

Katelin E. Dannen, Ph.D.
Carver College of Medicine
51 Newton Road, 2-458 BSB
Iowa City, IA 52242-1109
319-335-9907
katelin-dannen@uiowa.edu
www.medicine.uiowa.edu/pharmacology

June 10, 2022

Dear Council on Teaching Members,

Thank you for approving my application for a \$330 Teaching in Higher Education Travel Award. Using this award, I was able to cover all registration fees associated with the 46th Annual Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network Conference, which was held virtually, Nov. 9 – 12, 2021. Ultimately, the goal of the POD Network is to help educators develop professionally through meaningful and sustained interactions with their peers.

This conference enhanced my professional development as a teacher in higher education in multiple ways. First, as the POD Network is North America's largest educational development community, that is represented in every state and more than 30 countries, this conference allowed me to network with educators from around the world. Second, it provided a forum in which I could showcase educational research I have been involved in here at Iowa. Specifically, Darren Hoffmann and I presented a poster entitled "Supporting peer feedback in a graduate course design workshop" which evaluated the efficacy of feedback provided to students by people with different hierarchical roles and disciplinary backgrounds within the Transforming Your Research into Teaching (TYRIT) workshop. Third, I gained new insight into progressive teaching models/techniques which I and other faculty at Iowa may integrate into our curriculums. Specifically, the conference organizers were "look[ing] forward to advancing and deepening the conversations around diversity, equity and inclusion in our work, at our institutions, and within the POD Network". Many wonderful ideas came out of this conversation, but I was particularly intrigued by those surrounding the use of open education resources (OER) in our classrooms. This not only means having course materials that are selected from the growing body of OER, but also creating student projects that can be developed into OER which may enhance motivation and urgency in the learning process.

Importantly, I have begun to utilize and share the insight that I have gained from the 46th Annual POD Network Conference. I have done this in three main ways. First, I have begun to plan student activities for my classes that may be developed into OERs. Second, I am planning a study to interrogate the efficacy of an OER that I have been developing with the support an OpenHawks grant. Finally, I have discussed what I have learned regarding OERs with education peers both within and outside my department to increase OER use and production here at Iowa.

Thank you once again for this generous award.

Sincerely,



Katelin E. Dannen, Ph.D.
Associate of Neuroscience and Pharmacology
University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine