

2017 Academic Chairperson's Conference Proposal

Title: Moral Leadership and the Chairperson

Theme: Leadership and Management

Presentation type: Brown Bag Lunch Discussion

Abstract:

What does it mean for chairpersons to exercise moral leadership? This discussion will focus on clarifying what moral leadership means to chairpersons, what sorts of moral challenges are faced, and how chairpersons can exercise moral leadership.

Description:

The familiar role of department leadership is typically understood to include advocating on behalf of the interests of the department, its faculty, and its staff. Is this all leadership consists in, or do chairpersons have moral obligations beyond serving the interests of the department (and implementing administrative policies)? What does moral leadership mean, and what does it require? Are there broader interests, for example, in advocating for policies and practices that benefit the college, the university, the discipline, or perhaps the entire faculty? Are there moral leadership duties to advocate for social and racial justice? These, and other questions, will be examined at this lunch discussion.