

Scripts Teaching Fellowships

Beginning Fall 2022 two doctoral students will serve as teaching fellows at the College of Medicine in a pilot program sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Medicine. Each position is a **two-year appointment** (beginning in the student's third year of study) in which fellowship duties are reassigned from the English Department to the College of Medicine. As with a standard assistantship, the fellows will devote 20 hours per week to their positions. They will expand their study of narrative and lyric health, assist professors of medicine, and teach writing workshops in the below capacities:

- 1) Assist in an introductory Narrative and Lyric Health experience as part of the Physicians, Patients, and Populations course
- 2) Craft and assess writing assignments required by professors of medicine
- 3) Assist COM faculty in compiling a portfolio of students' writing for evaluation
- 4) Lead regular Narrative and Lyric Health workshops (a number of which will be required over the course of COM students' degree program)
- 5) Lead drop-in creative writing workshops for faculty, students, and community members
- 6) Curate, edit, and publish a print and/or online anthology of writing by medical students and by those community members served by the Household-Centered Program
- 7) Explore humanism in health care more broadly by participating in a monthly learning group of COM faculty.

Goals benefitting the growth and professionalization of Scripts Teaching Fellows include the following:

- 1) Exploring new pedagogies in a professional school setting
- 2) Gaining experience working in specialized, nonacademic communities
- 3) Enhancing cultural awareness by observing the relationship between medical students and underserved community members and by reading and discussing the writing of both groups
- 4) Increasing skills in curating, editing, and publishing
- 5) Incorporating general reader responses into the study of literary analyses
- 6) Contributing to the revitalization of patient care and the well-being of medical professionals
- 7) Bringing experiences of cultural diversity, professional breadth, and pedagogical innovation to their peers in Creative Writing Pedagogy and to the education of UH first-year and English undergraduate students whom they will teach.

The pilot's ultimate aim is establishment of a Narrative Health course (team-taught or faculty-led). This course would accomplish the following Narrative Health objectives:

- 1) Encourage empathy through the reading of healing and illness narratives
- 2) Establish habits of reflection and processing as a permanent practice

- 3) Attain language flexibility, especially cultural responsiveness, through the creation of meaningful metaphors and the practice of inhabiting alternative points of view
- 4) Improve diagnostic skills through narrative study
- 5) Improve research communication by developing excellent writing skills
- 6) Enhance cultural awareness and sensitivity through the reading of diverse literatures.

Applications should be made electronically to Giuseppe Taurino (gtaurino@uh.edu) by Monday, November 22. Candidate interviews will be scheduled the week of November 29. Appointments will be made by December 6.

Applications should include:

- 1) name, email address and phone number
- 2) number of years in the program
- 3) a resume/cv
- 4) a statement of health care familiarity (as a recipient, provider, or caregiver); teaching experience; and intent to integrate the fellowship experience into writing and career goals
- 5) the contact information of two recommenders who can speak to applicant's writing and teaching excellence; organizational skills; empathy; and cultural responsiveness