

### Example Abstracts for the Faculty Development Leave Program

Each faculty development leave (FDL) proposal is reviewed at the college or library level by a committee which includes faculty representation. Each application includes a brief abstract which is reviewed by the Board of Regents prior to approval of the leave.

These abstracts are limited to 100 words, must be written in the third person, **should be written for an educated layperson**, and must include:

- Place where leave will take place
- Activities that will take place during the leave
- Benefits of the leave to:
  - Research program
  - Students/teaching
  - Department, college and/or university
- Expected impacts (should be focused on effects beneficial to the University)

*\*Note: the abstract should not be composed of bullet points; the outline provided above is for guidance in composition only.*

Over the past several years, an increasing number of abstracts have been submitted which do not meet the Board of Regents' criteria listed above. This has resulted in many of the abstracts having to be re-written by the FDL liaisons for the college, or by DOF or TAMU System staff in order for the abstracts to be acceptable and the FDL to be granted to the faculty member.

**Beginning in 2015, we will no longer re-write abstracts that fail to meet the Board of Regents' standards listed above. Abstracts which do not meet these standards will be returned to the faculty member who is applying for leave to be re-written. If the re-written abstract is submitted after October 23, or if the re-written abstract is not satisfactory to the committee, the faculty member will be denied leave.**

In order to provide guidance to faculty members, department heads, college review committees, and deans, the following table contains a number of the abstracts which were edited and submitted to the Board of Regents last year, presented next to their original submitted form. The abstracts are organized by college. Faculty member's names have been removed, but the details of their leave have been left in place so as not to alter the meaning of the abstracts.

**College of Liberal Arts**

<b>Before</b>	<b>After</b>
<p>During the leave period, I will work with collaborators in Sweden, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan to collect ancient DNA (aDNA) from fossilized human remains. We will examine the hypothesis that Asia was the first region outside of Africa to be inhabited by <i>Homo sapiens</i>. This project dovetails with the Anthropology Department's current faculty search for an aDNA expert, it furthers the College's emphasis on international and interdisciplinary research, and it will provide training to graduate students in the emerging field of aDNA. The proposed hypothesis also has the potential to change how we understand the evolution of our species.</p>	<p>During the leave period Dr. XXX will work with collaborators in Sweden, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan to collect ancient genetic material (aDNA) from fossilized human remains. They will examine the hypothesis that Asia was the first region outside of Africa to be inhabited by <i>Homo sapiens</i>. This project dovetails with the Anthropology Department's current faculty search for an aDNA expert, furthers the college's emphasis on international and interdisciplinary research, and will provide training to graduate students in the emerging field of aDNA. The proposed hypothesis also has the potential to change the understanding of the evolution of the human species.</p>
<p>My goal is to write a book exploring how the fragmentary nature of the human fossil record has influenced our understanding of human evolution, and how recent discoveries my team has been making of especially well-preserved and complete human ancestor fossils in South Africa are revolutionizing that understanding. Research and writing will be focused in College Station and South Africa. This book will open new avenues of research for myself and my students, will enhance the visibility of the Department of Anthropology and College of Liberal Arts, and will further the university's mission to communicate knowledge to the broader public</p>	<p>Leave will take place primarily in South Africa, with a period in College Station utilized for writing. The goal of Dr. XXX's leave will be to write a book exploring how the fragmentary nature of the human fossil record has influenced our understanding of human evolution and how recent discoveries, especially well-preserved and complete human ancestor fossils in South Africa, are revolutionizing that understanding. The book will open new avenues of research for Dr. XXX and his students as well as enhance the visibility of the Department of Anthropology and College of Liberal Arts, and further the university's mission to communicate knowledge to the broader public.</p>
<p>My FDL will be spent at TAMU and on extensive trips to work with collaborators. I will: 1) be trained on the Media Monitoring System (MMS); 2) write two methodological manuscripts pertinent to social media messaging; and 3) submit two major grant proposals for external funding on organ donation and a global infectious disease. It will permit me to advance my research program and continue seeking</p>	<p>Dr. XXX will spend leave at Texas A&amp;M to work with collaborators. He will 1) be trained on the Media Monitoring System; 2) write two methodological manuscripts pertinent to social media messaging; and 3) submit two major grant proposals for external funding on organ donation and global infectious disease. Leave will permit him to advance his research program and continue seeking external funding at Texas</p>

