

WALTER & PAULINE ADAMS ACADEMY FOR INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & INNOVATION 2009-2010

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY



INTRODUCTION

The Walter and Pauline Adams Academy for Instructional Excellence and Innovation is a new initiative that will provide a cross-disciplinary cohort of instructors (fixed-term faculty, continuing appointment librarians, academic specialists, and other academic staff) with opportunities to further their development as excellent teachers whose instructional decisions are rooted in the robust research literature on effective teaching and learning. To this end, the Academy will provide members with venues to discuss scholarly works on teaching and learning, and to connect with colleagues across campus. This Academy is named in honor of former MSU President Walter Adams and Pauline Adams, his wife and MSU faculty emerita, who were committed to promoting instructional excellence throughout their careers. A maximum of fifteen Adams Academy members will be selected for the 2009-2010 cohort. Criteria for selection include evidence of the applicant's interest in and commitment to teaching and student learning, potential to be an excellent teacher, and willingness to advocate for good teaching among his/her peers.

ELIGIBILITY

The Academy is designed for full-time and part-time fixed-term faculty, continuing appointment librarians, academic specialists and other academic staff who will have instructional responsibilities as part of their appointments in 2009-2010. All applicants must be in at least the third year of their appointment or have worked for MSU for at least three continuous years and must plan to teach one or more credit-bearing courses during his/her participation in the Academy.

SUPERVISOR ENDORSEMENT

Applications to the Adams Academy must include an endorsement from the instructor's department chair(s) or school director(s). This one page letter of support should address the selection criteria which include: evidence of the applicant's interest in and commitment to teaching and student learning, potential to be an excellent teacher, and willingness to advocate for good teaching among his/her peers. The letter should also address the benefits of the instructor's participation in the Academy as an investment in the teaching mission of the unit. The chairperson's and/or director's signature on the application signifies that the applicant's year of work with the Adams Academy will advance the mission and goals of the unit. Please note that this program is designed to support instructors who pursue instructional excellence; it is not designed as a source for remediation.

ADDITIONAL LETTER OF SUPPORT

The additional letter of support may come from an MSU faculty member, student, administrator or academic staff member. This one page letter of support should address the selection criteria which include: evidence of the applicant's interest in and commitment to teaching and student learning, potential to be an excellent teacher, and willingness to advocate for good teaching among his/her peers. Please note that this program is designed to support instructors who pursue instructional excellence; it is not designed as a source for remediation.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please submit a Personal Statement clarifying why you wish to participate in the Adams Academy at this time and how participation will benefit you and/or your unit. The Personal Statement should be no more than one page (approximately 250-300 words).

ADAMS ACADEMY MEMBERSHIP EXPECTATIONS

1. **Monthly discussions on scholarly teaching.** Adams Academy members will attend monthly facilitated cohort seminars (September-April) that explore teaching and learning topics to be decided by Adams Academy members. *The seminars will meet from 2:30 p.m-5:00 p.m. one Thursday a month.* Each seminar will have required and optional readings and preparatory activities with 3-5 hours of preparation per month.

Monthly meetings on Thursdays, 2:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sept.17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 18, Apr.22

Location: Room 10, Nisbet Building

2. **Participation in campus events on teaching and learning.** Adams Academy members will be expected to attend at least four Lilly Seminars, Spring Institute workshops, or other campus instructional development activities of their choice throughout the academic year. The goal is to expose Adams Academy members to topics and national speakers beyond what they can experience in the monthly meetings and to seed the seminar discussions with their insights on teaching and learning. Information on the Lilly Seminar series can be found at <http://fod.msu.edu/lillyseminar/about.asp>.

3. The cohort will discuss possible additional activities based on individual interest.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF ADAMS ACADEMY MEMBERS

1. The applicant must plan to teach at least one course or provide library instruction as a part of a course during his/her participation in the Adams Academy.
2. Quality of endorsement from unit supervisor and reference.
3. Evidence of interest in and commitment to improving student learning.
4. Evidence of the potential for instructional excellence.
5. Willingness to advocate for good teaching among his/her peers
6. Willingness to commit the time needed to benefit from Adams Academy membership and to participate in ALL monthly meetings plus the four additional workshops.

SELECTION OF ADAMS ACADEMY MEMBERS

Applications will be reviewed by F&OD instructional development staff and all applicants will be notified by May 6, 2009. Applicants are encouraged to hold the dates identified for monthly meetings.

REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS

Two (2) collated copies of the following supporting materials are required. Please do not put these materials in notebooks or binders. **Arrange the materials in the order listed below.**

1. Completed application sheet (pdf)
2. Two letters of support.
 - A. The primary letter of support **must be** from the applicant's lead chair, director, or dean.
 - B. The additional letter of support may come from an MSU faculty member, student, administrator or academic staff member.
3. A Personal Statement clarifying why you wish to participate in the Adams Academy at this time and how participation will benefit you and/or your unit. The Personal Statement should be no more than one page (approximately 250-300 words).
4. A current *curriculum vitae* (double sided is preferred).
5. A list of courses taught at MSU detailing size and type (graduate, undergraduate major, non-major) as well as annual course load and advising responsibilities.

6. Two to three of the applicant's most recent results of student evaluations of teaching (SIRS, SOCT, or other forms used by your college). You may submit the written comments from one class.

OPTIONAL MATERIALS

Other evidence of teaching interest and excellence may be submitted but is not required. Such material should be selective, not exhaustive, and should focus on relevant information that does not fit into categories of evidence provided under the preceding headings. Offprints and books should not be sent unless requested by the Selection Committee.

SUBMITTING APPLICATION MATERIALS

Applications without all the required supporting materials will not be considered.

Deliver application packets by **Friday, April 24, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. to:**

Cindi Young
Office of Faculty and Organizational Development
308 Hannah Administration Building, Campus

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ADAMS ACADEMY

If you have questions about the program or the application process, please contact Cindi Young, fodevent@msu.edu or (517) 355-7483.

This form is available at: <http://fod.msu.edu/adamsacademy/about.asp>

Applicant Name _____
 Academic Rank/Title _____
 Lead College _____
 Department(s) _____
 Campus Address _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____
 Course(s) you plan to teach in Fall 2009 or Spring 2010 _____

Lead Chair/Director/Supervisor of Unit (Letter of Support Attached)

Name of Lead Chair/Director/Supervisor	_____
Department/Unit	_____
E-mail	_____
I give my support for the applicant to participate in the Walter & Pauline Adams Academy for Instructional Excellence and Innovation for 2009-2010.	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	

Name of person writing additional letter of support.

fax: (517) 432-2069

Name _____
 Role/Title _____

All required supporting materials must accompany this application. **Thank you.**

Candidates must deliver application packets by Friday, April 24, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. to:

Cindi Young
 Office of Faculty and Organizational Development
 308 Administration Building, Campus
 email: fodevent@msu.edu
 phone: (517) 355-7483