

### 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.

## Mays Business School

Before	After
<p>The proposed Development Leave will focus on two areas of research. First, academic research in collaboration with a colleague at a foreign university will develop new, more powerful tests of asset pricing models than currently utilized in the finance literature. Our methods will be tested on the now famous Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM), which earned three Nobel Prizes in Economics but has failed to be accepted in real world empirical tests. Second, applied research will be conducted in cooperation with a new start-up company named New Standard Investments (NSI), co-owned by myself and colleague Dr. XXX, Texas A&amp;M University, and the Teachers Retirement System of Texas. The research will seek to improve upon investment technology that comprises intellectual property invented by myself and colleague and owned by NSI.</p>	<p>The leave will be split between the University of Vaasa, Finland, and Texas A&amp;M. Academic research in collaboration with Dr. XXX colleague will develop new, more powerful tests of asset pricing models than are currently utilized in the finance literature. The methods will be tested on the now famous Capital Asset Pricing Model which earned three Nobel Prizes in Economics but failed to be accepted in real world empirical tests. In addition, applied research will be conducted in cooperation with the Texas A&amp;M Technology Commercialization Office and the Teachers Retirement System of Texas. The research seeks to develop new investment technology for potential real world applications.</p>
<p>The faculty leave is for the spring 2016 semester at the University of South Carolina where I plan to visit in the Management Science Department. The purpose is two-fold: to initiate new research projects and to acquire new skills in the area of empirical data modeling and econometric methods. Data analytics has become a popular area of research. The leave will essentially allow me to obtain a new capability for conducting research. In turn, this should help the department, college, and university through published research in leading journals.</p>	<p>Leave will take place at the University of South Carolina where Dr. XXX will visit the Management Science Department. The purpose is to initiate new research projects and acquire new skills in the area of empirical data modeling and econometric methods. Data analytics has become a popular area of research. The leave will allow Dr. XXX to obtain a new capability for conducting research. This will help the department, college, and university through published research in leading journals.</p>