<p>external funding at TAMU. It will benefit student learning and TAMU—and impact knowledge about health social media messaging, including how it can be improved and used to monitor disease spread.</p>	<p>A&amp;M. This leave will also benefit student learning and impact knowledge about health social media messaging, including how it can be improved and used to monitor the spread of disease.</p>
<p>I am requesting faculty development leave to further my research and teaching program focused on the social and cultural implications of new media. Benefits include enabling me to: 1) complete my book manuscript on social media in China; 2) develop a graduate level course on feminism and technology; 3) write a book chapter that will open up a new research area for me on new media and popular culture. The work will be done in College Station. Expected impacts include a book that will make significant contributions to existing literature and the development of a unique course at Texas A&amp;M.</p>	<p>Leave will be spent in College Station. Dr. XXX will further her research and teaching program focusing on the social and cultural implications of new media. Benefits include enabling her to 1) complete a book manuscript on social media in China; 2) develop a graduate-level course on feminism and technology; and 3) write a book chapter that will open up a new research area for her on new media and popular culture. Expected impacts include a book that will make significant contributions to existing literature and the development of a unique course at Texas A&amp;M.</p>
<p>I propose to spend a semester as a Hoover National Fellow at Stanford University, conducting research with Dr. Caroline Hoxby on the effects of Teach for America on low-income students' college application behavior. The mechanisms behind the underrepresentation of low-income high-achieving students at selective universities is of importance to both economic mobility and growth. As such, the impact of this project is likely to be substantial. It is also closely tied to my teaching, which covers the economics of education, and will directly benefit Texas A&amp;M University by finding more effective ways to encourage high-achieving students to attend selective schools.</p>	<p>Dr. XXX will spend a semester as a Hoover National Fellow at Stanford University in Stanford, California, collaborating with Dr. Caroline Hoxby. Dr. XXX will conduct research on the effects of Teach for America on low-income students' college application behavior. The mechanisms behind the underrepresentation of low-income high-achieving students at selective universities are of importance to both economic mobility and growth. As such, the impact of this project is likely to be substantial. It is also closely tied to Dr. XXX's teaching which covers the economics of education, and will directly benefit Texas A&amp;M by finding more effective ways to encourage high-achieving students to attend selective schools.</p>
<p>I seek leave to advance my book manuscript, "Marxism, History, and Indigenous Sovereignty in the Caribbean." During the leave term in College Station, I will identify funding sources for foreign travel to archives, and draft a book proposal with two sample chapters based on literature currently being collected. The leave will advance my research program</p>	<p>Leave will be spent in College Station advancing a book manuscript entitled <i>Marxism, History, and Indigenous Sovereignty in the Caribbean</i>. Dr. XXX will identify funding sources for foreign travel to archives and draft a book proposal with two sample chapters based on literature currently being collected. Her research will bring greater visibility to Texas A&amp;M</p>

