

Problem Statement:

Alumni of the Teaching Ambassador Fellowship program at the Department of Education are currently not organized or utilized in a way that would maximize their collective value to the Department or to each other.

Goal:

Our goal is to build a TAF alumni network that is built on shared values, allows for multiple avenues of participation and contributes to the mission of making our education system better as a result of teacher participation.

Rationale:

By creating an avenue for TAFs to maintain access and relationships with ED and each other, a strong TAF alumni network would strengthen the ability for teachers to have a voice in federal education policy and to learn from each other.

Inputs:

Participants include:

- Current TAFs at ED
- TAF alumni
- TAF program director (to some degree)

Resources and investments needed:

- Website
- Work of alumni connector position at ED

Activities:

- Build out TAF alumni website and functions
- Identify TAFs for seeding content and encouraging participation
- Consolidate survey data into 'menu' of skills/interests
- Outreach- create guidance
- Inreach- establish work groups

Outputs:

- Outreach (established protocol for ED to meaningfully engage TAF alumni,)
- Inreach (establish working groups between TAF and ED offices, improved educator perspective to shape ED policies)
- Networking (TAF alumni website as hub to connect)

Outcomes:

Short Term:

30 Days

Suggested Goal:

Alumni actively engaged in network

Build out TAF website as hub

- Migrate site to wordpress.org (James)
- Get 'early adopter' alumni reengaged and initial participation on website through either creating post, comment or uploading documents.. Measure: 35% of TAF participation
- Begin feedback gathering for policy advisory committee (James)
- Get permission from TAFs to share personal information (JoLisa)-completed with no one objecting
- Get TAF_Net twitter handle from Gamal- leave this as public facing with no specific content stances (James)
- Ask Antero about Google Hangouts and how they might be archived for posting on website (James)
- Design strategy and create primer to get folks on twitter (Xian and Jasmine)

-Plan first social media outreach event/twitter chat(in line w/internal policy discussion) (Xian and James)

-Have first google hangout with TAF alumni steering committee (James)

(Outreach)

- Create a job description for the Connector alumni TAF (JoLisa)
 - Whose main roles are to support alumni, support new TAFs, especially classroom fellows, and ensure there is a seat at the table for TAFs and alum (in progress)
- Create guidance sheet for ED and TAF alum for outreach requests (JoLisa)
- Create guidance and guidelines for TAF role at an event (JoLisa)
- Create the TAF expertise list to share with ED departments (JoLisa)
- Create clear processes to share current DoE work with TAFs (JoLisa)
 - To update whole group
 - To quickly update individuals who might be needed to support certain events

(Inreach)

- Identify existing work groups (James)
- Create list of which TAFs to market to which offices
- Set-up opportunities for TAF work groups to personally meet potential Ed contact (video conference)
- Connect with Greg Darnieder in the Office of the Secretary - he was the mentor for Leah (2010), Genevieve (2011), and Jen (2012)

and is a wonderful ally and would be great for a working group on college access.

- Create a structure for how you request the use of a TAF for ED departments (JoLisa)

Medium Term:

60-90 Days

- Conduct first social media engagement event (in line w/internal policy discussion)
- Create regular schedule for social media events, plan next couple

(Outreach)

- Create a compensation policy for TAF alumni
- Create guidelines for the Alumni group (JoLisa)

Long Term:

90 Days and Beyond

Suggested Goal:

Alumni has participated in “connected events”

Value of the network successfully communicated to key DOE stakeholders

(what is the evidence of “successful communication”?)

Alumni executing Year One workplan

- Successfully conduct social media engagement cycle (synergizing w/white paper on #teacherleadership and other internal policy discussions)

(Outreach)

- Full time Connector TAF at ED
- More TAFs experience being ‘tapped’ by Dep’t positively - share that expectations were clear and that they were well-utilized

