



Preparing Future Faculty

A Professional and Teaching Credential for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Associates

Preparing Future Faculty is a national program established by the Council of Graduate Schools, the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the Pew Charitable Trust and the National Science Foundation.

Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) is a free professional development program that offers a tangible credential, which documents a participant's investment in teaching, research, and service in preparation for faculty life.

The core goals of the PFF program are to:

- Better prepare participants for all aspects of their faculty careers including teaching, research and service
- Provide participants with credentialing for a diverse and competitive academic job market
- Develop a positive sustained mentoring relationship with a faculty mentor, providing an in-depth look at a successful faculty career
- Provide a mechanism of recognition for initiative and gained experience in the area of faculty roles and teaching
- Provide a context to encourage reflective thinking about teaching and the processes of teaching and learning, and to reflect on their own goals in this context
- Improve the teaching skills and enhance the professional development of participants, familiarizing participants with teaching and professional resources

SELECT PFF RESOURCES:

- Council of Graduate Schools Preparing Future Faculty website with resources, outcomes
<http://www.preparing-faculty.org/>
- Understanding PhD Career Pathways for Program Improvement
CGS Report: https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/cte/graduate_teaching_assistants/docs/understanding_phd_career_pathways_program_improvement.pdf
- Strategies to Prepare Future Faculty to Assess Student Learning
CGS Report: https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/cte/graduate_teaching_assistants/docs/strategies_prepare_future_faculty_assess_student_learning.pdf
- What Colleges and Universities Want in New Faculty
By K. A. Adams, 2002. Available online: <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED472499>

Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) is administered through a partnership between the Center for Teaching Excellence and The Graduate School.

TESTIMONIALS

"I definitely recognize the PFF program has helped prepare me as a faculty member."

~ Hospitality Management

"The experiences ... have all certainly helped with starting my academic career."

~ Exercise Science

"I found the PFF quite helpful as preparation for being a faculty member. The structure of PFF was well-balanced relative to the two faculty positions I have held."

~ Health Promotion, Education & Behavior

"The PFF credential was very well-regarded by my current employer."

~ Mathematics

"PFF encouraged thinking critically... and added meaning and values to the activities."

~ Journalism & Mass Communication





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PFF Activities Checklist

Requirements

- Must complete at least one activity from each of the seven subcategories in the Checklist below while a graduate student at UofSC.
- 'Other' activities must first be approved by the PFF Program Manager.
- Must earn a minimum of 15 points to earn the PFF credential. Participants may end up with more than 15 points to qualify for their credential because an activity from each subcategory must be represented.
- Activities are documented by completing an Activity Reflection (form available on PFF website).
- An asterisked (*) activity indicates expected Mentor involvement, and requires Mentors to complete a reflection (form available on PFF website).

1. Teaching A. Mentored Teaching (up to 10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give a lecture in a course at UofSC* 1 • Give a lecture in a course at partner school* 1 • Serve as Graduate Instruction Asst. * (class or lab) 3 • Serve as Graduate Teaching Asst * (instructor of record) 5 • Other: 5 B. Instruction in Teaching (up to 4 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend TA Orientation 1 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in GRAD 701 3 • Participate in departmental teaching course (course listing on PFF website) or TOGS online course through CTE 3 • Teaching observation by Evaluator* 1 • Other: 1 C. Teaching Seminars (up to 6 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend CTE teaching seminar 1 • Attend department or Graduate School teaching seminar 1 • Attend other teaching seminar 1 • Watch recorded CTE teaching seminar 1 • Other: 1
2. Research & Scholarly Activity A. Research/Scholarly Experience (up to 10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve as Graduate Research Assistant* 5 • Participate in GRAD 801 (Presidential Fellows) 3 • Write & submit a grant proposal (non-travel) 2 • Publish book review or book chapter 2 • Submit an article to a professional journal 2 • Publish an article in a professional journal 3 • Create and exhibit your work (visual arts)* 3 • Public performance of original composition 2 • Publish art/work in juried exhibition or in a special collection 3 • Win award for research or scholarly activity 2 • Participate in a research team for a semester* 3 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentor students on a research project (training) 1 • Mentor students on a research project* (including analysis, report) 3 • Identify, address, and resolve classroom or course-based problem* 2 • Other: 2 B. Research/Scholarly Communication (up to 5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present or poster at Discover UofSC Day 2 • Present or poster at state/regional conference 2 • Present or poster at national/international conference 3 • Give a departmental seminar about your research 1 • Present scholarly work to relevant audience 1 • Participate in organizing a student conference 2 • Organize a research brownbag series 2 • Other: 2
3. Service A. Faculty Life / Service / Mentor (up to 6 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutor college-level students (semester) 2 • Help with student advisement (undergrad or grad) 1 • Attend faculty, faculty senate or grad council mtg 1 • Participate in department or college committees 1 • Participate in a professional organization 1 • Participate in a campus/grad student organization 1 • Provide leadership to a professional organization 2 • Reviewer for grant/conference proposals/abstracts 2 • Reviewer/editor for manuscripts/papers 2 • Volunteer for conference logistics assistance 1 • Shadow professors at UofSC or partner school 1 • Be shadowed by an undergraduate for a day 1 • Other: 1 		B. Outreach (up to 3 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize a departmental outreach activity 1 • Judge a science fair (K-12, college), Discover UofSC Day, or other student competition 1 • Give demonstration or lesson in K-12 school 1 • Participate in service-learning (course-related) 1 • Participation in a community organization 1 • Service with a community organization 1 • Conduct a community education session 1 • Coach academic competition team (season) 3 • Mentor academic competition team (once) 1 • Mentor a student for an after-school program 1 • Shadow an instructor who does outreach 1 • Other: 1

Questions?

Contact the PFF Program Manager, Dr. Michelle Hardee, in the Center for Teaching Excellence, at 803-777-1975 or hardeem@mailbox.sc.edu.