

## **General Policies and Professional Development**

The professional development of faculty is a high priority for AddRan College. Faculty are encouraged to participate in scholarly conferences, attend workshops, and provide service to disciplinary organizations and societies. This type of activity is important to staying current with disciplinary trends, improving skills and techniques, informing instructional content and methods, and promoting TCU to colleagues. TCU provides a number of resources in support of professional development.

The Koehler Center for Teaching Excellence, the Writing Center, and the Office of Sponsored Research provide programs, support, and services for faculty. In addition faculty should take advantage of other university programs such as the Research and Creative Activity Fund (RCAF), Instructional Development Grants, the Junior Faculty Summer Research Program (JFSRP), and Faculty Leaves of Absence for professional development.

At the college level development assistance is available through the Grant Submission Incentive Program, the Administrative Fellowship Program, and the Institute for Urban Living and Innovation's Small Grant Research Program. The AddRan College Distinguished Faculty Lecture Series also enables professional development for the faculty member selected to deliver the annual lecture.

Travel support for professional activity and faculty development is available primarily at the departmental level. Each academic unit within the college has a budget for faculty travel and distributes those funds following departmental guidelines. All permanent, full-time faculty are eligible for travel funds although the amount each receives may vary across departments. The AddRan College Dean's Office supplements departmental travel funds for international conferences, holding offices in professional organization which requires travel to perform the duties of the office, and for other special activities as funds are available and at the discretion of the Dean. Faculty seeking travel funds or support for other professional development activities from the Office of the Dean should route the request through the department chair.

College staff are encouraged to take advantage of professional development programs offered through Human Resources.