ADVANCE Professional Track Faculty (APTF) Peer Network
2018-2019

ADVANCING Professional Track Faculty is a year-long peer network for professional track faculty, designed to provide opportunities for professional growth. This peer network aims to expand on-campus professional networks and community; offer knowledge, concrete examples and models; and enhance the sense of agency faculty feel toward their work and career advancement at the University of Maryland. ADVANCING Professional Track Faculty is now inviting applicants for its 5th year of the program in 2018-2019.

Workshop Goals include:
- Increase knowledge regarding new policies governing professional track faculty advancement
- Enhance agency in career advancement
- Expand participants’ on-campus peer networks

Who is eligible?
All full-time professional track faculty members.

What is expected of participants?
Participants are asked to commit to attend at least 8 of the 9 scheduled seminars, and do short readings or activities assigned for the session. Participants may also be asked to help facilitate sessions where they have special expertise to share.

Advancing Professional Track Faculty will be facilitated by Dr. Katerina (Kaci) Thompson, Instructor of Biological Sciences, and Assistant Dean for Science Education Initiatives in the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences. Her research initially focused on animal physiology and behavior. More recently she has become engaged in science education research, especially institutional structures and practices that promote excellence in teaching and enhance student academic success.
Examples of Workshop Sessions Include:

- Introductions and Networking
- Best-Kept Secrets: Opportunities/ Resources for PTK Faculty on Campus
- PTK at UMD: Policies and Opportunities
- Developing Mentoring Networks
- The Art of Negotiation
- Saying Yes and No Strategically/ Gracious Self-Promotion
- Strategies to Address Rankism and Enhance Inclusive Academic Environments for PTK Faculty
- Assuming Leadership Positions: When, Why, and Why Not
- Developing Career Action Plans

Comments from Participants:

“Thank you so much for the information and the opportunity. This is a wonderful and worthwhile program.”

“I learned so much and enjoyed meeting my colleagues. The information was really useful.”

“APTF opened up campus resources, opportunities, and reinforced positive professional habits.”

“Good discussions on sensitive topics that aren’t frequently discussed.”

“[The program] increased awareness about things that can be done to improve/advance career, value of making intentional decisions and planning ahead.”

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