<p>towards promotion to full professor. This research will bring greater visibility to Texas A&amp;M and the Department of English and it will benefit my students through expansion of my expertise in Caribbean, postcolonial, and black diaspora literatures.</p>	<p>and the Department of English and it will benefit Dr. XXX's students through expansion of her expertise in Caribbean, postcolonial, and black diaspora literatures.</p>
<p>The leave will be spent at TAMU writing a full half of my next major monograph. It will help me re-enter the rhythm of full-time research after a 3-year term of intense service as Director of Graduate Studies. The leave will directly impact both the graduate and the undergraduate students I teach at TAMU, particularly those I mentor in Hispanic Studies and Religious Studies. Classroom applications could include special topics or critical thinking seminars on Virtue. Impact will be measured in terms of peer-reviewed articles, to be incorporated into the manuscript, and lecture invitations from the world's most prestigious universities.</p>	<p>Dr. XXX served a three-year term as Director of Graduate Studies and will spend the leave period at Texas A&amp;M re-establishing her research and monograph writing. The leave will directly impact both the graduate and the undergraduate students she teaches, particularly those she mentors in Hispanic Studies and Religious Studies. Classroom applications could include special topics or critical thinking seminars on virtue. The impact will be evaluated in terms of peer-reviewed articles, to be incorporated into the manuscript, and lecture invitations from the world's most prestigious universities.</p>
<p>I plan to conduct archival research in Austin, Texas, Seattle, Washington, and San Francisco, California, to complete a book-length study on civil rights and racial activism in the American West from 1945 to 1980. The project will produce a book to be published by a major university press and benefit my teaching in the College of Liberal Arts and enhance my reputation as a leading scholar in my field. I will read both personal papers, organizational records, and oral histories at the Briscoe Center for American History, San Francisco State University, and the University of Washington, Seattle. Students will also benefit from my research through the production of articles, book chapters and conference papers, and integrating my findings into my graduate courses.</p>	<p>Dr. XXX plans to conduct archival research in Austin, Texas; Seattle, Washington; and San Francisco, California, to complete a book-length study on civil rights and racial activism in the American West from 1945 to 1980. He will read personal papers, organizational records, and oral histories at the Briscoe Center for American History, San Francisco State University, and the University of Washington, Seattle. The project will result in a book to be published by a major university press, benefit Dr. XXX's teaching in the College of Liberal Arts and enhance his reputation as a leading scholar in his field. Students will benefit from his research through the production of articles, book chapters and conference papers, and integrating his findings into his graduate courses.</p>
<p>I am applying for Faculty Development Leave to complete a book project entitled <i>Cross-Cultural Approaches to Composition</i>, which will be written during academic year 2015-16 while in residence at Cambridge University, UK as a research scholar. During the residency, I will engage</p>	<p>Leave will be spent while in residence at Cambridge University, United Kingdom, as a research scholar. During the leave, Dr. XXX will complete a book project entitled <i>Cross-Cultural Approaches to Composition</i>. During the residency, he will engage with the academic community at Cambridge</p>

<p>with the academic community at Cambridge by holding monthly seminars regarding the aforementioned topics with colleagues and graduate students. One of the purposes of this book is to open a dialogue between ethnomusicologists and composers regarding the ethics of cross-cultural approaches to composition, an important topic within my discipline that has not yet been addressed significantly to date.</p>	<p>University by holding monthly seminars regarding his research topics with colleagues and graduate students. One of the purposes of this book is to open a dialogue between ethnomusicologists and composers regarding the ethics of cross-cultural approaches to composition, an important topic within the discipline that has not yet been addressed significantly. The research required to complete this book will immediately benefit Dr. XXX's students and teaching by providing a more solid, ethnographically and research-based framework to build upon.</p>
<p>I am requesting a faculty development leave for the Spring 2016 semester to continue research and writing for a book-length project that examines themes in the current literature on justice and forgiveness. I will spend my time in College Station, TX writing. However, this project will require some travel to archives in Paris, France to examine the papers of Emmanuel Levinas. My research will yield a manuscript for publication, research for graduate education, and material for an undergraduate course. It will build on previous work enhancing my scholarly reputation and drawing positive attention to Texas A&amp;M.</p>	<p>Dr. XXX's leave will require travel to archives in Paris, France, to examine the papers of Emmanuel Levinas. The research will examine themes in the current literature on justice and forgiveness and result in the writing for a book-length project. The research will yield a manuscript for publication, research for graduate education, and material for an undergraduate course. The research conducted during her leave will build on previous work enhancing her scholarly reputation and drawing positive attention to Texas A&amp;M.</p>
<p>Dr. XXX will spend development leave in College Station. She will begin writing a book manuscript, "Diffusing Equality: Women's Representation on High Courts," that explores the way spreading ideas about gender equality determine women's representation on a country's high court(s). The project builds significantly on her research agenda on women's representation in other political institutions. The resulting book and the dataset (which will be made publically available on-line) will bring national and international recognition in both academic and policy communities to Texas A&amp;M. The research will also be used to develop a new undergraduate seminar on comparative judicial politics.</p>	<p>Dr. XXX will spend her leave in College Station. She will begin writing a book manuscript, <i>Diffusing Equality: Women's Representation on High Courts</i>, which explores the way spreading ideas about gender equality determine women's representation on a country's high court(s). The project builds significantly on her research agenda on women's representation in other political institutions. The resulting book and the dataset (which will be made publically available on-line) will bring national and international recognition in both academic and policy communities to Texas A&amp;M. The research will also be used to develop a new undergraduate seminar on comparative judicial politics.</p>

