

Request for Proposals for the Sam and Bonnie Rechter Fellowships in Positive Leadership

On behalf of the Project on Positive Leadership in the University of Louisville College of Business and the University of Louisville Provost's Office

Fellowship Description

We are requesting proposals for fellowships in which recipients will be identified as fellows of the Project on Positive Leadership for the 2021 calendar year, will receive \$5,000 grants to create instructional tools or to conduct research. We are offering up to five \$5,000 fellowships for this purpose. Fellowship funds must be used for research or for developing instructional tools that advance the mission of The Project for Positive Leadership. Examples of potential uses for the money include, but are not limited to, the purchase of needed materials, paying for research assistants, buying out a course so that there is more time to work on the project. It is expected that a product – in the form of a tool or a research report – will be delivered to the Project on Positive Leadership as a result of the fellowship. In other words, a tool must be designed to help people become better at exhibiting excellence in ethical leadership, or the research must be completed (and, ideally, submitted or publication in high-quality journals) to help us learn more about achieving excellence in ethical leadership.

Center Mission

The mission of the University of Louisville College of Business' Project on Positive Leadership is to increase positive leadership in the world. Two of the ways in which we pursue this mission are through sponsoring interdisciplinary research on positive leadership and turning that research into instructional tools for all kinds and levels of ethical leadership.

Definitions

Leadership occurs in all walks of life and all sectors of society when a person's words, actions, and example exhibit exceptional virtue, and thus inspire others to action based on feelings of admiration, elevation, gratitude, or awe. Virtues are standards of moral excellence, such as courage, compassion, humility, and integrity. Leadership is positive when a person's actions, and the actions of those who follow, exhibit multiple, distinct, and relevant virtues with excellence.

We open to different approaches to the study and development of positive leadership. We are most interested in research and tools that focus on ethical excellence rather than on ethical sufficiency, and in research and tools that focus on leadership as a process that inspires people to follow, as opposed to leadership as a position of authority that people occupy. However, if

an applicant convinces us that the research they conduct or the tool they develop will have excellent quality, even if it focuses on ethical sufficiency or on leadership as a position, we are still open to considering such applications.

Who May Apply

This request for proposals is open to all applicants, both within and outside of the university of Louisville. We request that applicants include with their proposal a description of their qualifications for developing the tool or conducting the research they propose.

How to Apply

Please submit a resume or curriculum vita and a written description of your proposed project to ryan.quinn@louisville.edu by October 15, 2020. The description should be no more than two pages. It should describe

1. The project you propose and what form you expect the final outcome to take,
2. When you expect to complete the project,
3. Why you believe this project will help advance the Project's mission of increasing ethical leadership excellence in the world,
4. If the project is a research project, the likely outlet(s) for publication, and
5. Your qualifications for producing the output you are proposing.

Acceptance of applications will depend on the degree to which the proposed instructional tools and research projects advance the Project's mission, a committee's judgment of the qualifications of the applicant(s) for achieving their proposed goals, and the quality and innovativeness of the projects proposed. Please be specific. Vague claims will be viewed less positively than concrete ones.

A committee will review requests and award the fellowships by November 15, 2020. Fellowships will begin January 1, 2021, and will continue throughout the calendar year of 2021.

Questions may be directed to Ryan Quinn at the same email address as well.

Stipulations

Our goal is to have approximately three of the fellowships be offered to proposals for instructional tool development, and two for research.

It is the expectation of the Project on Positive Leadership that any instructional tool developed in this fellowship will be made available for distribution through the Project, to help us advance our mission of increasing ethical leadership excellence throughout the world. Research conducted as part of this fellowship should acknowledge the support of the project, and will also be acknowledged on the Project web site.