Purpose

The Health Equity Faculty Champions Program is designed to build Purdue’s workforce capacity to help address disparities in health equity and help position Purdue as a collaborative, transformational and interdisciplinary leader in Health Equity across the University, Indiana and beyond.

Program Description

The HEI ‘Faculty Champions’ will lead/co-lead one of the three focus areas across the Purdue campus(s). They will work with the Executive Director and Senior Director of Health Equity to shape the HEI efforts in the identified focus areas. The champions will ensure work group members are engaged through collaboration, learning, research, and a peer learning process. They will participate in conference calls, meetings and provide guidance on HEI. Each ‘Faculty Champion’ will be asked for a 1-year commitment.

The Focus Areas

1. Food for Health: Nutrition, Obesity, Food Insecurity, Supply Chain
2. Infectious Diseases: Covid, HIV, and zoonotic diseases
3. Mental Health and Substance Misuse

Expectations

- Work with Executive Director and Senior Director of HEI to shape HEI across Purdue campus(s). This includes people, projects, and research.
- Lead work group(s) to increase collaboration and awareness of health equity.
- Attend a convening of their focus area in August to be familiarized with the group, work, and the 2022 plan.
- Provide input on communication infrastructure that will foster connection and collaboration.
- Research and recommend specific initiatives in their focus area in which Purdue can make a unique and significant impact. Recommendations will be presented to the HEI Strategic Leadership in October.
- Recommend two to three key metrics to assess progress in their focus area.

The Traits of a Faculty Champions

- A solid knowledge base in the focus area
- Passion for making a tangible impact in health equity
- Commitment to work collaboratively across schools and disciplines
- Ability to develop effective working relationships
- Ability to envision and plan initiatives

Application Process

Faculty Champions candidates are required to submit a written application for the program. The application must include the following components:

1. A brief statement (1-2 pages) of interest in the Faculty Champion program and how the work they are doing will contribute to the HEI initiative across Purdue.
2. A brief description of the Faculty member’s engagement including community partners, their role(s), scholarly outputs, proposed assessments, and anticipated impact.
3. Examples of how their research (within any of the three focus areas) has impacted Health Equity, if possible;
4. A statement of support from the department head and dean (email is sufficient; no formal letter required).

Applications must be submitted to Aubrey Adams (adams339@purdue.edu) no later than the end of the business day on July 20th, 2022. Final decisions will be made and communicated to the applicants by the end of the business day on August 5th, 2022, with an anticipated Faculty champion kick-off meeting hosted the week of August 15th.

Champions will receive a stipend at beginning of their term and completion to support their participation. Other potential recognition is listed below.

- Visibility and working with senior campus leaders
- Ability to shape a plan that supports their work and passions
- Ability to be a part of something bigger and with a meaningful impact
- Visibility in the 2022 Annual report and 2023 Summit

For more information about the program, please visit: Health Equity Initiatives - Office of the Provost - Purdue University