

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.

Texas A&M at Galveston

Before	After
<p>Proposal to conduct a faculty development leave at the laboratory of Dr. Jordi Viñas, University of Girona, Spain during the fall semester of 2015. During my stay I will conduct next generation sequencing (NextGen) experiments to characterize variation in wild fish populations. This FDL will benefit my research program and my graduate students by receiving training in state of the art sequencing technologies, and such knowledge will be shared with my graduate students who will begin to apply such approaches in their own research. This in turn will benefit other students in the Marine Biology Department at TAMUG.</p>	<p>Dr. XXX will conduct his leave at the laboratory of Dr. Jordi Viñas, University of Girona, Spain, focusing on the next generation sequencing experiments to characterize variation in wild fish populations. This leave will benefit his research program and his graduate students with training in state-of-the-art sequencing technologies. This will benefit other students in the Marine Biology Department at Texas A&M University at Galveston.</p>
<p>I am writing to apply for the Faculty Development Leave during the fall of 2015 – spring of 2016. I will visit the Australian Maritime College (AMC) at the University of Tasmania and Liverpool John Moores University (LOOM) in UK. Research regarding the Australian Cruise Industry, port/terminal privatization and the simulation of UK-US shipping companies' bankruptcy risks and assessment can be expected as part of the continuous research collaborative work. To create a cutting edge globally based learning environment, faculty/student exchange programs and PhD joint-supervision can be further developed. This Faculty Development Leave with collaborations among maritime programs in an effective way will benefit myself in research and our students in establishing global perspectives and intentional leadership and make A&M known as one of the best schools in the United States specialized in maritime education.</p>	<p>Dr. XXX will visit the Australian Maritime College at the University of Tasmania and Liverpool John Moores University in the United Kingdom (UK). Research regarding the Australian Cruise industry, port/terminal privatization and the simulation of UK-U.S. shipping companies' bankruptcy risks and assessment will be the focus of the collaborative work. In order to create a cutting edge globally based learning environment, faculty/student exchange programs and Ph.D. joint-supervision will be further developed. This leave, with collaborations among maritime programs, will benefit Dr. XXX research and her students in establishing global perspectives and intentional leadership and make Texas A&M at Galveston one of the best schools in the United States specialized in maritime education.</p>