Goal
The PECOP project is designed to build a growing and dynamic community of undergraduate physiology educators who: interact, share resources, and collaborate on an ongoing basis; learn and apply effective scientific teaching methods in their classrooms, such as student-centered learning emphasized in Vision and Change; and use scholarship of teaching and learning (SOTL) methodologies to improve their teaching.

Objectives
Toward that end, 15 undergraduate educators will be selected in 2014 to be PECOP Fellows. The Fellows will:
1. Develop ongoing relationships with each other, with PECOP Leaders, and with other members of the PECOP community to support excellence in teaching and learning.
2. Increase their knowledge of effective scientific teaching methods and how to apply them in their classroom.
4. Explore SOTL and how it can contribute to effective classroom teaching and be able to describe ways to contribute to our understanding of teaching and learning by both formal and informal sharing with colleagues.

Activities
Over the course of the year-long fellowship, PECOP Fellows will:
2. Meet with PECOP Leaders to discuss critical issues in undergraduate education. Discussions will take place at the ITL and via web conferencing.
3. Register as LifeSciTRC.org users and learn to use community tools for finding and saving resources and for creating and sharing resources and collections.
4. Share their expertise by rating and reviewing resources at the LifeSciTRC.org community and participating in online discussions.
5. Learn about SOTL at the ITL and via online professional development activities.
6. Work with PECOP Leaders and APS staff to develop an idea for a blog entry at the Undergrad Faculty Life Science TRC blog, post their blog entry and respond to comments.
7. Have an opportunity to become a Life Science TRC Scholar and Fellow.
8. Have an opportunity to present a workshop at a local, regional or national professional development meeting.
9. Complete required evaluation surveys (entry, exit, and follow-up).
Benefits
Each PECOP Fellow will receive...
1. Registration, housing and meals for the ITL meeting.
2. Reimbursement of ITL travel expenses (air and ground transportation) of up to $600.
3. A $100 Stipend for completing fellowship activities.

Qualifications
1. Must be actively teaching physiology and/or life science at the undergraduate level at any U.S. institution (community college, college, and/or university) in the U.S. Preference will be given to those teaching at least half-time.
2. DO NOT need to be a current member of the American Physiological Society.
3. Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, eligible to receive a stipend from a federal grant.
4. Faculty who teach at institutions serving students underrepresented in STEM fields (e.g., minority-serving institutions, institutions serving students with disabilities, and institutions with significant proportions of first-generation or disadvantaged students) are strongly encouraged to apply.

Sponsorship
Support for the PECOP program is provided by the American Physiological Society and a grant from the National Science Foundation Research Coordination Networks-Undergraduate Biology Educator (RCN-UBE) Incubator program (Grant No. 1346220).

How to Apply
READ the next section and prepare your application BEFORE logging onto the application site! Applicants should apply at the APS Awards Portal (https://www.the-aps.org/awardapps/login/index.cfm). After logging in, look for “2014 PECOP Fellowship.”

What you need BEFORE applying online:

1. Be prepared to answer the following questions at the online application site:
   a) The institution type where you currently teach. If you teach at an institution serving students underrepresented in STEM fields (e.g., minority-serving institutions, institutions serving students with disabilities, and institutions with significant proportions of first-generation or disadvantaged students), be sure to note this and describe your student population.
   b) Number of years you have been teaching in a classroom.
   c) Highest degree attained at the time of application. Indicate your highest teaching degree level as BA/BS, MA/MS, or EdD/PhD and indicate subject matter.
   d) Subject/Course(s), Level(s), Number of Students Currently Teaching
2. Prepare a resume (no more than 3 pages) and convert to a PDF file. Resume should include:
   a. Education/training (undergraduate and graduate, if any)
   b. Current and previous positions
   c. Professional society affiliations
   d. Scientific clubs sponsored
   e. Projects or curricula developed
   f. Awards or honors
   g. Previous programs, fellowships, and/or research experiences. Please note any programs that were primarily online professional development.

   **DO NOT include confidential/sensitive information such as date of birth, Social Security Number, etc.**

3. Prepare typed responses to the three questions below (1-2 pages each) and convert to ONE PDF file.
   a. **Written Response 1:** Describe your commitment to improving teaching and learning in your classroom(s) by providing at least 1 example for each of the categories below:
      1. Professional Development: Regular participation in professional development activities and demonstration of utilizing what you learned in your classroom;
      2. Innovation and Improvement: Regular incorporation of improvements and innovations into curriculum and pedagogy.

   b. **Written Response 2:** How do you think your participation in a community of educators will improve teaching and learning in your classroom?

   c. **Written Response 3:** Describe one teaching resource that you have developed that you might share with other educators at the Life Science TRC (www.lifescitr.org) (e.g., an activity, lesson plan, lecture, or assessment and rubric).

Once you have completed all of the tasks above, proceed to Appendix A for instructions on how to submit your application online.

**DEADLINE:** All components must be submitted or uploaded no later than **May 2, 2014**. Questions about the program and/or the online application system? Contact Marsha Matyas (mmatyas@the-aps.org) or Miranda Byse, mbyse@the-aps.org.
Appendix A: Online Applications Instructions

A. Logging on for the FIRST TIME

1. Go to: https://www.the-aps.org/awardapps/login/index.cfm

2. Create a profile with your unique email address and a password. Record your password for future use. IMPORTANT: This is the e-mail we will use to contact you throughout the application process. Be sure this address will be checked several times per week during the application process!
3. Click the **"Apply for Myself Now"** button to apply for an award:
4. Complete your profile.

Be sure to provide information on gender, ethnicity, and race as we must report this for our grant funding program.
5. Select the “2014 PECOP Fellows Application - Due 5/2/2014”

6. Click “Continue Application.” Note - some questions will require that you prepare your answer in a word document and print as a PDF file to upload. Others are short answer questions that you can type into the online application form...for the short answers we recommend that you prepare your short answers in your word processing program and cut and paste into the application box.

7. When you are done, you have two options at the bottom of the online form:
   a. I Will Finish Later: This option saves your entries. You can return to this saved session if you log out of the system (see next page in this Guide).
   b. Submit My Application: This option saves your entries, and notifies the APS Education Office and Application Review Committee that your application package is ready for consideration into the program. However, if necessary, applicants can still edit their application until the online system closes on the application deadline.
B. Returning to a saved session

1. Login with your email and password at: https://www.the-aps.org/awardapps

2. The screen will display the programs/awards for which you have applied. Click “Update Application” to continue completing the application.

3. See previous page of this Guide for instructions on saving or submitting your application.