



25 May 2017

SOUTH AFRICAN TEACHING ADVANCEMENT AT UNIVERSITY (TAU) FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Higher Education Learning and Teaching Association of Southern Africa (Heltasa) is pleased to announce the TAU Fellowships Programme for 2018/2019, and to call for nominations to attend the programme.

About the TAU Fellowships Programme

The TAU Fellowships Programme is a nation-wide intervention which seeks to advance teaching quality and the professionalisation of teaching and learning in the public higher education sphere. The Programme was offered under the leadership of Professor Brenda Leibowitz in an initial iteration during 2015/2016, with participants from 21 of the then 22 South African public higher education institutions. Feedback from participants and from the programme evaluation was extremely positive, with 50 participants completing the full programme and qualifying as TAU Fellows. Higher education has benefited from a network of change agents who are now collaborating across the sector and across disciplines, and leading change processes relating to teaching and learning at their home institutions.

The TAU Fellowships Programme 2018/2019

The Department of Higher Education and Training has committed funding from the DHET Collaborative Teaching Development Grants for a further iteration of the TAU programme during 2018/2019.

The TAU Fellowship Programme (offered under the aegis of Heltasa) is *for experienced academics who have been acknowledged for their teaching excellence* and who wish to be positioned as change agents, by further extending their knowledge about educational development within a supportive and collegial environment. The dates for the TAU Programme are provided below. In addition to the four contact sessions, participants will need to spend an average of 2 – 3 hours on their programme-related projects per week. All participants who successfully complete the programme will receive a certificate and will become TAU Fellows, and remain members of the TAU network.

Travel and accommodation expenses will be met by the TAU Fellowship Programme, with minor contributions expected from the home institution, especially regarding research expenses. Institutions are also expected to ensure that the nominees will be granted the necessary time to attend the contact sessions and to be able to participate meaningfully in the programme.

Further information about the TAU programme is to be found in the accompanying information brochure and on the TAU page on the Heltasa website (<http://heltasa.org.za/projects/teaching-advancement-university-tau-fellowships-programme/>).

Call for nominations for TAU 2018-2019

Each public higher education institution, via the office of the DVC responsible for teaching and learning, is invited to send up to *four nominations*, listed on the attached nomination form in order of priority, from which the selection committee will make a final choice of up to two per institution. The *due date is 31 July 2017*.

Criteria for selection

Applicants should:

- Be employed at a South African public higher education institution (full-time) at the level of senior lecturer or above;
- Have been employed in public higher education for a minimum of ten years;
- Have teaching as one of their core functions;
- Be acknowledged for teaching excellence at the departmental, faculty or institutional level.

Useful indicators of acknowledgement for teaching excellence within the institution are: teaching excellence awards, participation in teaching related professional development activities, teaching related grants, significant roles within teaching and learning committees and processes.

In considering your nominations, please note that the programme is not intended for newly appointed lecturers, nor for lecturers currently engaged in doctoral studies. Rather, it is for academics who have gathered experience as teachers, and who wish to enhance their expertise and to share this with colleagues within the network and in their own teaching and learning contexts. It is also for academics who will be able to make the necessary time investment, both during the residential sessions and in preparation for these: 17 days for the four contact sessions and an average of two to three hours weekly, over 18 months. Fellows will be expected to share experience and engage in capacity building on completion of the programme.

Should in the opinion of the Committee the institutional nominees not appear to meet the specified criteria, TAU might engage further with the institution about the selection of appropriate candidates.

Nomination process

Each public higher education institution, via the office of the DVC responsible for teaching and learning, is invited to send up to four nominations, listed in order of priority, from which the selection committee will make a final choice of up to two per institution.

You might wish to make use of your TAU Fellows from the 2015 – 2016 process to inform the current nominees further about the programme.

Up to four applications, including the institutional nomination form and all the relevant documents for each nominee should be sent via a single e-mail to TAUfellowships@uj.ac.za, to reach TAU by 31 July 2017. The documentation can be zipped.

Each nomination should be based on the Requirements to be found in Appendix One.

Important dates

Institutional nominations to reach TAU	31 July 2017
Institution and applicants informed of acceptance	31 September 2017
Letter of commitment from participant and institution to TAU	15 October 2017
First contact session	21 – 25 January 2018
Second contact session	8 – 11 July 2018
Third contact session	20 – 23 January 2019
Fourth contact session	7 – 10 July 2019
Final project report submitted	24 June 2019
Reflective report submitted	25 July 2019
Certificate mailed to TAU Fellows	31 August 2019

Contact

If you have any questions about the programme or nomination process, or if potential nominees have any questions, please contact Professor Leibowitz via TAUfellowships@uj.ac.za or 011 559 4658.

We look forward to your university's participation in this programme, and your nominations.

Yours faithfully



Professor Brenda Leibowitz

Project Convenor: South African Teaching Advancement at University (TAU) Fellowships Programme

Contact details:

Chair: Teaching and Learning

Education Faculty

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Appendix A

Requirements for each nomination

1. Biographical information of nominee:
 - 1.1 Title, eg Prof, Dr, Ms;
 - 1.2 Name: First name, surname;
 - 1.3 Contact details: (e-mail, office telephone, cell-phone);
 - 1.4 Highest qualification;
 - 1.5 Faculty or School; Department;
 - 1.6 Years of experience in higher education in a teaching capacity;
 - 1.7 Departmental, faculty, institutional and other awards received for teaching;
 - 1.8 Demographical information: race, gender, disability, nationality.
2. Short CV of nominee, including teaching and teaching development experience (up to two pages, single spacing).
3. A letter (up to two pages, single spacing) from the nominee, indicating:
 - 3.1 Your aspirations and plans with regard to teaching;
 - 3.2 What you expect to gain or achieve by participating in the TAU programme;
 - 3.3 What key strengths or experience you bring to the programme.
4. Description of a key challenge/issue/problem in higher education, or at the home institution, that you as nominee would like to address as part of your participation in the TAU Fellowships programme, using the following headings (up to two pages, single spacing):
 - 4.1 Detail as to the challenge to be addressed;
 - 4.2 Rationale for this choice;
 - 4.3 How you envisage addressing this challenge.
5. A letter of support from the nominee's line manager.