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TO: Boston University Faculty

FROM: Jean Morrison, University Provost and Chief Academic Officer 

DATE: August 20, 2019

SUBJECT: Invitation to Participate in Provost's Mentor Fellows Program

I write to invite your participation in the inaugural Provost's Mentor Fellows Program, a selective cohort-based program designed to promote and highlight excellence in mentoring. Participants in this program will join a community of faculty committed to deepening their mentoring practices, identify new mentoring strategies, and develop a mentoring plan that meets NSF and NIH proposal requirements. Discussion topics will include setting expectations, giving and receiving feedback, resources for career conversations, identifying and resolving challenges, and culturally aware mentoring.

Excellence in mentoring is a critical part of research training and scholarship at Boston University. Research has documented the positive impact of mentorship on various outcomes, including research productivity, academic promotion, faculty retention, and career satisfaction. These benefits are aligned with our commitment to provide high quality doctoral and postdoctoral research training opportunities and have the potential to enhance our research efforts, educational opportunities, and the diversity of our future leaders.

Faculty interested in participating in the Provost's Mentor Fellows Program should submit an application via the Professional Development & Postdoctoral Affairs [website](#). Applications will consist of:

- A "biosketch" of no more than two pages, including contact information, education, and a summary of scholarship;
- A cover letter of no more than one page that describes your current experiences in mentoring (if any), what mentoring issues are of interest or concern to you, and reasons for wanting to participate in the program;
- A letter of support from your department chair; and
- A sample mentoring plan (optional)

The deadline for applications is Friday, September 6, 2019. Faculty accepted into the program will be notified of their acceptance by September 13, 2019. For questions concerning this program, please contact Sarah Hokanson, Assistant Provost of Professional Development & Postdoctoral Affairs (schl@bu.edu).