



GLCA Academic Leadership and Innovation (GALI) Institute

In June 2006, GLCA received a grant of \$600,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to establish the GLCA Academic Leadership and Innovation (GALI) Institute, a three-year program to enrich professional development opportunities for faculty of GLCA's member colleges.

The GALI Institute provides opportunities for a growing cohort of faculty members to explore factors that inform academic governance and decision making at liberal arts colleges. In providing foundations for better understanding the decision-making environment of these institutions, this program helps foster the academic leadership that allows liberal arts colleges to fulfill their missions more effectively. The program also seeks to develop communities of shared interest and collaborative initiatives among faculty of GLCA member colleges.

The GALI Institute includes three major components:

1. A series of *GLCA Academic Leadership Workshops*, designed to enhance faculty members' understanding of institutional governance and decision making while conferring tools of effective educational leadership. These workshops also afford opportunities for participants to meet with colleagues of similar interests at other GLCA colleges in order to identify possibilities for common projects within or across fields of study. Faculty participants in these workshops are nominated by the academic dean of their home institution.
2. An award program, called the *GLCA Academic Innovation Fund*, which provides funding on a competitive basis for groups of faculty to work across the threshold of a campus or department on projects that have the potential to strengthen curriculum and enhance teaching and learning within particular fields of study.
3. *Cadencing Activities* that periodically convene participants in past workshops as well as recipients of Academic Innovation Fund grants to provide updates and continue the momentum of collaborative faculty activity.

In its third year, the GALI Institute will convene A *Capstone Workshop* in which the most active program “alumni” from earlier workshops and grant projects will present their work and consider future consortial initiatives to foster leadership skills and spur continued innovation across GLCA’s member colleges.

For more information on the GLCA Academic Leadership and Innovation Institute, contact Gregory Wegner at GLCA: wegner@glca.org. Telephone 734-661-2338.