University of Maryland Research Leaders Fellows Program

Nominations for Inaugural Cohort

The University of Maryland’s Research Leaders Fellows Program is designed to accelerate the growth and potential of future research leaders at the University of Maryland through an intensive cohort-based leadership program with the goal of elevating the research career, productivity, and impact of UMD’s most promising researchers.

This 10-month collaborative program led by the Office of the Vice President for Research (VPR), fulfills one of twelve initiatives that President Pines announced on July 1, 2020. The program will feature ten interactive modules that will prepare and position faculty to accelerate the growth of their research program to new levels of excellence. Approximately 18 Fellows will be selected to participate in this initial cohort.

This program is specifically designed for recently tenured Associate Professors who have the potential to lead multidisciplinary research initiatives and/or direct future campus-wide centers or institutes. Nominations will be solicited from the Deans; however, we encourage candidates to self-nominate as well. Deans do not need to endorse or review self-nominations. Exceptions for Professional Track Faculty and assistant and full professors will be considered with appropriate justification.

This program will help faculty by:

- Developing leadership skills to build and manage large multidisciplinary research teams
- Learning approaches for creative ideation to formulate and capture big ideas
- Cultivating unique leadership strengths
- Learning from faculty who pursued, led and captured transformative large center-level awards
- Connecting with a peer group of similarly focused and motivated researchers at UMD
- Receiving individual, personalized mentorship from current research leaders and coaching sessions to maximize and extend the impact of the program
- Discovering the proposal support resources available to help you as a Research Leader after the successful completion of the course
Draft Schedule of Modules: October 2020-June 2021

Module 1: Welcome, Expectations, Leadership Discussion (w/ President Pines) 60 mins
Module 2: National/International Funding landscape; University research strategy, Characteristics of high-performing research centers 90 minutes
Module 3: Understanding Leadership - Strengths Finder Assessment-120 mins
Module 4: Leading a Major Research Effort & Preparing for Major Funding Opportunity 90 Mins
Module 5: Successful Networking (Internal/External) 75 minutes
Module 6: Big Idea Workshop - Frame Shifting, Future Visioning 90 minutes
Module 7: Negotiation 90 minutes
Module 8: Communicating Research Effectively (w/ exercise) 60 mins
Module 9: Inclusive Leadership 60 minutes
Module 10: Building Teams and Team Excellence 90 minutes
Closing: Taking Next Steps, Summarizing What’s Next, Resources (w/ President Pines) 75 mins