January 3, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

The genesis of the Kapi'olani Research Scholars Project (KRSP) in Fall 2017 was in response to questions of assessment and how best the College could better foster and nurture the good work that is being done by faculty and staff either individually or in small, collegial groups.

We based KRSP on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) work of Ernest Boyer, which is also used at many institutions, including the Carnegie Academy, Central Florida University, and Michigan State University. SoTL is, in fact, the basis for our own strategy: Collaborative Circles for Creative Change (C4wards). We really are scholar practitioners, and I see my role as providing you with some resources and space to take our work to the next level.

The first cohort of KRSP participants has successfully completed their projects. We are ready to launch KRSP II.

KRSP Cohort II
I will be making available up to 15 stipends of $1,000 each to instructional, counseling, and academic support faculty and professional staff interested in completing a team-based action research study in an area of learning. In this way, participants will become research scholars in their areas of expertise. Cross-discipline, -department, or -unit teams are highly encouraged. We want to tap into your natural curiosity in a wide variety of areas such as classroom methods and techniques, out-of-class learning, the impact of curriculum redesign on student learning, etc. Research teams should include 3-5 members, with a project completion report to be submitted no later than September 30, 2020. The stipend is awarded to those research teams who obtain IRB approval for their approved project, complete their project, submit a written report, and present their findings at a campus symposium. For those faculty submitting self-assessment documents, this work will address the guiding questions on assessment provided by the Faculty Senate.

In addition to the stipends, participants will be supported to present their findings at an academic or professional conference. Staff from OFIE will be available to provide support for the methods for the study and analysis of the findings. Participants will earn special recognition through a medallion as a Research Scholar awarded by the College with a special letter of commendation from me for participation in the project. My goal is for participants to share their work widely with others.
I am truly excited about supporting a project that builds on the good work we are already doing, and gets us to examine our work from a framework of inquiry and innovation. If you are interested in participating in KRSP Cohort II, please complete the Request for Proposal, available at https://goo.gl/ZqedwQ, and share it with Tony Silva (silvaa@hawaii.edu).

I sincerely hope that you consider being part of this concept as we strive to improve the learning of our students and ourselves.

Best wishes on a successful research project,

Louise Pagotto