

## MILKEN INSTITUTE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY:

#### Call for Applications: GWSPH Master Teacher Academy Fellows Program

This is a call for applications to become a part of the fourth cohort of GWSPH Master Teaching Academy Fellows. All GWSPH full-time Faculty with an interest in furthering their pedagogical skills or expertise in one or more specific areas may apply. This one-year fellowship is intended to support an innovative teaching-related project of the fellow's choosing and should be designed to improve, modernize, and/or expand teaching practices or capabilities in the School of Public Health. Fellows will receive mentorship provided by members of the GWSPH Master Teacher Academy and will be provided with financial support for project-related costs. These fellowships are intended to challenge our faculty to identify specific issues that they have encountered in the teaching and learning process. Over the course of the fellowship, faculty will develop skills and innovate solutions aimed at solving those issues and disseminate lessons learned to GWSPH colleagues.

### Section I. Fellowship Opportunity Description

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this one-year fellowship is to support new, innovative and game-changing teaching projects or growth opportunities designed to solve specific pedagogical issues that the fellow has observed in their own course(s). There is inherent flexibility in this fellowship, so that the faculty member can utilize both mentorship and funding to improve their pedagogical expertise in a way that is most meaningful to them. This means that the project need not necessarily follow an experimental design; however, it is important that all projects have articulated ways of assessing outcomes.

For instance:

- the fellow may develop skills and methods that can be implemented in their course(s) to address a specific pedagogical issue
- the fellow may pursue specific training opportunities that can advance their pedagogical skills
- the fellow may engage in teaching improvement practices such as course redesign, observation of and/or peer review of teaching

Mentor/Fellow teams should plan to meet once-per-month during the one-year fellowship period and at its conclusion; teams will present their project and the results of its implementation at an annual school-wide event dedicated to teaching excellence within GWSPH.

We provide three example projects below to stimulate potential applicants' thinking about their own proposals. These examples are by no means exhaustive, nor are they meant to stifle other interesting or important ideas.

#### **Examples of Potential Projects**

##### **I. Using Complex Case Studies to Develop Critical Thinking Skills**

· **Problem:** Students require more exposure to the complex inter-related factors and skills associated with developing a public health communications intervention.

· **Proposed project:** The instructor will develop authentic case scenarios to provide students with an opportunity to practice: communication surveillance methods to track and identify communication inequalities and examine modes of communication used by individuals, communities, and population subgroups; monitor public opinion, sentiment, social norms, and reported behaviors related to cancer control; evaluate media effects on individual or population health.

##### **II. Innovative Technology in the Classroom:**

- **Problem:** Students may be reticent to talk in large courses.
- **Proposed project:** Develop novel designs to test participative communication strategies and examine the effectiveness of these strategies in distinct settings.

### **III. Using Simulation to Provide Students with Exposure to Cross-Functional Public Health Teams Working in Remote Settings.**

- **Problem:** Students do not (usually) have an opportunity to be embedded with and view public health teams in action, especially in cases where extensive travel and potential security issues may be involved.
- **Proposed solution:** The mentor/fellow team will explore various available technologies (online meeting platforms, 360 video, virtual reality, etc) and select one of those technologies to create a meaningful simulation for students that provides them with an opportunity to see cross-functional teams in action in global health settings.

## Section II. Award Information

### **Funding Instrument**

Internal GWSPH grant.

### **Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards**

The number of awards is contingent upon appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications to a maximum of two Fellowships concurrently.

### **Award Budget**

Application budgets are capped at \$2,000, and should include a detailed budget for any requested funds (unfunded projects are acceptable as well!) Proposed budgets should reflect the needs of the proposed project and may include items such as: technology purchases, software, fees for related conferences/workshop/professional development, equipment, books or online publications, related travel to observe a particular technique/implementation firsthand at another institution, etc. The budget may not be used to cover faculty salary or technology (e.g., laptop computer purchase) that is typically provided by GWSPH for normal job functions.

### **Award Project Period**

The maximum project period is 1 approximately one academic year (two full semesters) of time, from start to finish.

## Section III. Eligibility and Application Process

### **Eligibility**

All Regular full-time faculty in the Milken Institute School of Public Health may apply; if the fellowship application is in relation to a specific course, this should be one in which the applicant serves as course director or primary instructor.

### **Application Process**

To be considered for this fellowship, faculty must complete the required application form that includes demographic questions, and the following short-answer items:

- **Teaching and Learning Challenge to be Addressed:** Clearly outline the teaching and learning challenge that will be addressed through this fellowship.
- **Research Question(s) or Project Aim:** Indicate the research question(s) or aim that will be investigated/pursued during the course of the fellowship. These questions should have practical relevance, be action oriented and tie directly back to the teaching and learning process in the instructor's own classroom.
- **Methods for Proposed Project:** Describe the methods by which this question will potentially be investigated. This includes sources of professional development (subscriptions, conference attendance, continuing ed opportunities, etc.), research on equipment or technologies and what the fellow expects to gain from those resources.
- **Course Setting for Project:** Indicate the specific course(s) that this project will be implemented in. All fellowship projects should have direct relevance to one or more GWSPH courses that the fellow is associated with.
- **Evaluation:** Describe the proposed methods for evaluation of the project.
- **Envisioned role of mentoring team:** Discuss the qualifications and/or skills a mentor would need to have to support this project; discuss potential roles and inputs of mentoring team that would help the project succeed.
- **Budget:** Outline a basic line item budget for the one-year fellowship's activities, up to a total of \$2000.00. Where appropriate, include funding for the applicant's mentoring team to participate in fellowship activities such as events, conferences or individual subscription software licenses.

### **Application Review Process**

All applications will be reviewed by an internal committee consisting of the GWSPH Academy of Master Teachers and GWSPH Dean's Office leadership; applicants should expect to receive a response within 90 days of application submission.

Applications for this cohort will be accepted February 10, 2025 – May 15, 2025; application acceptance/review will resume with beginning of the Fall 2025 semester.