social learning platform designed to promote online student engagement with learning materials in various ways. Using Perusall, students can highlight and mark text or make comments at specific points in videos and respond to discussion prompts and questions from each other and the instructor. Perusall works with your favorite course content including books, articles, web pages, videos, podcasts, and images.

Want to learn more? Contact Us!

Office of Digital Learning | Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning
Phone: 703-993-6200 | Email: stearns@gmu.edu
Suite 412 Innovation Hall, Fairfax Campus

Faculty Development Workshops

February

Workshop: Reading as Active Learning in STEM

February 8 | 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. | Zoom | CPD Level 1 Design | Facilitator: Laina Lockett

How many times have you asked your class a question only to realize that only a few (or maybe none) of your students have done the assigned reading? Working with students who are not prepared for class is a common frustration among STEM faculty especially since there is often a large amount of material to cover in any given course. In this workshop, you will learn how to turn reading assignments into opportunities for active learning. We will discuss some of the research on how students learn from reading, how to teach your students to get more out of reading, as well as how to design more engaging reading prompts, guides and classroom activities. The small changes discussed in this workshop can have large and long-lasting impacts for your students, so be sure to join the session! **Register here**.

Workshop: Fostering Engagement and Belonging with Inclusive Classroom Techniques

February 9 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Zoom | CPD Level 1 Engage | Facilitator: Rachel Yoho
*Formerly known as Anti-Racism and Inclusive Teaching: An Introduction to Developing More Inclusive Educational Spaces

Are you ready to integrate inclusive teaching throughout your instructional spaces? Would you like to explore techniques and build tangible plans for your classes? This is where that journey begins. In this workshop, we will explore some of the definitions and terms often found in conversations about creating more inclusive classrooms. We will work together to advance our individual abilities in broadly inclusive teaching and learning to support all students. At the end of the workshop, we will have developed familiarity with concepts and terminology, explored deliberately inclusive classroom activities, and set one or two manageable goals for our classes. **Register here**.

Workshop: Writing to Learn: Informal, Exploratory Writing

February 9 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Zoom | CPD Level 1 Engage | Facilitator: Tim Lilley

This workshop will help faculty implement both low and high stakes writing assignments into the curriculum of content-intensive courses. Faculty will learn tools and strategies for designing student writing. Emphasis will be placed on assignments that use writing as a tool for thinking and learning.

Generally, writing-to-learn activities are short, impromptu or otherwise informal writing tasks that help students think through key concepts or ideas presented in a course. Often, these writing tasks are limited to less than five minutes of class time or are assigned as brief, out-of-class assignments.

Writing-to-learn activities can happen frequently or infrequently in your class; some can extend over the entire semester; some can be extended to include a wide variety of writing tasks in different formats and to different audiences. **Register here**.

Workshop: How to Handle Difficult Classroom Discussions and Situations in the Moment

February 12 | 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. | Zoom | Facilitator: Rachel Yoho *Formerly known as Important Conversations in the Classroom: Handling Situations in the Moment

Are you prepared to handle difficult discussions and charged situations in the classroom in the moment? Do you usually think of things later that you wish you would have said or done? In this workshop, we will prepare and practice how to handle important and potentially tense classroom conversations in the moment. Our focus will be on how to support everyone in the classroom – including yourself – during tense times. We will discuss and practice several teaching approaches. This workshop is applicable to instructors across all disciplines for facilitating important conversations, whether or not their designed course topics include socially pressing issues (like race, gender, religion, politics). Please note, this is the second in a two-part workshop series on important conversations. However, participants are welcome and encouraged to attend this session even if they were not able to attend part one. **Register here**.

Workshop: Supporting Student Learning through Self-Awareness and Reflection to Navigate a Complex, Global Society

February 13 | 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Zoom | Facilitator: Rachel Yoho *Formerly known as Exploring Positionality and Intersectionality in the Mason Core Context

Are you interested in incorporating techniques to help students develop their own self-awareness and navigate a complex, global society in your field, discipline, and course? Or are you (re-)developing a course for one of the new Mason Core designations of Just Societies or Global Contexts? This workshop is designed to support your teaching around helping students develop their self-awareness, particularly related to your discipline. This workshop includes the concepts of positionality and intersectionality broadly, but particularly for the new Core areas. At the end of the workshop, we will have explored the concepts and applied them to potential activities and assignments in our courses. **Register here**.

