### Learn about LEAP. Collaborate with colleagues. Create action plans. Earn a stipend for faculty, staff or student development.

Liberal Education and America’s Promise (LEAP) is sweeping the nation as one of the most invigorating programs for institutional change that we’ve seen in higher education in decades. UW-Whitewater is on the forefront for LEAP, and now hundreds of other campuses around the country are joining in.

...LEAP challenges the traditional practice of providing liberal education to some students and narrow training to others. LEAP engages the public with core questions about what really matters in college; connects employers and educational leaders as they make the case for the importance of liberal education in the global economy and in our diverse democracy; and helps all students achieve the essential learning outcomes. Through LEAP, AAC&U calls on the United States to ‘make excellence inclusive’

so that all students receive the best and most powerful preparation for work, life and citizenship.

- <http://aacu.org/leap/>

## QUESTIONS

Now that our campus has adopted LEAP, many are wondering: What does LEAP mean? Where did it come from? How can we really use LEAP to benefit students? What happens next?

**INVITATION**

You are cordially invited to join a series of hands-on workshops designed to explore the many elements of LEAP. Campus representatives will be on hand to discuss an even bigger LEAP and facilitate larger conversations about what it can mean at UW-Whitewater. Help us define a LEAP vision. ***All campus employees and students are eligible to apply***.

##  THEME FOR 2017

For 2017, the workshop theme is “Bigger LEAP.” Since 2010, UW-W has come a long way in helping faculty and staff understand LEAP and how it can be used on our campus. It is time to think about how UW-W can take a “Bigger LEAP.” The vision of a “Bigger LEAP” is still being examined and if interested in being part of this discussion consider being part of this year’s LEAP workshop. Initial “Bigger LEAP” discussion points include using LEAP to embed equity into student learning, building connections across campus and the community, strengthening mentorship programs, and empowering students to take ownership of their educational experience.

You do not need to be a LEAP expert to help UW-W take a “Bigger LEAP.” If you have an idea about how to build connections across campus, improve student learning, promote and integrate high impact practices, or any other activity that supports the mission of the university it most likely aligns with the vision of LEAP.

Workshop teams will develop action plans describing how their project contributes to promoting a “Bigger LEAP” across campus.

## TEAMS

We invite campus faculty, staff, students and administrators to form teams to explore better ways to inform and engage students in our campus LEAP initiative. Each LEAP team will develop a short-term (spring semester) and long-term (academic year 2017-18) plan for using LEAP. Each team must include at least three and no more than five people and must include at least one student and one campus employee.

If you are new to LEAP, this workshop series is a great place to learn. If you participated ***once*** in a previous year, you are eligible to apply for this 2017 workshop series if you lead or join a new team. If you already participated on two or more LEAP teams, please contact Dale Splinter to see if there’s space available for advanced LEAP veterans.

If you are an individual looking to join a team, we can help you find teammates: please contact Dale Splinter at splinted@uww.edu.

**WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

Teams accepted for participation will:

1. Meet for two days from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (January 3-4) to explore LEAP. Team time will be available to develop concrete action plans.
2. Submit a team action plan by January 25 and work to implement the plan.
3. Meet again from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on May 22-23, 2017 to share progress from the spring semester, dig deeper into LEAP, exchange ideas for best practices, and revise team action plans for academic year 2017-2018.Your whole team needs to meet together during the May workshop. Team time will be available to revise concrete action plans.
4. Submit a revised team action plan by May 30 and work to implement the plan.
5. Attend a share-and-review session during the spring 2018 semester (to be scheduled later).

## STIPENDS

Eligible participants will receive stipends (per person) of $200 upon completion of the January workshop and approval of the team action plan. Participants receive an additional $600 after completion of the May workshop and approval of their revised action plan.

**University of Wisconsin**

**Whitewater**

**TO APP LY**

Form a team with 3 to 5 members. Each team must have at least one student and at least one campus employee.

Send an email by December 5 to Dale Splinter (splinted@uww.edu) with the following information (one email per team):

* A list of your team’s participants, with email addresses and each person’s department, unit or office.
* For each student, include the student’s anticipated graduation date (e.g., May 2018). We prefer that students remain active on the team through May 2018.
* Provide a one-paragraph description of your team’s main motivation and/or goal for participating in the 2017 LEAP workshop.

***Seats are limited for this workshop series***. Acceptance

will be subject to space availability, budget and our desire to have representation from a variety of departments and units across campus. Faculty, staff, and students that have not participated in a prior LEAP workshop will be given first consideration. A firm commitment to the entire workshop program is necessary in order to receive stipends.

Over 120 LEAP teams have participated so far. Now it’s your turn!

Please direct questions to Dale Splinter at splinted@uww.edu.



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