

Union Beginnings for New Faculty

Since its inception in 1998, the Center for Faculty Development (CFD) has supported the distinctive mission of Union University and the four core values of Christ-centered, excellence-driven, people-focused and future-directed by encouraging faculty in becoming excellent teachers and creative and fruitful contributors to their disciplines. The Center emphasizes the need for faculty to take initiative in knowing and loving God and to see their teaching, scholarship, creative work, and service as part of their discipleship as a Christian called to the academic world. Listed below are opportunities for new faculty to pursue excellence under the Lordship of Christ and to experience intellectual hospitality by participating in a learning community that involves learning about and from each other. As faculty members learn from each other they are more equipped to foster learning among future generations.

Union Beginnings I New Faculty Learning Community Fall Semester

August Orientation:

Hear their stories of how they were called to higher education and landed at Union
Consider Union's four core values
Read and discuss *The Spirit of Teaching* by Mark Schwehn
Introduction to faculty life at Union

September through December

How do we love students and further reveal to them the Lordship of Christ over all things?

Session One: Tues/Weds **September 11 & 12** 3:00-3:50pm Logos Library 218

- Offer an on-ramp to Union University by sharing the process of engaging the mission through understanding, accepting, embracing, and ultimately flourishing.
- Continue the dialogue about the essay *The Spirit of Teaching*.
- How is learning happening in your classes? Ways in which you see humility as a pre-condition for learning?

Session Two: Tues/Weds **October 2 & 3** 3:00-3:50pm Logos Library 218

Learning That Lasts, (a CDI Preview) Ann Singleton, Dean of Instruction
Assignment: Reflection One: Faculty Development goals.

Session Three: Tues/Weds **October 23 & 24** 3:00-3:50pm Logos Library 218

Faith and Learning: A Matter of Discipleship (Collegium preview)
Assignment: *Loving God with our Minds: Seven Aspects, Reflection and Inquiry*
Choose a book from the Faculty Resource Room, Logos 2nd floor

Session Four: Tues/Weds **November 13 & 14** 3:00-3:50pm Logos Library 218

Reflections on the Faculty Development planning process. Meet with your department chair to develop an FDP. In April or May meet with your chair to review current year plan.

Session Five: Tues/Weds **November 27 & 28** 3:00-3:50pm Logos Library 218
Processing student evaluations to enhance teaching and learning.

Exam Week: Monday December 10th End of the Semester Luncheon at Nan's House

January Term

Union Beginnings I

New Faculty Learning Community

Collegium on Christ, Knowledge and Wisdom: January 15 & 16 8:30-3:30pm

C.S. Lewis; *The Weight of Glory*; *Learning in Wartime*; *The Weight of Glory*.

Richard Foster; *Celebration of Discipline*; pp xii-11; 62-76; 79-109; 143-157; 190-201.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer; *The Cost of Discipleship*; pp 43-101.

Esther Meek; *A Little Manual for Knowing*; 99 pages.

Course Design/Re-design Institute: January 22, 23, 24 from 9:00-12:00.

Ken Bain, *What the Best College Teachers Do*.

Spring Semester

Union Beginnings I

New Faculty Learning Community

1/ **Classroom Observations I:** New faculty visit a more seasoned faculty member's classroom and vice versa before Spring Break and have coffee at Barefoots' or Modero to discuss teaching and learning observations.

Read and discuss an essay on teaching and learning.

2/ Review Biblical doctrines, ponder and discuss *the Faith and Knowledge questions* in the Mentoring manual or *Seven Aspects of Loving God With our Minds* (InterVarsity)

3/ Read and discuss "*The Inner Ring*", *The Weight of Glory*, C. S. Lewis, Harper Collins (1949) alongside *Looking Like Jesus*; Dallas Willard, *Christianity Today* (1990).

Consider our disordered desires and the need for intentionality in pursuing Christlikeness through spiritual discipline practices.

4/ Spiritual journeys of Christian faculty. Relection Two: Union Beginnings

Union Beginnings II

Second Year New Faculty

Fall Semester

Classroom Observations II: Dean of Instruction observes new faculty and discusses teaching and learning.

Possible three meetings during

Spring Semester

Session 1/ Reflection on first year:

How have you grown in understanding, accepting, and embracing the mission?

How is learning happening in your classes?

How were your FDP meetings at the end of Spring?

Grading and the grading process

Session 2/ Read and Discuss one of the following:

“Faith and Learning Take Practice,” Desiring the Kingdom, James A K Smith (2009)

“The Aims of Liberal Education” Leon Kass (1984)

“What the Best College Teachers do to Prepare to Teach,” Ken Bain (2004)

“The Morality of Teaching”; Stanley Hauerwas (2007)

“The Loss of the University;” Home Economics, Wendell Berry (2009)

A chapter from: A More Beautiful Question or Teaching Naked

Session 3/ Possible topics for discussion: Advising, Student Evaluations

End of Second Year Luncheon: Union Beginnings Second Year Reflection

Union Beginnings III

Third Year New Faculty

Fall Semester

Classroom Observation III: Peer review, third year new faculty member chooses a faculty member to observe based on what they would like to develop in their teaching.

“An appetite for knowledge and beauty exists in the human mind and God makes no appetite in vain. We can therefore pursue knowledge as such, and beauty as such, in the sure confidence that by doing so we are either advancing to the vision of God ourselves or indirectly helping others to do so.”

-C.S. Lewis, *Learning in Wartime*; The Weight of Glory.