Workshop: Successfully (Re-)Designing and Proposing a Mason Core Course

February 20 | 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Zoom | Facilitators: Rachel Yoho, Shelley Reid, Laura Poms *Formerly known as Course Proposal Workshop

Mason Core Committee is seeking course proposals for courses in the revised Global Contexts category and the new Just Societies flag. Courses planning to run in the inaugural Fall 2024 semester will need approval by Fall 2023, so it's not too early to start! Faculty interested in proposing a course for QEP-Community Engaged Learning status are also welcome!

Join us for a review of the new learning outcomes, a guide to the proposal process, and the opportunity to compose a first draft of your proposal and get some early feedback. Come on your own or bring colleagues who will help design or teach the course. And watch for announcements about upcoming course design and student engagement workshops, especially to support JS courses. **Register here**.

Workshop: Fundamentals of Effective Teaching

February 22 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Zoom | CPD Level 1 Required | Facilitator: Crystal Anderson

Do you want to be an effective teacher? Do you want to know how to measure your teaching effectiveness? In this workshop, you will learn about elements of effective teaching, including engagement, multiple modalities, inclusive teaching and assignment design. You will also learn how to set achievable teaching goals and measure them. This workshop is required for the Level 1 Teaching Essentials Credential for the Continuing Professional Development Program. R**egister here**.

Workshop: Providing Feedback to Support Student Revision

February 23 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Zoom | CPD Level 1 Assess| Facilitator: Tim Lilley

Want to develop a more sustainable plan for providing feedback? This workshop will help faculty increase student engagement with and the impact of their feedback. Participants will first learn more about how students revise before exploring some strategies for providing feedback to support more substantive student revision. The workshop will close by offering faculty some time to implement one of the strategies into their courses. **Register here**.

Webinar: Harmonize Demonstration

February 26th | 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Zoom | Digital Learning | Facilitator(s): Marcus Popetz (Harmonize) and Bryan Fede (GMU)

Harmonize is a suite of discussion and collaboration tools that integrate seamlessly with learning management systems to increase student-to-student and student-to-instructor interactions online. Whether it's a traditional face-to-face, hybrid, or fully online courses, institutions are finding it critical to create more engaging and collaborative learning environments to support student retention and success. With a focus on increasing student engagement and promoting inclusive learning, With easy-to-use content creation tools and a variety of ways for students and instructors to engage with one another — one-on-one and group chat, small-group or class-

level discussions, Q&A, and polls — Harmonize has built-in social engagement that increases student participation. **Register here**.

Mini-Course: Intermediate Artificial Intelligence Inspired Pedagogies

February 27 – April 23, 2024 (bi-weekly) | 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Zoom | Intermediate Artificial Intelligence Inspired Pedagogies | Facilitator: Laina Lockett

If you have completed the Introduction to Artificial Intelligence Inspired Pedagogies mini-course and are interested in exploring additional topics as you redesign your course, this is the session for you! In this second seminar you will continue to build on the material covered in the introductory course. Topics will include policies surrounding academic integrity, universal design, anti-racist teaching as they relate to access and use of artificial intelligence. Additionally, assessment, ways to use AI as a teaching tool and how to turn your course redesign into scholarship will be covered.
Please note that it is strongly recommended that participants successfully complete the introductory mini-course before enrolling in this program. **Register here**.

Workshop: Designing Writing-to-communicate Assignments

February 28 | 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Zoom | CPD Level 1 Design |Facilitator: Tim Lilley

Want to help students develop their ability to communicate key information to a target audience? This workshop identifies principles of meaningful and effective writing assignment design, includes discussion of sample assignments, and provides opportunities for participants to implement assignment design strategies into their courses. **Register here**.

