UNL STEM Writing Retreat – Save the Date!

Do you need a large chunk of uninterrupted time to finish a paper or a proposal? Find the time and the space at ADVANCE-Nebraska’s 4th annual week-long Writing Retreat, May 14 – 18th. This year the retreat will be held on East Campus at the Law College, with wireless access, unstructured writing time, breakfasts, lunches, and snacks. Office of Research and Economic Development will host a workshop to help demystify the art of writing effective proposals, and professional writing coaches will be on-hand this year for workshops and one-on-one help. The rest of the week is writing time, away from the distractions of your office. Past participants have finished up to three papers apiece!

Find applications at ADVANCE-Nebraska and send to advance2@unl.edu. Deadline to apply is March 31 with a $200 registration fee. As an additional bonus, all UNL faculty who attend the May writing retreat will have the $200 registration fee waived. So Apply Now!

Big Ten STEM Writing Retreat coming to UNL

In addition to the UNL STEM Writing Retreat, UNL has received a grant from the Elsevier Foundation to host a Big Ten STEM Writing Retreat on City Campus from June 17 – 22. This writing retreat will focus on bringing collaborators from the Big Ten together to provide large blocks of unstructured writing time, professional writing coaches, peer feedback and social networking opportunities, and opportunities to write with a collaborator face-to-face. All travel, room and board, and food is included. Kids are invited to attend as well. A Special themed day camp for school and pre-school age kids will be provided at the Lincoln’s Children’s Museum.

Deadline to apply is March 31 with a $200 registration fee. As an additional bonus, all UNL faculty who attend the May writing retreat will have the $200 registration fee waived. So Apply Now!

Gender Equity on Science Faculties Might Have to Wait a Century, Study Finds

The Chronicle, by Robin Wilson, February 16, 2012

It could take nearly 100 years before half of all professors in science and engineering are female, according to an article out on Friday in the journal Science. The assertion is shocking because people in academe have been working for decades to increase the number of women in those fields. The article says it will take so long for universities to attain equal numbers of women and men even though the proportion of women being hired in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics—the so-called STEM fields—is on the rise and even though, once women are hired, their rate of advancement is the same as for men. Read the full article.
Issues for Women in STEM Brown Bag Lunches

There will be a series of brown bag lunches this semester on the UNL campus for faculty wishing to come discuss issues for women in STEM. Bring your lunch and get to know other women in STEM on campus. All faculty are invited to attend.

Meeting dates are as follows:
Friday, March 16th, Noon – 1:00pm, 3rd Floor Board Room, Whittier Building
Wednesday, April 18th, Noon- 1:00pm, A211 Animal Science Building, East Campus
Tuesday, May 8th, Noon-1:00pm, Beadle Center room N263

Mutual Mentoring: Moving Beyond One-Size Fits-All Mentoring

Mary Deane Sorcinelli, Associate Provost for Faculty Development at University of Massachusetts Amherst will be our guest speaker for this sensational workshop on faculty mentoring. Wednesday, March 7th, 8:30am - 10:30am in the City Campus Union (room posted). All faculty are invited to attend by RSVPing to advance2@unl.edu by March 2, 2012

Mentoring offers a vital contribution to a successful academic career, particularly for women and faculty of color. The most common form of mentoring has been a “traditional model,” which is defined by a one-on-one relationship between an experienced faculty member who guides the career development of an early career faculty member. Recent literature, however, has indicated the emergence of new, more flexible approaches to mentoring in which faculty build a network of “multiple mentors” who can address a variety of career competencies.

In this interactive session, you will identify potential roadblocks to success in an academic career; explore both traditional and emerging models of mentoring; “map” your own mentoring networks; and discuss best practices in mentoring, including how to be your own best mentor.

Survival Factor

Inside HigherEd 2012, February 17, 2012, By Kaustuv Basu
Half of all tenure-track faculty members in the science and engineering disciplines leave their research universities within 11 years of being hired, according to a study released in the journal Science Thursday. The study tracked 2,966 assistant professors at 14 research universities.

The report, by Deborah Kaminski of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Cheryl Geisler of Simon Fraser University in Canada, studied American research universities, including Cornell University, Virginia Tech and the University of Maryland-Baltimore County. Read more.

Send us your input & articles

There is a correction in last week’s newsletter. Shireen Adenwalla did not write the article in PhysicsToday, but sent it to the Advance office for submission. Thanks again to Shireen for forwarding an interesting article. If you have anything of interest to the Advance community, please send us your news and articles. Thanks!