

Wisner Professor for Gender and Diversity Studies, 2023

The Patricia Wisner Professorship for Gender and Diversity Studies is a two-year fellowship offered through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) and the Provost's Office. The award supports academic scholarship in the fields of gender and sexuality and its intersections with race and class. It enables the Professor to pursue activities that enhance their development as scholars, teachers, and campus leaders, enables their advancement within the Seattle University system, and promotes diversity within the SU community.

The Wisner Professor serves the University as an intellectual leader, modeling academic excellence through a scholarly agenda that is focused on issues of structural inequality, in keeping with our commitment to education for justice in the Jesuit and Catholic tradition. The Wisner Professor aligns with two University areas as follows:

- [The Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#): Works collaboratively with the Vice President, and pools resources to sponsor or co-sponsor university-led events such as Women's History Month; sponsors book launch events; offers thought leadership and works to support [Goal 4 of Reigniting Our Strategic Directions](#) (Promote Inclusive Excellence) and other related aspects of SU's inclusive excellence priorities as led by the ODI; and can include working with students on events to foster skills for research, advocacy, activism, and community organizing and engagement.
- [Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Executive Committee](#): Serves as an *ex officio* member representative of the larger WGST Network; attends Executive Committee meetings (three/term) during the academic year to assist the Director in operations of the program, including recruiting of faculty for specific courses; and includes full voting privileges on all major and minor motions related to the Program.

Award Components (per year):

Course release(s) provide release time from teaching and resources to conduct an individual research project, lead and participate in relevant ODI endeavors, and present research findings in various Seattle University fora. Awardees will receive three course releases (15 work units), if the Professor teaches on a quarter system (Albers, ASC, CAS, College of Education, Nursing), or two course releases (10 work units), if the Professor teaches on a semester system (Law School).

Monetary compensation includes

1. professional development funding: \$7,000
2. programmatic funding: \$3,000

Eligibility: Tenured faculty who are accomplished interdisciplinary scholars in the areas of gender and diversity.

Application Timeline:

Application period opens: January 17, 2023

Deadline for receipt: March 17, 2023

Announce recipient: Spring Quarter

Grant period begins: July 1, 2023

Application Guidelines:

1. *A two-page curriculum vitae*
2. *A cover letter stating your reasons for applying for the Wismer Professorship.* The letter will include evidence of your ongoing commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion at Seattle University. The committee will be especially interested in candidates displaying a demonstrated commitment to intersectional feminism, which challenges racialized feminist conceptions. The cover letter should also include:
 - a) A discussion of your teaching, service, and research qualifications;
 - b) Your short and long-term career objectives; and
 - c) How the professorship might contribute to your career objectives and to advancing the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at Seattle University.
3. *A research proposal (no more than one single-spaced page).* Describe the rationale and substance of planned individual research project, detailing how your research will contribute to the canon of knowledge on issues germane to intersectional feminism including gender, race, identity, and sexuality. Include how you will take your work to a public audience, including but limited to journal articles, book chapters, creative projects, community outreach, and advocacy.
4. *A service proposal (no more than one single-spaced page):* Describe plans to work with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion on endeavors you would like to collaborate on with the Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion or propose future projects you would like to design and implement with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Required Deliverables:

- Publish at least one substantial article/creative work for each year.
- In partnership with ODI, organize at least one academic event per year designed to enhance the campus intellectual climate for students and faculty around the interdisciplinary study of race, gender, class, sexuality, and their intersections.
- Develop a plan/process, in collaboration with ODI, to continue to evolve the Wismer Professorship at Seattle University.

Application Submission Process:

Submit applications and materials to ODI via email to Paige Powers, Senior Executive Coordinator, at powerspaige@seattleu.edu.

Selection Criteria:

- Record of past service, teaching expertise, and publications that demonstrates a commitment to issues related to gender and diversity.
- Merit of the project(s) in relation to topics of gender and diversity.
- Clarity of the proposal for readers not in the applicant's discipline.
- Significance of the intended research objectives to the discipline(s).
- Likelihood that the project(s) will result in publication and/or other discipline-appropriate public presentation formats.
- Realistic project completion timeline.

- Investment in the future direction of the Wismer Professorship.

Selection Committee

Natasha Martin, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion

Wismer Professor, Professor Dean Spade, immediate past professorship holder (2021-2023)

Paige Gardner, Assistant Professor, Student Development Administration

Rachel Luft, Associate Professor, Sociology

** Selection Committee will provide a recommendation for selection to the Provost Shane Martin

Past Wismer Professors for Gender and Diversity

Jeanette Rodriguez (Theology and Religious Studies), 2001–2003

Kellye Teste (School of Law), 2001–2003

Nalini Iyer (English), 2004–2005

Bridget Heidemann (Economics), 2005–2007

Gabriella Gutierrez y Muhs (Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies & Modern Languages), 2007–2009

Connie Anthony (Political Science), 2009–2011

Cynthia Moe-Lobeda (Theology and Religious Studies), 2011–2013

Pamela Taylor (College of Education), 2013–2015

Jodi O'Brien (Sociology), 2015–2017

Holly Ferraro (Management), 2017–2019

Dean Spade (School of Law), 2021-2023