



Speeding Doctoral Students' Academic Careers: Future Academic Scholars in Teaching (FAST) Fellowship Program

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

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RESPONSE TO NATIONAL IMPERATIVES

FAST is a program to enhance the preparation of future STEM faculty for the changing needs and expectations for teaching in universities and colleges.

At MSU: ~50% of Ph.D. students ('02-'06) were employed at educational institutions after graduation. ~ 60% of these students were employed at 4-yr colleges/universities (NRC)

PROGRAM GOAL

Provide a diverse group of STEM doctoral students with faculty-guided mentored teaching experiences.

FAST FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM FEATURED TOPICS

- Researchable questions about teaching & learning
- Philosophy of teaching statements
- Understanding teaching & learning theory
- Assessment of student learning
- Technology to enhance learning (clickers)
- Collaborative learning
- Data management
- Data analysis
- Presenting & publishing teaching research

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

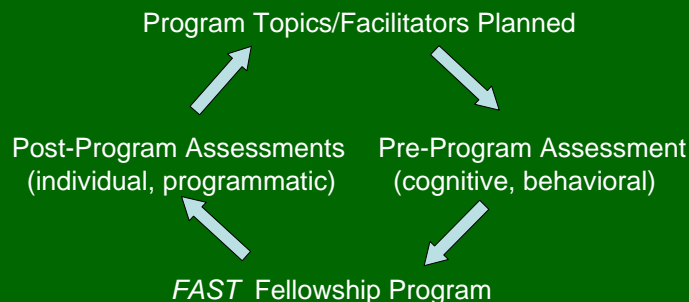
(2006 & 2007)

Departments	# of fellows
Agricultural Economics	1
Biochemistry	1
Construction Management	1
Crop & Soil Sciences	1
Entomology	1
Fisheries & Wildlife	4
Food Science	1
Horticulture	1
Math	2
Mechanical Engineering	2
Plant Biology	1
Sociology	1
Zoology	3

PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

- For STEM doctoral students
- \$1K fellowship for one academic year (to support project expenses)
- Fellows:
 - Conduct a mentored teaching research project
 - Attend: meetings & workshops with faculty, guests, & CIRTL Steering Committee
 - Present projects at FAST Symposium, professional conferences
- Steering Committee:
 - Direct program
 - Design program activities
 - Network Fellows with mentor faculty

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT & EVALUATION



OUTCOMES TO DATE

Why did students apply?

- Exposure to teaching theory & assessment
- Opportunity to conduct a teaching & learning project
- Sought an experience that balanced teaching & research

Fellows reported the opportunity to:

- Reflect on experiences as a teacher & learner
- Conduct a project with faculty interested in teaching & learning
- Learn about assessing student learning

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