



January 6, 2018

Re: Center for Excellence in Leadership, Learning, and Scholarship

Dear President Downs and Provost LaFave:

Northern State University has a long tradition as the leading teacher-training institution in South Dakota and the upper Midwest/Great Plains region. We can be proud of the contribution Northern continues to make producing quality K-12 teachers for our communities, state, and region. Surprisingly given that record, we do relatively little related to professional development for teaching and scholarship focused on higher education.

To help address that and further establish Northern as the premier institution for excellence in education at all levels, I propose Northern establish a Center for Excellence in Leadership, Learning, and Scholarship to serve as the organizational nexus for innovation and professional development on campus. The Center will sponsor activities designed to promote a campus-wide culture of excellence, innovation, and continuous improvement in professional development in post-secondary education, including scholarship on instruction, student learning, classroom management, and student engagement, among other topics.

The Center will also coordinate a training program for new faculty, a faculty fellowship program, and offerings of First Year Seminar, among other duties. The Director of CELLS (not sure I like this acronym) will be a faculty member with reassigned time equal to one course per semester to compensate for those administrative duties. The Director position will be appointed by the Provost and report to the Provost or his/her designee for a three-year term that may be reappointed for one subsequent term. The Center's activities will be advised by an Executive Committee chaired by the Director and include two full-time faculty members elected from each college/school and two student representatives. The Deans and Provost will serve as non-voting, ex-officio members of the Executive Committee. I look forward to discussing this proposal with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Josh Hagen', written over a white background.

Joshua Hagen



Northern State University
Director, Center for Excellence in Leadership, Learning, and Scholarship

Northern State University seeks a Director for its Center for Excellence in Leadership, Learning, and Scholarship to begin August 2020. In addition to performing the duties assigned to full-time faculty members at Northern State University, the Director will coordinate duties advancing faculty professional development and scholarship in leadership and learning.

Qualifications:

- A terminal degree in one of the programs offered at Northern
- Qualification meriting tenure and the rank of Associate Professor or Professor
- Administrative experience and evidence of leadership qualities
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills

Responsibilities:

- Prepare and manage annual budgets
- Submit annual reports documenting the Center's effectiveness and impact
- Supervise training program for new faculty
- Supervise faculty fellowship program for scholarship on teaching and learning
- Coordinate offerings of First Year Seminar
- Coordinate campus-wide Open Classrooms initiative
- Organize regular professional development workshops, seminars, etc.
- Promote adoption of best practices in teaching and learning across campus
- Organize events to help students prepare for life after graduation
- Other duties as assigned by the Provost or designee

Setting: Northern State University is a premier residential institution located in the growing city of Aberdeen, South Dakota. Characterized by outstanding instruction, extraordinary community relations, and unparalleled extracurricular opportunities, NSU is consistently named one of the best undergraduate public institutions in the Midwest by US News and World Report. NSU is fully accredited by NCATE and HLC.

Application: Review of applications will begin on January 15, 2020 and continue until the position is filled. Applications should include a letter of application addressing qualifications, curriculum vitae, statement of administrative philosophy, copies of undergraduate and graduate transcripts, and contact information for three references.