

ABOUT IUPUI

**ADMISSIONS** 

ACADEMICS & LIBRARIES

RESEARCH

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

ATHLETICS

**EVENTS** 

# **Graduate Office**

**Graduate Degree Programs** and Admissions

**Graduate Office Events** 

**Graduate Non-Degree Program** 

#### **Current Students**

IUPUI Graduate Expo

**Graduate Office Contacts** 

Student Organizations

Student Health Insurance

Preparing Future Faculty (PFF)

**Faculty & Staff** 

**About Our Office** 

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UPUI Graduate Office



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# **Preparing Future Faculty (PFF)**

The Preparing Future Faculty program offered at IUPUI is designed to introduce advanced graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to the full range of professional responsibilities in research, teaching, and service that will be encountered in the academy. As part of a larger effort to expand professional development in graduate education, the PFF program objectives are to:

- Supplement the academic credentials of our graduate students.
- Enhance marketability of PFF participants.
- Support schools and/or departments in producing more effective and knowledgeable future faculty.
- Provide the best possible preparation for future faculty in collaboration with each individual's school and/or department.

The PFF program offered through IUPUI enhances departmental programs and provides of interest to graduate students and postdocs across all disciplines seeking careers in higher education. The national Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) program was established by the Association of American Colleges and Universities and the Council of Graduate Schools to address a need to prepare graduate students for a future faculty career. Typically, doctoral programs are research focused and not designed to provide guidance for those interested in faculty careers. The PFF program is intended to help potential faculty by offering opportunities to gain knowledge and experience in teaching and service as well as in research. Universities and colleges are increasingly interested in hiring new faculty who are fully prepared to excel in all areas of endeavor. Since these changing expectations may not be addressed in all doctoral programs, the <u>national PFF movement</u> came to be.

# Preparing for the Academy IUPUI Preparing Future Faculty Fall Symposium

Prospective PFF Participants | Current PFF Scholars | PFF Blog | Resources

# **Prospective PFF Participants**

Eligibility | Requirements | Application | What PFF Alums Have to Say

#### Eligibility

Current IUPUI graduate students and postdoctoral fellows/scholars may enroll in the PFF program. IU School of Medicine PhD students cannot begin the PFF program until they have selected a permanent PhD program and joined the laboratory of a permanent faculty mentor, typically in the second year.

#### Requirements

PFF Scholars choose from a wide variety of university workshops, activities, seminars, courses, and events to improve their knowledge of faculty life and roles. These opportunities are updated each semester and outlined in the <a href="Program Plan">Program Plan</a>. To earn a letter of participation and certificate of completion, PFF Scholars satisfactorily completing a variety of unit-based activities that must include a minimum of:

- · Six units in teaching related topics
- Five units in research, service, or organizational and business/professional development related topics
- · One unit in a capstone experience

Organizational and business/professional development topics may also include those that are related to career advancement approaches, e.g., mock interviews, job search strategies, and portfolio



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@IUPUIGradOffice: Did you know the IUPUI Graduate
Office has a table at this year's Indiana Black Expo?
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IUPUIGradOffice Come see at the #INBlackExpo this weekend! Booth #721 #IUPUI ow.lyi/MUHB

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preparation.

The capstone experience is chosen by the scholar. This could include, participating in the mentoring portion of this program, developing a portfolio, developing a grant proposal, serving on an academic committee, etc. PFF Scholars will be expected to submit a <u>reflective essay</u> on their experience with the program, as part of the capstone experience.

#### Back to top

#### **Application Process**

All applicants must attend a group **orientation session** or schedule an individual orientation session with Assistant Dean NaShara Mitchell, IUPUI Graduate Office.

The application consists of:

- · Applicant information
- Brief statement of interest describing why you wish to participate
- · Brief summary of your current career goals and interests
- · Current curriculum vita, resume or biosketch
- · Letter of recommendation from your program advisor

Mail or deliver the completed application to:

Preparing Future Faculty Program IUPUI Graduate Office University Library 1170 755 W. Michigan Street Indianapolis, IN 46202

The next PFF Orientation Session is TBD.

# Back to top

#### **Current PFF Scholars**

<u>Current Program Plan | PFF Mentor Program | PFF OnCourse Site | PFF Blog PFF Alumni Share Their PFF Experiences</u>

### **Preparing Future Faculty Mentoring Program**

The mentoring program was developed to further enhance the overall IUPUI PFF program. Through this mentoring program, PFF Scholars are paired with a faculty member from one of the partner institutions and given the opportunity to participate in a series of activities that provide more in-depth and first-hand knowledge of faculty life from a diverse range of experiences and perspectives.

The program is open to all current PFF Scholars at IUPUI. Those interested in being paired with a mentor should complete the PFF Scholar Profile Form and forward it to the IUPUI Graduate Office. The information provided will be entered into a database and the process to find a match will begin. Once a potential match has been made, the PFF office will facilitate an initial meeting between the mentor and scholar to establish a plan for accomplishing mentoring goals and activities that will help him or her achieve specific skills and competencies needed to achieve success in the professoriate. In addition, a mentoring agreement will be signed by the scholar and mentor at this point. Once the plan has been established, the scholar will begin visits (a minimum of four) with the mentor at his or her institution. It is strongly encouraged that the scholar's academic advisor participates in the initial planning meeting to ensure a proper balance of activities is achieved.

#### **Program Expectations**

Throughout the course of this mentorship experience, PFF Scholars have the opportunity to observe and take part in a variety of faculty related activities. These activities may include but are not limited to working with the faculty member and his or her colleagues on pedagogical development; under the direction and support of the mentor teaching a class or portion of a class at the partner institution;

attending faculty, departmental, and administrative meetings; consulting with the mentor regarding faculty obligations at that institution; and discussing how the mentor balances the demands of teaching, research, and service. The <u>Activity Planning Guide for Mentors and PFF Scholars</u> document will be used to formulate and direct the activities.

The scholar is required to submit to the PFF director an analytical essay on his or her mentoring experience, not only describing the activities undertaken, but also reflecting analytically on them, considering how they contributed to his or her professional growth. Scholars will also be expected to share this experience with others at the PFF capstone event. It should be noted that the reflective piece required for the mentoring program is different from the one required at the end of the overall PFF experience.

While there is a minimum of only four visits with the mentor, Scholars are encouraged to spend more time, if possible, at the host institution, to allow for both sustained interaction with the mentor and a sufficient range of experiences over the course of the six-month or year-long period. With this in mind, Scholars should be at a stage in their graduate program that allows them the most flexibility to spend as much time as possible with the mentor on-site.

Scholars choosing to participate in the mentoring program may use this experience in lieu of four of the required units in research, teaching, service, or any combination of the three areas, depending on the type of activity.

#### To Participate

PFF Scholars interested in the PFF Mentoring Program should submit a completed <u>PFF Scholar Profile</u> <u>Form</u> to the IUPUI Graduate Office. This will aid in establishing the appropriate mentor match.

Faculty interested in becoming a mentor for the IUPUI PFF Mentor Program should complete the <u>Faculty Mentor Profile Form</u> and forward it to IUPUI Graduate Office.

#### **Related Resources**

- PFF Application
- Program Plan
- PFF Scholar Profile
- Faculty Mentor Profile
- PFF Mentoring Agreement
- Mentoring Profile Form
- · Activity Planning Guide
- Reflective Essay Information
- IUPUI PFF Blog
- COS Info Guide
- The Chronicle of Higher Education
- National Postdoctoral Association
- Minority Postdoc

#### Campus Info

Help Me:

317-274-5555420 University Blvd.Indianapolis, IN 46202

Campus Contacts

A-Z Index

#### Campus News



IUPUI student's drive takes her to Brickyard as race engineer for Jeff ...



IUPUI professor receives Association of Midwest Museums Distinguished ...

#### **Events Calendar**



Summer 2 - Classes End - Only classes that did not meet on the  $\dots$  Mon, Aug 6

Amina Khazie M.F.A. Exhibition *Mon, Aug 6* 

Russian Posters - Rodchenko 120

# Campus Tools

Oncourse

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