

**2009-2010 “SUSTAINABILITY IN THE CLASSROOM”  
FACULTY LEARNING COMMUNITY  
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS  
DUE BY EMAIL: THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 5:00 PM**

One of Cal Poly Pomona’s core values is “environmental sustainability.” The goal of the 2009 Sustainability in the Classroom Faculty Learning Community is to give faculty time and resources to consider how sustainability can be explicitly addressed in courses or curricula. This FLC is intended to extend Cal Poly Pomona’s expression of the core value of sustainability by engaging faculty members who have not yet had the opportunity to think through issues of sustainability in their courses or curricula.

This FLC will provide resources for up to 8 faculty from various disciplines to explore the concepts of sustainability and consider ways to incorporate these concepts into classes and curricula. Through workshops, meetings, and individual work, Sustainability FLC members will identify specific actions that they can take through the design of courses and curricula, to contribute the Cal Poly Pomona core value of sustainability. This FLC is supported by the Office of the Provost and by the Cal Poly Pomona Climate Commitment Task Force. We would like to extend special thanks to these entities for their encouragement and support for this FLC.

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## **WHO SHOULD APPLY?**

This FLC is for faculty members from any discipline who are interested in sustainability and would like to incorporate the concepts into their courses or their departmental curricula, but who have not yet been able to consider the question deeply. We are looking for a diverse group of people from different disciplines, at different stages of the faculty career, with different perspectives and experiences. This FLC is not intended for faculty members who are already deeply engaged in sustainability issues, since the purpose of the FLC is to extend Cal Poly Pomona’s expression of the core value of sustainability. Faculty members who are already deeply engaged in sustainability issues are welcome to apply and if they are selected will be valued resources; however, these faculty members should understand that selection preference will go to faculty members who are not yet deeply engaged in sustainability issues.

Tenure-track probationary faculty, tenured faculty, and lecturers on annual contracts who are teaching at least six courses during the 2009-2010 academic year are eligible to apply. Faculty members in administrative positions are eligible to apply as long as their proposals deal with courses or curricular issues. Faculty members who are retired (including FERP faculty) are not eligible to apply.

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## REQUIREMENTS

- Participate in four Fall 2009 FLC meetings, to be arranged with reference to official Cal Poly Pomona responsibilities, two hours each plus time for a meal. The first of these meetings will introduce the “Significant Learning Experiences” model of course design (Fink, 2004)<sup>1</sup>.
- Participate in three Winter 2010 FLC meetings, to be arranged with reference to official Cal Poly Pomona responsibilities, two hours each plus time for a meal.
- Participate in other group activities as possible (the group will decide on these).
- Share findings at appropriate campus venues such as a department or college meeting, the Provost’s Symposia on faculty work, or Stories of Successful Learning.
- Provide a “deliverable” such as a revised course syllabus, curriculum draft, or product for scholarly teaching.
- Provide a reflective statement at the end of the FLC (guide questions to be provided).

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## BENEFITS

Tangible benefits: Each FLC member will receive \$500 for travel or other professional development expenses related to sustainability in the curriculum. The FLC as a group will receive at least \$500 to spend as the group agrees – typical expenditures might include a group book, inviting a speaker, taking a group trip, or attending a local conference.

Intangible benefits: Priceless! The real benefit of a faculty learning community is the opportunity to think deeply about compelling issues, in the company of other faculty who challenge and support one another in creating substantive work.

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## SELECTION PROCESS:

At least two members of the Faculty Center Advisory Council (FDAC) will read all applications and make recommendations for selection. The final selection will include considerations of diversity. It is important for the Sustainability FLC to include a wide range of ideas and participation from many different areas.

The FDAC will consider the following criteria:

- Potential for the participant to engage fully in the learning community, as evidenced by responsiveness to application.
- Potential for participation to yield usable ideas, products, or activities to contribute to the campus value of sustainability.

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<sup>1</sup> Fink, L.D. 2004. Creating significant learning experiences. Jossey-Bass, Inc. San Francisco, CA.

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## INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLY:

Due Date: Thursday, June 18, 2009, 5:00 pm, via email.