<p>My plan is to visit three spinal cord injury centers: BASIC at the University of California San Francisco, ICORD in Vancouver (British Columbia) and KSCIRC in Louisville Kentucky. While there, I will learn about the latest research techniques and current treatment procedures. Benefits include the development of collaborative research projects that will bring additional publications and grant opportunities. Students will benefit from potential graduate and postdoctoral training opportunities. The department, college, and university benefit from links to top-tier research centers and increased grant revenue. Expected outcomes include integrative reviews and collaborative grant proposals.</p>	<p>Dr. XXX will spend his leave working in collaboration at three spinal cord injury centers – the Brain and Spinal Injury Center at the University of California in San Francisco; the International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries in Vancouver, British Columbia; and the Kentucky Spinal Cord Injury Research Center in Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. XXX will establish collaborative research projects with these centers that will result in significant grant proposals and publications. Texas A&amp;M doctoral and post-doctoral students will benefit from the research by learning the latest techniques in treating spinal cord injuries. This research will significantly enhance Texas A&amp;M’s reputation in the field of developing the newest and best techniques in the treatment of such injuries.</p>
<p>While remaining in College Station, I will analyze data and write journal articles based on data collected from a NSF ADVANCE-IT grant. This leave benefits my research program as these publications will broaden my expertise on the evaluation of employee performance in the workplace to the evaluation of faculty in academia and enhances my credibility as a gender equity researcher. My graduate students will hone research skills by actively contributing to the research and by coauthoring articles with me. I anticipate our articles will be widely cited and elevate the rigor of the research conducted on student evaluations of teaching.</p>	<p>Leave will be spent in College Station where Dr. XXX will analyze data and write journal articles based on data collected over the course of the last five years from projects funded by the National Science Foundation ADVANCE-IT Program, which is aimed at increasing the participation of women in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. Dr. XXX’s graduate students will actively contribute to the research and coauthor articles with her. The resulting articles will elevate the rigor of the research conducted on student evaluations of teaching and will benefit Texas A&amp;M’s reputation in gender-equality research.</p>
<p>XXX’s leave at Texas A&amp;M University will involve analyzing data and writing research articles for two projects: one testing the relationship between the characteristics of medical students and patients and the quality of interactions they have during a videotaped medical history interview, and a second examining the health outcomes of multiracial individuals and families. The benefits and impacts will be to advance research on health care interactions, to develop materials that medical students</p>	<p>Dr. XXX’s leave at Texas A&amp;M will involve analyzing data and writing research articles for two projects – 1) examining how the characteristics of medical students and patients affect their interactions; and 2) examining the health outcomes of multiracial individuals and families. The projects will advance research on healthcare interactions, develop materials for use by medical students and undergraduates to better understand interaction quality and status</p>

<p>and undergraduates can use to better understand interaction quality and status characteristics, and to contribute to the department's and college's strength in racial inequality research.</p>	<p>characteristics, and contribute to the department and college's strength in racial inequality research.</p>
<p>My leave will be devoted to writing and archival research for my book project, which examines the connection between art cinema and post-war gay/lesbian culture(s). While I will be headquartered in College Station, the project involves significant historical research that requires travel to archives housed in New York, Washington DC, and Los Angeles. In addition to a published scholarly book, I will develop article-length pieces that will contribute to my research portfolio. The research will provide me with in-depth knowledge that will inform my teaching and add to contemporary scholarship on gay/lesbian culture in the United States.</p>	<p>Dr. XXX's leave will be devoted to archival research and writing for a book project which examines the connection between art cinema and post-war gay/lesbian culture(s). The project will involve significant historical research requiring travel to archives housed in New York, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles, California. In addition to a published scholarly book, Dr. XXX will develop article-length pieces. The research will provide in-depth knowledge and add to contemporary scholarship on gay/lesbian culture in the United States.</p>