**Professional Development Funds, New Chair, and Sabbaticals**

Thursday, October 01, 2015 12:15 AM

Hello Colleagues!  
  
At the first meeting of Laney's Professional Development committee in August, the committee voted me into the Chair role, which I am extremely excited to assume. Our committee is committed to building events and resources aimed at strengthening professional skills and expertise among faculty, classified staff and administrators alike.  
  
Our committee will meet 1st and 3rd Wednesdays for the duration of the fall semester, from 4-5pm in the Faculty Lounge, Tower #450. Our meetings are open to anyone in the FAS community. Our next meeting is Wed Oct. 7.  
  
PD Funds for Faculty: Full- and Part-Time Faculty are eligible to receive up to $1000 per year for professional development. Please visit our WordPress website for information and protocols regarding funding for faculty professional development in the form of conferences, tuition, visits to other colleges, sabbaticals and more.  
[http://www.laney.edu/wp/professionaldevelopment/](https://mail.peralta.edu/owa/redir.aspx?SURL=fx1l1mSKp9F0ALNc9loADdqkX17FTCSUDRF2ZeqYhUEMk0y1hP_SCGgAdAB0AHAAOgAvAC8AdwB3AHcALgBsAGEAbgBlAHkALgBlAGQAdQAvAHcAcAAvAHAAcgBvAGYAZQBzAHMAaQBvAG4AYQBsAGQAZQB2AGUAbABvAHAAbQBlAG4AdAAvAA..&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.laney.edu%2fwp%2fprofessionaldevelopment%2f)  
  
The particular page that explains how to apply for PD funds is here:  
[http://www.laney.edu/wp/professionaldevelopment/how-to-apply-for-professional-development/](https://mail.peralta.edu/owa/redir.aspx?SURL=5TRs7ViHd30A4mDEIEvWpDW4oK4m2HX9Lhtpw4Yh9asMk0y1hP_SCGgAdAB0AHAAOgAvAC8AdwB3AHcALgBsAGEAbgBlAHkALgBlAGQAdQAvAHcAcAAvAHAAcgBvAGYAZQBzAHMAaQBvAG4AYQBsAGQAZQB2AGUAbABvAHAAbQBlAG4AdAAvAGgAbwB3AC0AdABvAC0AYQBwAHAAbAB5AC0AZgBvAHIALQBwAHIAbwBmAGUAcwBzAGkAbwBuAGEAbAAtAGQAZQB2AGUAbABvAHAAbQBlAG4AdAAvAA..&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.laney.edu%2fwp%2fprofessionaldevelopment%2fhow-to-apply-for-professional-development%2f)  
--This page explains the timetable for successfully applying for funds, which requires a bit of lead-time, and advice about completing the sometimes challenging application forms. Mr. Eric Smith in the Business Office has graciously offered to help faculty complete the most difficult form, the Travel Request and Expense Claim form. Our committee is grateful for Eric's service, and we strongly recommend that faculty consult with him to review both request forms, and/or for assistance with completing them.  
  
Sabbaticals: One key piece of information I want to inform tenured faculty about is the upcoming informational workshop for faculty interested in applying for a 2016-17 sabbatical.  
  
Who is Eligible? -- Professional development leave, with pay, may be granted to regular faculty members for the purpose of carrying out an approved program which will benefit the District, students, the college and the faculty member. The faculty member must have completed at least six (6) consecutive years of regular faculty service preceding the granting of the leave.   
  
Up to two sabbatical leaves will be awarded for the 2016-2017 academic year. As the PFT contract states, “Professional development leaves may be arranged for one (1) year with a grant equal to 66⅔ of the annual year’s salary or for one (1) semester with a grant of 100% of one-half year’s salary."  
  
Applications must be submitted by November 15th, and our decision and notification(s) will be made by the end of January 2016. Application materials and procedures are available on our Sabbaticals page:  
[http://www.laney.edu/wp/professionaldevelopment/sabbaticals/](https://mail.peralta.edu/owa/redir.aspx?SURL=s_WTJ1zjwRbOKluuwz1ao5_GDQvz59JPZ3sQTA6GrZsMk0y1hP_SCGgAdAB0AHAAOgAvAC8AdwB3AHcALgBsAGEAbgBlAHkALgBlAGQAdQAvAHcAcAAvAHAAcgBvAGYAZQBzAHMAaQBvAG4AYQBsAGQAZQB2AGUAbABvAHAAbQBlAG4AdAAvAHMAYQBiAGIAYQB0AGkAYwBhAGwAcwAvAA..&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.laney.edu%2fwp%2fprofessionaldevelopment%2fsabbaticals%2f)  
  
All tenured faculty who are interested in applying for a sabbatical leave are invited to attend one of two sabbatical information sessions to be held on Wednesday, October 14th and Thursday, October 15th. (Times and location are listed below.) Applications from previous years will be available for perusal. These applications are also available in the Laney College Library. Your attendance at the sessions is an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the process, but it is not required for applying. Faculty who are unable to attend the sessions are invited to address questions and concerns to me directly.   
  
Information Sessions  
Wednesday, October 14th, 12:00 to 1:00pm in T-450  
Thursday, October 15th, 1:00 to 2:00pm in T-450  
  
Please feel free to contact me with any questions. And please stay tuned for upcoming announcements regarding training and sharing of best practices, as well as other on-campus events and online resources.   
  
Peace  
CW  
  
Chris Weidenbach  
Instructor & co-chair, English Department  
Chair, Professional Development Committee  
Laney College, Oakland CA  
[http://www.laney.edu/wp/chris-weidenbach/](https://mail.peralta.edu/owa/redir.aspx?SURL=-80wBgcy1LnJFGtt7yt6hHG9dlpFk8VlOJvB_npLVT8Mk0y1hP_SCGgAdAB0AHAAOgAvAC8AdwB3AHcALgBsAGEAbgBlAHkALgBlAGQAdQAvAHcAcAAvAGMAaAByAGkAcwAtAHcAZQBpAGQAZQBuAGIAYQBjAGgALwA.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.laney.edu%2fwp%2fchris-weidenbach%2f)  
Office tel: 510-464-3167