

# MARYLAND UNIVERSITY OF INTEGRATIVE HEALTH

## Center for Teaching and Learning Fund

### At a Glance:

The strength of any academic institution of higher education rests squarely on the shoulders of its faculty. As Maryland University of Integrative Health continues to expand academic offerings and increase enrollment, we must create opportunities and resources for faculty to develop and strengthen their expertise in teaching.

Contributions to this fund will be used to:

- Developing a Center for Teaching and Learning
- Assessing strengths and areas for faculty improvement
- Providing teaching resources for on-campus and online faculty

**Funding:** \$1.2 million over the next five years

### Growing Enrollment Increases Need for Expertly Prepared Faculty

In 2009, Maryland University of Integrative Health decided to embark upon an ambitious plan to significantly expand academic offerings, attract and retain the best and most talented faculty, and achieve university status. By the end of 2013, we had achieved each of these goals. In just four years, our academic programming has grown from four degrees and certificate programs to 18, and enrollment has nearly doubled to 800 graduate students. Also in 2013, we earned university status, making MUIH the only regionally-accredited university on the East Coast exclusively dedicated to integrative health and natural wellness.

As we look to 2015 and beyond, we have plans to continue expanding our academic offerings as well as increasing our graduate student enrollment. This growth, while very exciting, brings a new challenge of recruiting and developing faculty. It is not unusual for universities to attract field and content experts who lack the necessary expertise in teaching. And it is especially true in the field of integrative health, where most experts are primarily clinical practitioners. It is rare in this field to find faculty who have expertise in both.

Across the country, progressive universities address this dilemma through the creation of a Center for Teaching and Learning. It is here that instructors can address diverse teaching challenges through a variety of faculty development activities and resources.

### Fierce Competition to Attract the Best and Brightest

As the field of integrative health continues to grow, so does the competition for excellent faculty. We cannot afford to be naïve about this and cannot underestimate our competition. Many universities and medical schools are jumping on board and offering programs similar in name to our programs, but without the transformative experience we offer our students and without our deeper healing philosophy. While we know what we offer is unique, special, and desperately needed, this developing competition presents a new challenge. The only way to remain at the forefront of this field is to invest in our academic programming, and to specifically invest in the heart and soul of this work, our faculty. Key to maintaining this competitive edge is making certain that our faculty are supported and nurtured, are immersed in the most up-to-date practices in pedagogy, and are able to deliver cutting-edge courses, both in person and online.

## **Providing Our Faculty with the Resources They Need**

Maryland University of Integrative Health's Center for Teaching and Learning will provide opportunities for faculty to develop and strengthen their expertise in teaching. Services will include one-on-one consultations, small-group workshops, learning communities, guest lectures, and university-wide forums. Because some of our faculty teach exclusively online and reside across the nation, we will offer these activities in person and virtually.

## **Join Us**

Join us in creating a Center for Teaching and Learning that will ensure the satisfaction and development of our esteemed faculty, advance the quality of teaching, and will ultimately build a culture of teaching excellence.



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Maryland University of Integrative Health is one of the nation's only accredited graduate schools with an academic and clinical focus on health and wellness.