Workshop: Fostering Engagement and Belonging with Inclusive Classroom Techniques

March 12 | 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | via Zoom | | CPD Level 1 Engage| Facilitator: Rachel Yoho

*Formerly known as Anti-Racism and Inclusive Teaching: An Introduction to Developing More Inclusive Educational Spaces

Are you ready to integrate inclusive teaching throughout your instructional spaces? Would you like to explore techniques and build tangible plans for your classes? This is where that journey begins. In this workshop, we will explore some of the definitions and terms often found in conversations about creating more inclusive classrooms. We will work together to advance our individual abilities in broadly inclusive teaching and learning to support all students. At the end of the workshop, we will have developed familiarity with concepts and terminology, explored deliberately inclusive classroom activities, and set one or two manageable goals for our classes. **Register here**.

Writing Across the Curriculum

Faculty Writing Sprints!

MS Teams | Every Friday 9:00-11:00am

Hopefully, everyone is working toward the final stages of your personal summer projects. (How is it August already?) But if you need a boost to get you closer to (or across!) the finish line, then join us online this Friday for encouragement and accountability.

Each Friday morning from 9-11 a.m. the Faculty Writing Community will host both a general Summer Sprint, a bonus extension of the Friday sprints we've hosted during the academic year, and a Women's Accountability Group.

Each meeting is part of the larger Faculty Writing Community Team linked here, and these programs are sponsored by Mason's Faculty Affairs and Development, Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning, and Writing Across the Curriculum.

To participate in the sprints, register here for updates and reminders, then simply connect to our Faculty Writers Community workspace in MS Teams (make sure to sign in with your Mason credentials) and look for the meeting in the General channel.

Questions? Visit our website or email us at wac@gmu.edu.

Workshop: Writing to Learn: Informal, Exploratory Writing

This workshop will help faculty implement both low and high stakes writing assignments into the curriculum of content-intensive courses. Faculty will learn tools and strategies for designing student writing. Emphasis will be placed on assignments that use writing as a tool for thinking and learning.

Days and times: **Wednesday February 9th, 12:00-1:00pm** **Register here**

Workshop: Providing Feedback to Support Student Revision
(via Zoom): Friday February 23rd, 12:00-1:00pm

Want to develop a more sustainable plan for providing feedback? This workshop will help faculty increase student engagement with and the impact of their feedback. Participants will first learn more about how students revise before exploring some strategies for providing feedback to support more substantive student revision. The workshop will close by offering faculty some time to implement one of the strategies into their courses. **Register here**

From Our Partners

Office of Faculty Affairs & Development

Participate in the Faculty Success Workshop Series
Zoom workshop: Thursday, February 15 from 1:30-3:00pm.

The Faculty Success Workshop Series is designed to address key issues central to faculty development and success. This yearlong series is a collaboration between Faculty Affairs and Research Development Service. The next workshop in the series is called Writing Workshop for

Teaching and Mentoring Statements. The workshop focuses on how to convey the impact and effectiveness of your teaching and mentoring for renewal, tenure, and/or promotion. This Zoom workshop is on Thursday, February 15 from 1:30-3:00pm. **Registration is required**.

Opportunity to Join an Affinity Group

As part of Mason's commitment to inclusive excellence, the Office of Faculty Affairs and Development supports several affinity groups. These groups provide our diverse faculty, doctoral students, and staff with a sense of community, inclusion, and belonging. The affinity groups are open to all faculty (tenured, tenure-track, term, adjunct, administrative, and professional), doctoral students, and staff. **Learn more about Affinity Groups here**.

AAPI—Asian, Asian American, Pacific Islander Faculty
February 8, 12 noon (virtual)

BLIM—Black, Latine, Indigenous, Multiracial Faculty
March 14, 12 noon (virtual): Critical Issues Impacting BLIM Faculty

SPARK—Scholars Promoting Access, Representation, and Knowledge
Monday 02/19: Words of Wisdom: Diverse Faculty Share Hidden Curriculum Tips 3-4:30 pm (Virtual)

Juntos—Mason Hispanic/Latine Alliance
April 11, 11 30 to 1 p.m. (In person), Mertin Hall 1201. This meeting is a celebration of Pan American Day. It will feature a speaker, opportunities to engage with colleagues and all attendees are encouraged to bring a dish from their country (potluck style).

