Community Engaged Scholarship -- Faculty Learning Community for AY 15-16
Led by Vivienne Bennett, Faculty Fellow for Community Engaged Scholarship

**Want to deepen your work with a community partner?**

**or**

**Wish you could start doing work with a community partner?**

If so...

**Apply to the Community Engaged Scholarship Faculty Learning Community!**
**Open to All Faculty – No Prior Experience Necessary**

**For Priority Consideration:** Applications are due on May 21st; however, in order to ensure diversity of disciplines and rank/status in the FLC membership, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until September 4th.

---------------------------------

**Compensation**

Faculty who complete the CESFLC will receive $500 as a stipend or professional development funds upon completion of the FLC and their ‘How To…’ workshop plan.

Community partners will receive $250 after they have participated with their CSUSM faculty partner in the monthly partnership discussions (as part of the regular project work) and attended one CESFLC meeting during the year.

---------------------------------

**What is Community Engaged Scholarship?**

Community Engaged Scholarship (CES) is centered on a mutually-beneficial collaboration between the university and a community partner outside the academy. The purpose of the collaboration is to bring together the specialized knowledge of the university with the specialized knowledge of the community to generate new knowledge that is applied to solve critical issues of interest to both. CES meets the needs of the community partner as defined and expressed by the partner, with measurable outcomes. The collaborative work is characterized by robust participation by both the university and community partners and results are disseminated to all partners and beyond.

**Definition of Terms**

By **community** we mean an organization, entity, or simply people, outside of academia.

By **engaged** we mean a partnership between community members and the university that is marked by mutual respect, in which all partners are significantly and equitably involved in the partnership, community needs are the motivation for the partnership, and the goals and outcomes of the partnership are mutually beneficial.
By **scholarship** we mean a process of inquiry that applies a suitable methodology to answer a question driven by community needs and goals, and that contributes to a body of knowledge. The outcomes of CES include both traditional peer-reviewed products as well as items of use to the community partner that would not have been created without the scholar’s input.

---

The Community Engaged Scholarship Faculty Learning Community will bring together a group of diverse faculty from across campus as well as community partners to explore the process of Community Engaged Scholarship (CES) through readings, discussion, and applied field experience. The goal of this FLC is for faculty to deepen and/or extend their work with an existing community partner or to begin collaboration with a community partner. FLC Members will:

- explore best practices for Community Engaged Scholarship and will learn how to identify, develop, and/or deepen collaborations with community partners.
- be guided through sharing the knowledge they discover with their community partners.
- develop a one-hour ‘How To’ workshop to present in AY 2016-17 as part of a yearlong series of monthly workshops on ‘How To Do Community Engaged Scholarship.’
- present their work at the Fall 2016 Celebration of Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity.
- present their work at the Faculty Center Teaching Expo in the Spring 2016 semester.

As participants in this FLC:

- If you already have a community partner, you will be expected to invite your partner to be part of the FLC with you (this will be worked out so as not to inconvenience community partners and a stipend of $250 will be provided to them), and to continue your work with this partner throughout AY 15-16.
- If you do not have a community partner, you will be expected (and supported) to explore possibilities with potential community partners, set up a new CES project by the end of Fall 2015, and carry out project work collaboratively in spring 2016.
- Faculty FLC members will attend monthly 2-hour meetings on campus at a regular time agreed upon by all members of the FLC. Community partners are expected to attend a minimum of one FLC meeting during the year (we may have meetings with partners off campus).
- Faculty FLC members will attend a one-day retreat during the winter break scheduled on a date agreeable to all.
- Faculty FLC members will be expected to complete very light reading assignments prior to each meeting.
- Faculty FLC members will initiate discussion with their community partners on at least some of the topics covered in each meeting of the FLC; discussions guides will be developed by the group together.
- Faculty FLC members will come to meetings prepared to talk about their projects and the collaboration with their community partner or prepared to talk about progress in developing a new project if starting from the beginning.
- Faculty FLC members will select a workshop topic from a list that we will create together and develop a ‘How To Do Community Engaged Scholarship’ workshop on that topic by the end of the Spring 2016 semester.
• Faculty FLC members will run the workshop prepared in Spring 2016 sometime during the ensuring academic year, AY 2016-17 as part of a yearlong series of workshops on how to do Community Engaged Scholarship.
• Faculty FLC members will present their project at CSUSM’s Annual Celebration of Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity in Fall 2016. Community partners will participate as feasible.
• Faculty FLC members will present the outcomes of their work at the Faculty Center annual Teaching Expo in the spring semester of 2016

Faculty members and community partners who participate in this FLC can expect to:
• deepen their understanding of Community Engaged Scholarship
• increase and/or deepen their community-based partnerships;
• identify their strengths and/or weaknesses as practitioners of CES;
• enhance their understanding of their assumptions that shape their practice of CES;
• come to practice CES with greater confidence;
• share their expertise regarding CES with other CSUSM faculty members;
• understand the role of community as central and core to the practice of CES;
• learn more about community issues, resources, and needs.

How To Apply – Applications due on May 21st; however, in order to ensure diversity of disciplines and rank/status in the FLC membership, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until September 4th.

Faculty who already have a community partner/project will write an essay addressing the following (max 2 pages):
• Your name, faculty rank, department(s), college, and email address.
• Briefly describe your existing partnership including information on the partner, the goals of the project, its timeline, and its achievements to date (if any).
• Briefly describe how your project and partnership fit the definition of CES on page 1.
• Explain why you want to join this FLC and what you would like to learn more about in terms of CES.
• Briefly describe what you and your community partner see as goals for your collaborative work next year as FLC members.
• Attach a brief letter from your community partner indicating their awareness of this FLC and willingness to participate as outlined above. This letter does not count as part of the 2-page maximum for your application essay.

Faculty who do not have a community partner/project and will develop the partnership/project during this FLC will write an essay addressing the following (max 2 pages):
• Your name, faculty rank, department(s), college, and email address.
• Explain why you want to begin a new community engaged scholarship (CES) project, why you want to join this FLC, and what you would like to learn more about in terms of CES.
• Briefly describe the project you would like to explore at the start of the FLC, including its goals and how it could become a reciprocal and collaborative community partnership. (We understand that the project may morph in the course of exploring partnerships in Fall 2015. Just do your best.)
• Provide an initial list of 2-3 community members or organizations you would begin to talk to in Fall 2015 to explore a potential partnership, and briefly explain why they may be suitable partners.

Faculty from all Colleges/Library interested in Community Engaged Scholarship are encouraged to apply to participate in this FLC.

How Will Faculty Be Selected?
Faculty will be selected based on these criteria:
• Application clearly articulates interest in Community Engaged Scholarship.
• Application responds to all items listed in the ‘How to Apply’ instructions.
• Application demonstrates specificity in terms of the existing community engaged project and the community partner OR in terms of the proposed project.
• Diverse representation within FLC (ideally, we would like to include different ranks and disciplines)
• A maximum of 8 faculty will be selected to participate.
  o Ideally, half the participants will be faculty with an existing community partner and project, and half will be faculty who want to begin a new community engaged partnership in Fall 2015.

For Priority Consideration: Applications are due on May 21st; however, in order to ensure diversity of disciplines and rank/status in the FLC membership, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until September 4th. Click here for the online application.

Those chosen to participate will be notified by end of September 2015.

Questions?
Contact Vivienne Bennett, Faculty Lead for this Faculty Learning Community, at vbennett@csusm.edu