Full-Time NTT Faculty Fellowship Program:

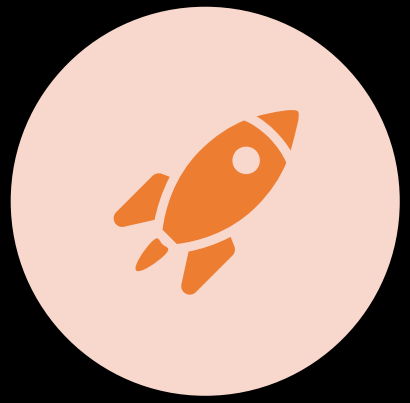
An Inspiration Session

November 17, 2026

Margarita DiVall
Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs



FTNTT Fellowships



Launched in 2019-2020



Designed to provide an opportunity for FTNTT faculty to engage in professional activities that benefit both them and the university.



Many different types of proposals have been approved.

Activities to consider…

- Visiting another institution of higher learning to observe and learn new strategies, methods, or innovations in teaching;
- Improving one's expertise in subject matter or teaching methods;
- Engaging in professional activity at a company, academic, government, or non-profit organization, or laboratory, in support of positively impacting the faculty member's teaching/research/creative activities, or innovation (entrepreneurial) endeavors;
- Focusing on research at one of our network campuses that is consistent with our current university focus (e.g., health, sustainability, security, artificial intelligence, cognitive and brain health).

Eligibility

- Fellowships available to FTNTT Faculty at associate or senior ranks
- Must have been employed by university for minimum of 6 years
- Fellowships are one semester in duration
- Cannot be used to teach at another institution
- Cannot be paid by another institution

Application Requirements

- Proposed plan
- CV with TRACE summary table
- Letter of support from unit head(s)
- Agreement to submit report upon return to campus

FTNTT Fellowship Guidelines at provost.northeastern.edu
Select top menu "Faculty Affairs", then "Internal Grants" drop-down

Application Process



Proposal and letter of support to the college Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
February 12, 2027



Dean's Office submits recommendations to Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs by
March 26, 2027



Notifications from Provost's Office by April 16, 2027

Other Information

- Salary at 100% for 1 semester
- Retirement contributions maintained
- Written report due to chair, dean, vice provost after completion
- Medical, dental, and life insurance benefits maintained
- Duties resumed for at least one academic year following fellowship

Faculty Panelists



Kathryn Schulte Grahame
Teaching Professor
College of Engineering

Sean O'Connell
Associate Teaching Professor
College of Professional Studies

Chris Cesario
Clinical Professor
Bouvé College of Health Sciences



FTNTT Faculty Fellowship

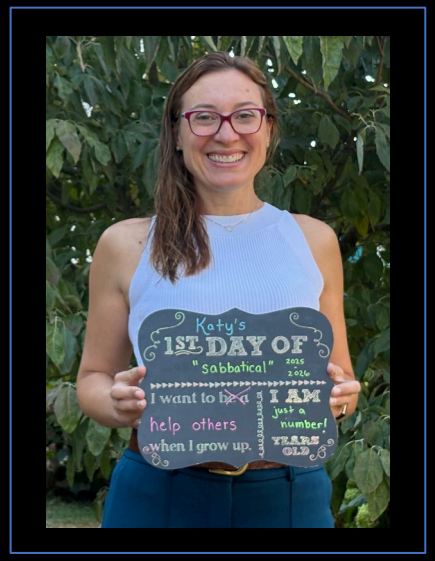
Kathryn Schulte Grahame

Teaching Professor

College of Engineering

Motivations and Goals:
(I know it matters → I can show why)





Fall 2025 at Tufts CEEO
(hosted by Prof. Merredith Portsmore)

Learn Embed at Tufts CEEO, a leader in K-12 and first-year engineering education

Grow
(1) Submit my first NSF grant as PI, RIEF program
(2) See how another first-year program operates

LVX
VERITAS
VIRTVS

What happened, and what surprised me



Submitted NSF RIEF proposal on engineering identity through K-12 service-learning, Nov 12
update: funded!!!

Affirmed Our service-learning practices already line up with the research

Unexpected Lessons in leadership led to a redesigned FYE retreat
update: New retreat this year!

In one word….

Confidence

LVX
VERITAS
VIRTVS

My Advice: Write a concrete plan, then hold it loosely

Concrete before you apply

- Host letter in hand
- Mentors named and confirmed
- Month-by-month plan

Loose once you're there

- My research question changed
- My mentor team changed
- My best outcome wasn't in the proposal

Tip: Read the grant fine print early. (I found a required training two hours before the deadline.)

Thank you!

Katy Schulte Grahame
k.Schulte@northeastern.edu



FTNTT Faculty Fellowship

Sean O'Connell

Associate Teaching Professor

College of Professional Studies

Core Goal: More fully immerse myself in racial justice work through:

- Visiting museums, libraries, and historic sites.
- Co-researching IRB-approved qualitative study focused on “anti-racist white men’s perceptions of race and racism in the United States.”
- Creating a framework through which white men can engage in learning about racial justice.

Outcomes

(Note: struggled to come to definitive conclusion regarding framework, at least as it pertains to higher education settings.)

- Visited many **museums, libraries,** and **historical sites**: in **Boston** (e.g., Boston Public Library's Archives; BU's MLK Archives; African American Museum and Meeting House, etc.), in **Washington DC** (e.g., The National Museum of African American History and Culture; the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum), **Atlanta, GA** (e.g., Center for Civil and Human Rights; The King Center; Ebenezer Baptist Church), and **Montgomery, AL** (e.g., Freedom Riders Museum; Montgomery Square; The Legacy Museum; National Memorial for Peace and Justice).

- Made progress on IRB-approved study (with NU colleague Mike Dunn) focused on anti-racist white men and their perceptions of racism in the U.S.

- Read several books/texts related to U.S. civil rights history, race and racism in the U.S., and building social movements.

LVX
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VIRTVS

Recommendations

- Take a chance and apply.
- If accepted, do more difficult work early in the fellowship (e.g., traveling; interviewing someone, etc.).
- If accepted, get out of your home (e.g., go to coffee shop, local public library, another college's library, etc.).
- Stay away from NU, including e-mail … LOL!



FTNTT Faculty Fellowship

Chris Cesario

Clinical Professor

Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Motivation and goals

- **Motivation:**
- My EdD journey was focused on supporting physical therapist students during experiential education
- **Goals**
  - **Research goal:** Identify ways clinical instructors can demonstrate allyship and support LGBTQ+ students during clinical training.
  - **Professional goal:** Strengthen my qualitative action research skills and complete three EdD courses.

Progress and outcomes

- Completed all three planned EdD courses
- Continued analyzing interviews with 12 participants, identifying themes related to identity disclosure, safety, and allyship
- Laid the groundwork for a mentoring program designed to support LGBTQ+ physical therapist students
- Accelerated the time to beginning my dissertation by six months

Advice for applicants

1. Set realistic goals for what you can accomplish during the fellowship.

2. Create a daily routine that supports steady progress.

3. Connect your daily work to your larger goal.

Thank you!

Please take our evaluation survey.

SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK ON THE LINK IN THE CHAT.