Social Entrepreneurship Professorships at Tulane

Social entrepreneurs employ "entrepreneurial skills," such as finding opportunities, inventing new approaches, securing and focusing resources and managing risk, in the service of creating a social value. As the intensity and complexity of social and environmental problems has grown in recent years social entrepreneurship, defined as innovative, social value creating activity that can occur within or across the nonprofit, government or business sectors, has become increasingly prominent. While virtually all enterprises, commercial and social, generate social value, fundamental to this definition is that the primary focus of social entrepreneurship is to achieve social impact above all.

Building upon our strengths in civic engagement and service learning, Tulane University has developed an interdisciplinary University wide program in Social Entrepreneurship to focus on solution-oriented thinking, integrating theory and practice, and stimulating research across fields to better understand and create new models for social change. We believe our significant contribution to the field is to channel the strength and resources of a research University to develop an academically rigorous understanding of the field by developing research and teaching in the field. Further we believe Faculty from all the disciplines of the school can contribute to the advancement of this University Wide endeavor and we value an academically diverse approach to the study of Social Entrepreneurship.

We also believe that the continuing and growing student interest in social innovation is best served by aligning our strengths with student needs and we have developed an undergraduate minor in social entrepreneurship and innovation. Over time we are exploring the expansion of this into a coordinate major.

Description of Professorships
In 2011 with generous donor support we established the inaugural endowed Social Entrepreneurship Professorships with 5 distinguished faculty members appointed for renewable terms. This initial cadre helped provide the critical mass of faculty support needed to create a university-wide, interdisciplinary program in Social Entrepreneurship.

In 2012 we will add to the ongoing positions with two new endowed positions. Collectively the ongoing and new professorships will constitute a dynamic, interdisciplinary faculty team motivated to support and develop the program across the entire university. The professorships will be granted for renewable two-year terms to faculty whose area of research, work, interest, and extracurricular activities can be linked to social entrepreneurship, no matter in which school or discipline they work.

Those faculty granted the professorship would be expected to share their learning with the largest possible number of students by establishing social entrepreneurship related courses and seminars, teaching within the SISE minor and supporting other initiatives of the Social Entrepreneurship Program. These professors are the core faculty to advance Social Entrepreneurship initiatives on campus and will be part of an advisory committee supporting the Social Entrepreneurship Program.

Criteria for 2012
- The Social Entrepreneurship Professorships will be granted for a renewable two-year term, to two
faculty members, to support their work and commitment to service learning and Social entrepreneurship, as well as to provide additional resources to support faculty to link their work within a social entrepreneurship framework.

To be eligible for appointment as a Social Entrepreneurship Professor, a faculty member must satisfy the following criteria:

a. Hold an appointment as a full-time member of the faculty (tenure track, clinical track or professor of the practice track) at Tulane University.
b. Have a strong record of scholarship and accomplishment and the desire to engage their work through a social entrepreneurship lens.
c. Be dedicated to the highest standards of professional excellence.
d. Have the willingness to work across disciplines to help promote social entrepreneurship across the university.

Requirements
Social Entrepreneurship Professors will be required to teach, develop a research or practice agenda, and participate in the development of the Social Entrepreneurship Program. Their specific responsibilities include:

Teaching:
Develop a new service learning or capstone course that utilizes a social entrepreneurship framework in year one of the professorship, to be taught in year two and/or teach one of the core SISE minor classes (introduction to SISE 2010, Design Thinking, Leadership, and Business for Non-Business students, Senior Seminar)

Research/Practice:
The field of social entrepreneurship will benefit from the scholarly research conducted by Research University faculty. A SE Professor has the opportunity and obligation to develop research that will advance the field that is simultaneously aligned with their current discipline and academic interests. Our goal is to work with SE Professors and their departments to identify research projects that advance their scholarly career and are not just perceived within their disciplines as “distractions” from their career work. To that end the office of Academic Affairs will work with faculty and their departments to demonstrate the alignment of and career value in becoming an SE Professor as well as the University commitment to the importance of the work.

Program Development:
Actively participate in development of the Social Entrepreneurship Program through participation in a social entrepreneurship advisory committee that includes the direction of the SISE Minor and potential coordinate major.

Procedure
Social Entrepreneurship Professors are appointed by the President of the University on a renewable two year term. After announcing a call for nominations, the President will make the appointments in consultation with the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. The Provost will consult with the Assistant Provost for Social Innovation and Community Engagement, relevant Deans, Center and
Institute Directors, Department Chairs, and/or other faculty colleagues on nominations for the Social Entrepreneurship Professorships. The Provost will solicit resumes and other information from candidates, and arrange for interviews, as necessary.

**Privileges of the Title**

Within the constraints of available resources, individuals with the title of Social Entrepreneurship Professor will be provided special financial support for course development and social entrepreneurship research or practice opportunities, and for their professional activities in social entrepreneurship.

Social Entrepreneurship Professors will each receive annually anywhere between $7,500 and $10,000 for course development grants, course buy-outs, and incentive funds for social entrepreneurship activities.

Social Entrepreneurship Professors will have the opportunity to promote their social entrepreneurship endeavors through cross-departmental, cross-School, and/or university-wide activities and will coordinate with other Social Entrepreneurship Professors (and a special advisory committee) to develop Tulane’s Social Entrepreneurship program.

Appointment as a Social Entrepreneurship Professor will not change the nature of the formal appointment or tenure of a faculty member.