Overview
The University of Akron has joined with other colleges and universities in the Mid-American Conference (MAC) to participate in the Academic Leadership Development Program (ALDP). The mission of the MAC ALDP is to identify, develop, prepare and advance faculty as academic leaders in the Mid-American Conference schools. The program provides an opportunity for Akron faculty to gain valuable knowledge and experience in academic leadership by working closely with select administrators from other colleges and universities in the MAC.

Key outcomes of the program include the ability to:

- Articulate the complexity of the structure and operations within an institution and across institutions;
- Describe the impact of the external influences on the role of leaders in a higher education institution. This should include, but is not limited to, federal/state regulations and mandates, accreditation, and community influence;
- Identify best practices in academic leadership;
- Assess one’s own leadership potential, including strengths and weaknesses, and identify leadership pathways;
- Communicate the importance of inclusive excellence.

Up to four outstanding individuals will be selected this year to serve as the University of Akron’s ALDP Fellows. The program has two primary components:

(i) a university-level leadership development program for the selected Akron Fellows throughout the academic year
(ii) participation in two MAC-wide workshops for all program participants that will be held on MAC school campuses, one in Fall semester and one in Spring semester.

The goal of this program is to expose faculty who are interested in administration to the challenges and rewards of institutional service at higher levels, and to prepare them for potential leadership positions within the academy. Whether or not a Fellow ultimately chooses to pursue an administrative position in the future, the program will, at a minimum, provide him or her with a better appreciation for and understanding of how universities operate.

Fellowship Year
Each fall semester, the Akron ALDP Fellows will have the opportunity to meet together on a monthly basis, along with the ALDP Liaison and various members of the senior administration to discuss relevant professional literature and other topics of interest. The spring semester will be devoted to designing and submitting a leadership portfolio and meeting monthly with the Liaison, senior administrators, and other Fellows. The portfolio will include several leadership pieces, including a statement of the Fellow’s leadership philosophy, C.V., leadership goals as well as reflections on the two Workshops. The goal of the portfolio is to assist the Fellow to reflect and gain insight into his or her future leadership goals. The MAC ALDP Liaisons from other institutions will provide additional input on the Fellows’ portfolios.
All Fellows are required to attend the two MAC ALDP Workshops that are scheduled during the fall (November) and spring (February) of their fellowship year. These workshops are hosted by MAC institutions and will follow a format designed to maximize interaction among the Fellows. Case studies, group discussions and other group activities will be incorporated into the Workshops.

Selection Process

Academic Deans are invited to nominate one individual in each track for an ALDP Fellowship. The Introductory Track is intended for tenured faculty with demonstrated leadership ability. The Advanced Track is intended for current department chairs, assistant/associate deans.

Faculty may also submit their own self-nominations. To be eligible, a nominee must be a tenured or senior NTT equivalent faculty member. Nominees are expected to possess strong leadership capacities as well as an outstanding record of achievement in current and past positions, along with an expressed interest in administrative service.

The nomination must take the form of a letter, no more than two pages in length, describing the leadership qualities of the nominee and elaborates upon his or her contributions to the academic department, unit or division. Each nomination must be accompanied by an application completed by the nominee.

Each dean’s nominating letter and the nominee’s application should be sent (via email) to: daimee@uakron.edu. Self-nominated applications may also be sent to the same email address. The deadline for submitting nominating letters and applications is Wednesday, May 22, 2019.

The ALDP Advisory Committee will review all nominating letters and applications and select up to four Akron Fellows for the next academic year.

Decisions will be announced by the end of May.

Questions regarding the Academic Leadership Development Program should be directed to Aimée deChambeau, daimee@uakron.edu, 330-972-7488.
2019-2020 Academic Leadership Development Program (ALDP) Fellows

Application Form

Personal Information

Name:
Present Position:
Department:
Campus Address:
Office Phone:
Email:

History of Service

University Service:

Professional service:

Other:

Cover Letter

With this application, please include a cover letter that sets forth your interest in being a Fellow and your aspirations for future administrative service. You should also discuss what you hope to gain from the program, including how you expect it to contribute to your career objectives.

Curriculum Vita

Please attach a current copy of your curriculum vita to this application.