

*C***HANCELLOR**
FACULTY FELLOWS

ANNUAL REPORT – 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

CHANCELLOR'S FACULTY FELLOWS

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INTRODUCTION

Vanderbilt University is committed to supporting and retaining outstanding faculty who have recently received tenure. The granting of tenure indicates the university's long term commitment to these individuals. In many ways, these scholars represent the future of our institution. They offer energy and innovation for new basic discoveries, path breaking scholarship, and creative expression. As these faculty assume more senior status, it is important that Vanderbilt renew its commitment to them so as to ensure continued success in their careers that will lead to even greater national and international visibility. By investing in a select group of younger scholars from across the campus, we will not only advance their careers at a critical time, but we will also provide a forum for them to share their academic interests with others on campus that build and enrich our One Vanderbilt community.



CHANCELLOR FACULTY FELLOWS PROGRAM

By the Numbers

28 Chancellor Faculty Fellows

14 selected in Inaugural cohort of 2014-15

14 selected in 2nd cohort of 2015-16

\$1.1 million awarded to the 28 fellows

\$40,000 per fellow, annually for two years

THE INAUGURAL COHORT

[List of Fellows](#)

Launched with a kick-off dinner hosted by the Provost in May 2015, the fellows continued to gather during the 2015-2016 academic year with goals of sharing experiences, learning about each other, and forging future interactions. Gatherings included:

- **Money Matters** - Ideas for funds use
- **Using your Research in Teaching** - Center for Teaching (teaching focus)
- **Dinner with the Board of Trust** (professional development)
- **Roundtable with the Vice Chancellors** (leadership networking/professional development)

The group also gathered for a lunch initiated by fellow Andrea Page-McCaw to discuss “maintaining our motivation and kindling it in our students.”



Feedback from the fellows revealed that the program has been successful at achieving the program's core goal – helping newly tenured faculty maintain and gain momentum in their careers. Some of the funds helped faculty start new projects or venture into areas they otherwise would not have been able to explore. Some faculty used the funds to do a course buy-out and finish a second or third book that otherwise would have progressed much slower. Other highlights include:

- Sean Seymore hosted a research conference entitled “The Disclosure Function of the Patent System.” He also organized the first Annual Patent Scholars Roundtable. He is working on patent research for a future book regarding patents.
- Kristopher Preacher funded three visiting scholars to give presentations within his department, provided summer support for a graduate student, and traveled for research-related conferences.
- Scott Guelcher made plans to buy a bioreactor with his funds. This piece of equipment will enable him to pursue new research on tissue-engineered microenvironments for cancer.
- Muktar Aliyu used his funds to present his research work at the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) in Boston and also helped to bridge research costs for his R101 study ending later this year.
- Sharon Weiss used funds for a new project related to energy storage and traveled with her graduate students to a premier conference in Spain (where they were awarded Best Talk of the Day awards and one Best Poster of the Day award).
- Bunmi Olatunji used funds to initiate a neuroimaging study examining the specificity of the brain basis of disgust learning and extinction in obsessive-compulsive disorder.

THE 2016 COHORT

[List of Fellows](#)

Programming for the second cohort was launched in May 2016 with a dinner hosted by the Provost. The programming for both cohorts will be modified in its second year to keep the initiative renewed and engaging in response to feedback from the first-year fellows. The goal is to make sure the cohorts are getting the most out of the program while ensuring that we are using their time in effective ways.

In efforts to elevate prestige and provide platforms to showcase the fellows' work, the following promotional opportunities will be pursued in year two:

- A dedicated CFF website profile for each fellow that showcases how they are taking advantage of the program and the funds
- Fellow “Spotlight” mini-feature stories to run in MyVU, the Open Dore, school newsletters and other outlets



WHAT'S NEXT

- Fellows will meet late October/early November to kick-off programming for the 2016-17 AY
- 2016-17 Programming was revised and the gatherings will focus on the following:
 - Tenure and Promotion Process
 - Funding and Lessons Learned
 - Student Engagement
 - Leadership Interaction: Strategic Plan Discussion
- 2017 CFF Cohort nomination deadline: October 31st, 2016
- TIPS committee will review the nominations and recipients will be notified early Spring semester

