

Educational and Academic Leadership: Rethinking Responsibilities and Challenges for Department Chairs in Africana/African Studies

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The department chair's role in most institutions of higher learning is largely working with faculty, students and deans. The chairperson has to be a kind of a faculty and supervisor who brings out the best in the people they supervise, being a linchpin between the faculty and the deans and making sure students in the department are meeting the learning outcomes of the program. Yet, the department chair in Africana/African Studies has other sociopolitical roles and challenges in addition to the ones mentioned above because of the nature of the discipline and components of African/American life and the African/American experiences.

In this workshop, participants will learn the best practices for becoming an effective department chair especially for an Africana/African Studies department.

The specific role responsibilities and challenges for this workshop would include:

1. Effective Leadership Styles and Skills
2. Curriculum Development
3. Strategies for Writing Department Self-Study and Program Evaluation
4. Balancing Caregiving and Chairing
5. Dealing with Difficult Faculty and Civility
6. Sociopolitical roles and challenges

Eligibility & Application Criteria:

1. Applications are to be submitted in English.
2. All applicants must be members of the ASAA.
3. Early and midcareer applicants aspiring to be educational leaders are encouraged to apply
4. Members of minoritized groups and women would benefit from this workshop.
5. This workshop would be beneficial to Ph.D. candidates, faculty, staff and administrators who are interested in educational leadership for becoming chairpersons or even deans.

Submission process:

Applicants should please prepare the following documents by **30 JUNE 2019**:

1. A letter of intent stating the applicant's vision and mission for educational/academic leadership (300 words maximum).
2. A current curriculum vitae.
3. A list of five questions and/or perceived concerns about educational/academic leadership in academia.

Applications are to be submitted by email to Professor Seth Asumah at seth.asumah@cortland.edu with “Educational and Academic Leadership Workshop” in the subject line.

Selection criteria:

Space will be limited to approximately 20-25 faculty and staff, and decisions will be made with a view to diversity of background, experience, theme, discipline, and other concerns. Applicants selected for participation will be notified by Professor Asumah after confirmation of the applicant’s ASAA membership registration, by **1 SEPTEMBER 2019**.