Organizational Development for Academics

Programming and Services for the Academic Community

The Division of Human Resources supports Cornell’s academics with courses that examine interactions with staff, students, faculty, and other professionals; increase awareness of policy and legal issues, and foster professional and leadership skills.

Register for the programs below at CuLearn.

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Effective Interactions in Organizations (EIO): For Department Chairs

Overview: This 3-day professional development program will allow new and continuing chairs to focus on the interactions they have with staff, students, academic professionals, faculty and a variety of other individuals in their role as chair. Cases brought to life by Cornell Interactive Theater Ensemble, set the stage for discussion of a variety of issues where law and policy may be the backdrop but the challenges are to create a climate of inclusion and respect. Appropriate responses to legal and policy issues as well as responses to issues of academic and workplace climate, diversity, inclusion, and individual performance and the emotions those situations surface.

- **Schedule:** Twice per year (June and December)
- **Location:** TBD on campus
- **Registration:** Capped at 20
Program Goals:

- Ensure department chairs understand the expectations of formal leadership positions in their departments, whether it is in the classroom, laboratory, research project, or other department, college or university sponsored initiative.
- Provide chairs with practical information about law that applies to situations they are likely to encounter.
- Optimize effective interactions with staff, students and faculty by providing concrete tools to work through challenging situations.
- Explore a framework for behavior feedback that recognizes and addresses the key role of emotions and the need to address individual/institutional concerns.
- Practice using the framework, with cases similar to situations participants might encounter, and the emotional reality that professional actors bring to the antagonist role.

Chairs will gain:

- An understanding of the expectations Cornell has for members of the academic community.
- Self-awareness which allows them to understand how they translate intentions into behavior. They will also learn how to modify their behavior to have a positive effect on the students, faculty colleagues, and academic and administrative staff who are part of this academic community, and the larger constituencies that the Chair serves.
- An understanding of specific behaviors associated with successful leadership in the academic environment.
- Specific tools and practices that can be applied to a variety of situations.
- An awareness of the resources available to help the Chair succeed in the multi-faceted role.
- A community of practice in which scholars explore and discuss best practices in leadership, scholarship and pedagogy, share their own experiences of these things and are enriched by the experiences of their colleagues.

Conflict Resolution for Faculty at Large (EIO series)

- **Schedule:** Twice per year (May and December)
- **Location:** TBD on campus  **Registration:** Capped at 20

**Overview:** Academics, whether they are program directors, principal investigators, committee chairs, or faculty going about the business of teaching, research, and outreach must be able to resolve conflicts which might include:

- Conflict among the teaching team, lab group or program Performance issues with subordinates
- Different expectations across a research collaboration
- Conflicts with a more senior or more influential faculty member
We typically understand why conflict happens and we know the importance of resolution. But we often struggle with how to address it in such a way that needs get met and people can continue to work productively together. This full day program focuses on an approach to conversations that allows for the achievement of both of these goals. Cases brought to life by Cornell Interactive Theater Ensemble, set the stage for discussion and skill development.

**Program Goals:**

- Explore an approach to conflict resolution that recognizes and addresses individual and institutional needs.
- Practice using the approach with cases similar to situations you might encounter, and the emotional reality that professional actors bring to the antagonist role.
- Become acquainted with university resources to help you address conflicts.

**Cornell Faculty Leadership Program**

**Overview:** Originally developed for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in 2005, this program for academics is now sponsored by the VP of Human Resources for all Cornell faculty. The Cornell Faculty Leadership Program offers participants an opportunity to gain professional and leadership skills, reflect on career and personal goals, and connect with colleagues. Case-based and experiential learning help faculty shape their future by enhancing self-awareness about personal style and impact in the unique and inclusive academic environment. Participants will apply their experience and knowledge to situations consistent with challenges in academic institutions today. A colleague feedback process begins during the program and continues after the immersion with a formal 360 degree feedback process followed by three personal coaching sessions to review the data and integrate it with each individual’s personal development plan. Coaching sessions can be arranged in person in Ithaca, via Skype or phone.

- **Audience:** Faculty, and senior-level academic professionals
- **Schedule:** Twice per year (January and June)
- **Location:** TBD
- **Cost:** Internal to Cornell – $600 External to Cornell - $1,600

**Objectives**

- Define and analyze the role of leadership in higher education
- Determine the traits, competencies, capabilities, and skills needed to perform the role successfully
- Examine and practice techniques and tools for understanding oneself and others, setting direction, communicating with individuals and groups, building teams, appraising and coaching performance, resolving conflict, and leading change.
- Provide faculty an opportunity, away from day-to-day responsibilities, to reflect
on themselves, the diverse challenges they face, and to share practices and techniques for addressing those challenges.

**Goals:**

- Enhanced self-awareness about personal style and impact.
- Enhanced interpersonal communication skills for increasing personal influence, giving and receiving feedback, and resolving conflict.
- Greater team effectiveness through understanding how to build strong, cohesive teams that work well together.
- Understanding the dynamics of change at an organizational level: how to design it, embrace it, and guide it effectively.
- Increased awareness of alternatives available to participants, and to resources within Cornell.
- Increased effectiveness in responding to the needs/expectations of colleagues and administrators.

**Management Institute for Academic Professionals (FACDEV400)**

Sponsored by the VP of Human Resources and Cornell University Libraries, this certificate bearing program is designed for Academic Professionals who manage labs, programs, staff, students or volunteers. The program focuses on respectful and inclusive human dynamics in the academic context and includes 8 sessions. Each session runs 3 hours.

- **Audience:** Academic Professionals (Librarians, Research Associates, Extension Associates, and Lecturers)
- **Schedule:** Twice per year (Spring and Fall terms)
- **Location:** Central Campus (varies)  **Cost:** $100 to cover the cost of materials
  Registration is capped at 20.

**Post Doctoral Leadership Program**

**Post Doctoral Leadership Program** Cosponsored by the Graduate School and the VP of Human Resources, this 11 session program is designed to introduce postdocs to some key concepts and skills of leadership in today’s complex environment. It provides a practical forum to assess and develop personal leadership skills in self-knowledge, planning and problem solving, group dynamics and team building, cultural fluency, conflict resolution, and facilitation of change.

**Contact:** Christine Holmes, Director Post Doctoral Program

**Schedule:** September through April
**Issue-Specific Services**

In addition to formal programming for academic professionals, faculty and chairs, coaching and consultation is available on the following topics:

- Department climate assessment and consultation on climate improvement
- Conflict management
- Cultural fluency and inclusion dynamics
- Team development & optimization (teams that include faculty, academic and non-academic staff, post-doctoral staff, and students)
- Change management
- Strategic planning
- Working with committees (structure, charge, process) Individual coaching
- Developmental 360 assessments
- Human dynamics in research collaborations
- Influencing across different power structures
- Process consulting/retreat design and facilitation
- Managing performance issues

Contact [Pam Strausser](mailto:strausser@yourdomain.edu) or [Rehana Huq](mailto:rehanahuq@yourdomain.edu)

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