Disability & Neurodivergence Alliance (DNA)
February 28, 12 noon (virtual)

To attend any of these sessions, please contact Ms. Amy Ayres or Dr. Millie Rivera and we will send you the links for the meetings and add you to the listserv (if you so desire).

Receive Faculty Writing Support with Faculty Writing Sprints

Every Friday morning of the semester (9:00am-11:00am), you can join colleagues from across campus to make progress on your projects and build some community around your writing.

You can join the sprints for one week, for several weeks, or for the entire semester to set the pace for a productive academic year. All faculty, at all levels, with any kind of writing projects, are invited.

Please email **facaffs@gmu.edu** if you are interested in participating.

SPARK (Scholars Promoting Access, Representation, and Knowledge)

SPARK provides a welcoming and safe space for students who don't always feel reflected or supported on campus or have faced or experienced social, economic, and historical challenges. The mission of the group is to bring doctoral and MFA students together and promote a sense of

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Fall 2023 Meetings
- **September 13 at 3 p.m.** Zoom Hearth Gathering: Building Community Amongst Emerging Scholars
- **October 13 at 3 p.m.** Ascending Voices: A Conversation Between Diverse Faculty and Emerging Scholars
- **November 13 at 3 p.m.** Celebrating Diverse Identities: Emerging Scholars sharing their experiences at Mason

Please visit https://provost.gmu.edu/inclusive-excellence/affinity-groups for more information. Contact Ms. Amy Ayres or Dr. Millie Rivera for the meetings' links or to be added to the SPARK listserv.

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OSCAR

Undergraduate Research Scholars Program

URSP supports undergraduate students collaborating on a research, creative, or scholarly project with a faculty mentor. Applications for Summer are due March 1. For more information **visit the OSCAR website**.

OSCAR Excellence Awards

Have you worked with an outstanding faculty or graduate student mentoring student project? Have you mentored an outstanding undergraduate student? Please nominate them for the OSCAR Excellence Awards. The OSCAR Excellence Awards highlight student, faculty, and graduate student excellence in undergraduate research and creative activities. Nomination deadline is March 1. For more information and to see past winners, go the **Excellence Awards page on the OSCAR website**.

Undergraduate Student Travel Fund

The Undergraduate Student Travel Fund (USTF) supports research and scholarly related travel for undergraduates who are presenting their projects via poster, talk, screening, round table, performance, etc. USTF can support costs associated with presentations at virtual conferences. Students must apply 30 days before the start of the event. Learn more here.

Research Assistant Positions

OSCAR is expanding opportunities for students to learn research, creative, or scholarly methods in their field and giving faculty free support on their projects at the same time. **Learn how you can hire a research assistant.**

CECiL

CECIL
Community Engagement & Civic Learning

collaboratory®
Track·Report·Connect·Plan

Launch of a university-wide tracking database

The Office of Community Engagement and Civic Learning (cecil.gmu.edu) is excited to announce the upcoming launch of a university-wide tracking database that will provide a portrait of George Mason's footprint in the community.

With this new tool, faculty and staff will be able to share the details of their community engagement and public service activities, highlight their community-engaged teaching and research, effectively share research and services with potential donors, funders, and partners, and explore what others units and centers are doing across campus. We anticipate this tool to help leverage relationships with community partners that are already established on campus to assist with coordination, communication, and building trust with community. Collaboratory allows us to take a systematic approach to highlighting academic and co-curricular service with community organizations and support the institutional mission of inclusive excellence. To find more information about Collaboratory, please visit https://cecollaboratory.com/. If you are interested in being part of the pilot and including your community engagement and public service projects in the database, please contact Shanelle Highsmith, Program Manager for Outreach and Partnerships, at shighsm2@gmu.edu.

Share something for next month's newsletter

Add someone to our mailing list