The Frymoyer Scholars Program

Call for Proposals 2018

Deadline for receiving proposals:
March 16, 2018

Objective

Through the Frymoyer Scholars Program, the John W. and Nan P. Frymoyer Fund for Medical Education supports physicians and nurses who are actively engaged in teaching University of Vermont medical and nursing students and who embody the best qualities of the clinician teacher. The program is an investment in outstanding medical education and promotes teaching that emphasizes the art of patient care.

The John W. and Nan P. Frymoyer Fund for Medical Education supports clinician teachers. The distinguished physicians and nurses who will be recognized for their ability to understand and demonstrate humanistic interaction between clinician and patient will be designated as Frymoyer Scholars. The program is an investment in outstanding medical education and promotes teaching that emphasizes the art of patient care and the importance of the patient-provider relationship.

Nan Frymoyer’s death in 2010 marked the first decade of the Frymoyer Scholars program. In that time, the program grew to reflect the Frymoyers’ passion for nursing and medicine and their support for the institutions to which they dedicated their professional lives – The University of Vermont and Fletcher Allen Health Care.

Dr. Frymoyer’s orthopedic surgery practice brought him in constant contact with patients, and he speaks eloquently of the individual patients from whom he has learned. He trained initially as an internist and has maintained deep respect for primary care and its impact on patients.

During his tenure as Dean, the College of Medicine (now The Robert Larner, M.D. College of Medicine) gained national stature as an institution that provides exemplary educational programs in primary and specialty care. With its innovative Vermont Integrated Curriculum, the College of Medicine attracts increasing numbers of bright students who dedicate themselves to the practice of medicine with humanism and professionalism.

Nan Frymoyer’s nursing career reveals similar interests and particularly the importance of patient advocacy — the other side of the clinician-patient relationship. Years of community health nursing and a master’s degree in public health provided the foundation for Nan’s role in the planning and implementation of the Frymoyer Community Health Resource Center at The University of Vermont Medical Center. The goal of the Community Health Resource Center is to help community members become informed so that they can participate in decision-making about their health and that of their families. The Center also functions as a resource for professionals who encourage patients and families to educate themselves about health problems.

The University of Vermont is grateful to the Frymoyers for their significant contributions as teachers and for their establishment of this Fund. The presence of talented and committed clinician teachers, serving as Frymoyer Scholars, will ensure that our students are modeling behavior that will help them to maintain the values that brought them to medical school. This educational experience ideally will influence them throughout a lifetime of practice.
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Supported activities
Individuals elected as Frymoyer Scholars are awarded up to $25,000 a year for two years to develop innovative educational products or programs and/or to improve their teaching skills and in turn the relationship between clinician and patient. These funds should be used to complete a project or take courses in faculty development/bedside teaching that might not otherwise be done due to lack of funding. It is expected that two individuals will be selected as Frymoyer Scholars each year. Monies may be distributed among costs for salary support and resources to accomplish the proposed project.

For example, activities eligible for support may include:
- Development of curriculum innovations.
- Improvement of one’s contribution or teaching skills in clinical care.
- Creation of programs that demonstrate to students, faculty or community members how to teach outstanding patient care.
- Financial support for attending national professional meetings and courses dedicated to clinical teaching.

Eligibility
Physicians and nurses actively engaged in clinical patient care and educating University of Vermont medical or nursing students, and others in postgraduate training (e.g., residents and graduate students) in the context of that patient care are eligible to be designated Frymoyer Scholars.

Selection process
The Frymoyer Scholars Committee will make awards on a competitive basis.

Timetable
Proposals should be submitted electronically to:
The Frymoyer Scholars Committee
The Teaching Academy
by March 16, 2018 to: teaching.academy@med.uvm.edu
Awards will be announced no later than April 30, 2018.
Grant-supported activities may commence any time after June 30, 2018.

Components of the proposal
Interested individuals should submit:
- A two-page description of the proposed project or other use of the funds.
- A one-page statement of why the applicant is interested, what the applicant expects to accomplish, their commitment to clinical care and education.
- A budget for salary support and project resources; applications are strengthened by evidence of shared costs by departments. Please use the budget template.
- Curriculum Vitae with evidence of educational excellence.
- Two letters of support describing the excellence of the candidate as a clinician and clinician teacher and how the funds will be used. One of the letters of support should be from the candidate’s division chief, chair or supervisor.

Proposals should be submitted electronically to:
The Frymoyer Scholars Committee
teaching.academy@med.uvm.edu
The entire proposal, including CV’s, the project description, statement of interest, budget, and letters of support MUST be submitted as a single PDF document. Proposals that do not meet this requirement will NOT be reviewed.

Questions about proposals or requests for further assistance should be directed to:
The Teaching Academy
teaching.academy@med.uvm.edu

Selection criteria
- Quality of the proposal.
- Strength of the proposal’s contribution to improvement of the relationship between clinician and patient.
- Evidence of commitment to clinical education, commitment to project and support of department/division/program.

Evaluation and monitoring
Frymoyer Scholars will be required to submit annual progress and expenditure reports in March of the first year to receive second year funding. Projects will be evaluated annually by the Frymoyer Scholars Committee. Scholars will be given opportunities to discuss their projects and may be asked to report to the Academic Medical Center at large on their progress.