Please email your application, preferably from your Cal Poly Pomona email address, as an attached pdf to Faculty Center Program Coordinator Dr. Victoria Bhavsar, [vbhavsar@csupomona.edu](mailto:vbhavsar@csupomona.edu). Please include an electronic signature (typed name) on the commitment statement page. The application questions follow this page.

Please note: Your department chair must also “sign off” on your application. The last page of this application has a form for him or her to do so. Your chair may email the electronically signed (typed name) approval form from his or her own Cal Poly Pomona email address, to Dr. Victoria Bhavsar, [vbhavsar@csupomona.edu](mailto:vbhavsar@csupomona.edu).

## APPLICATION FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY IN THE CLASSROOM FLC

Name:

Academic Rank:

Years at Cal Poly Pomona:

Department:

College/School:

Telephone:

Email:

1. Please tell us about your interest in sustainability – when did you become interested, what activities are you currently involved in (if any) that contribute to sustainability on campus or in your community, what is your “vision” of sustainability on campus?
2. Please describe what project you might be interested in doing, to incorporate sustainability into your courses or your other faculty work. (We understand that this is an initial idea and that your plans may well change.) If you are new to sustainability concepts or cannot see how sustainability might fit in with your courses, please describe what you might like to do to learn about the issues or generate ideas.
3. Tell us about your area of expertise and what strengths or resources you will be able to bring to the learning community as a member.
4. Provide an electronic signature on the attached Commitment Form, or email to similar commitment statement to [vbhavsar@csupomona.edu](mailto:vbhavsar@csupomona.edu).
5. Finally, please have your Department Chair fill out the attached Support Form or email a similar support statement to [vbhavsar@csupomona.edu](mailto:vbhavsar@csupomona.edu).

### **For questions:**

Please contact Dr. Victoria Bhavsar, Faculty Center program coordinator (x4640, [vbhavsar@csupomona.edu](mailto:vbhavsar@csupomona.edu)), or Dr. Peggy Perry, Faculty Center director (x2897, [psmclaughlin@csupomona.edu](mailto:psmclaughlin@csupomona.edu)).

## COMMITMENT STATEMENT

If I am selected as a member of the Investigating Teaching and Learning Fellowship, I agree to participate fully in the program's activities:

- Participate in four Fall 2009 FLC meetings, to be arranged with reference to official Cal Poly Pomona responsibilities, two hours each plus time for a meal.
- Participate in three Winter 2010 FLC meetings, to be arranged with reference to official Cal Poly Pomona responsibilities, two hours each plus time for a meal.
- Participate in other group activities as possible (the group will decide on these).
- Share findings at appropriate campus venues such as a department or college meeting, the Provost's Symposia on faculty work, or Stories of Successful Learning.
- Provide a "deliverable" such as a revised course syllabus, curriculum draft, or product for scholarly teaching.
- Provide a reflective statement at the end of the FLC (guide questions to be provided).

Electronic Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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DEPARTMENT CHAIR APPROVAL FORM

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_

To be completed and signed by the Department Chair:

- As chair, I support the faculty member named above to participate in the Sustainability Faculty Learning Community in Fall 2009-Winter 2010. I understand that this commitment will entail the faculty member completing the following requirements, and I will support the faculty member in doing so:
- Participate in four Fall 2009 FLC meetings, to be arranged with reference to official Cal Poly Pomona responsibilities, two hours each plus time for a meal.
  - Participate in three Winter 2010 FLC meetings, to be arranged with reference to official Cal Poly Pomona responsibilities, two hours each plus time for a meal.
  - Participate in other group activities as possible (the group will decide on these).
  - Share findings at appropriate campus venues such as a department or college meeting, the Provost's Symposia on faculty work, or Stories of Successful Learning.
  - Provide a "deliverable" such as a revised course syllabus, curriculum draft, or product for scholarly teaching.
  - Provide a reflective statement at the end of the FLC (guide questions to be provided).

Please contact Dr. Victoria Bhavsar, 869-4640, if you need more details.

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Department Chair's electronic signature

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Date