



December 8, 2022

Dear MTSU Faculty:

The Tennessee STEM Education Center (TSEC) is excited to invite applications for (a) Associate Directors and (b) Faculty Fellows to serve one or two year terms. These faculty will be expected to initiate or develop potentially transformative partnerships, projects, or programs aimed at improving STEM education outcomes at all educational levels alongside a collaborative team of faculty and staff. Our primary objective is to expand the scope and reach of TSEC's mission in both research and service by providing leadership positions for energetic, visionary faculty to work collaboratively across departmental, college, and institutional contexts on efforts consistent with their professional expertise and interests.

Well-defined objectives and deliverables are expected and will often include efforts to secure internal or external funding, develop interdisciplinary or inter-institutional teams, and generate dissemination outcomes in diverse popular and professional media venues.

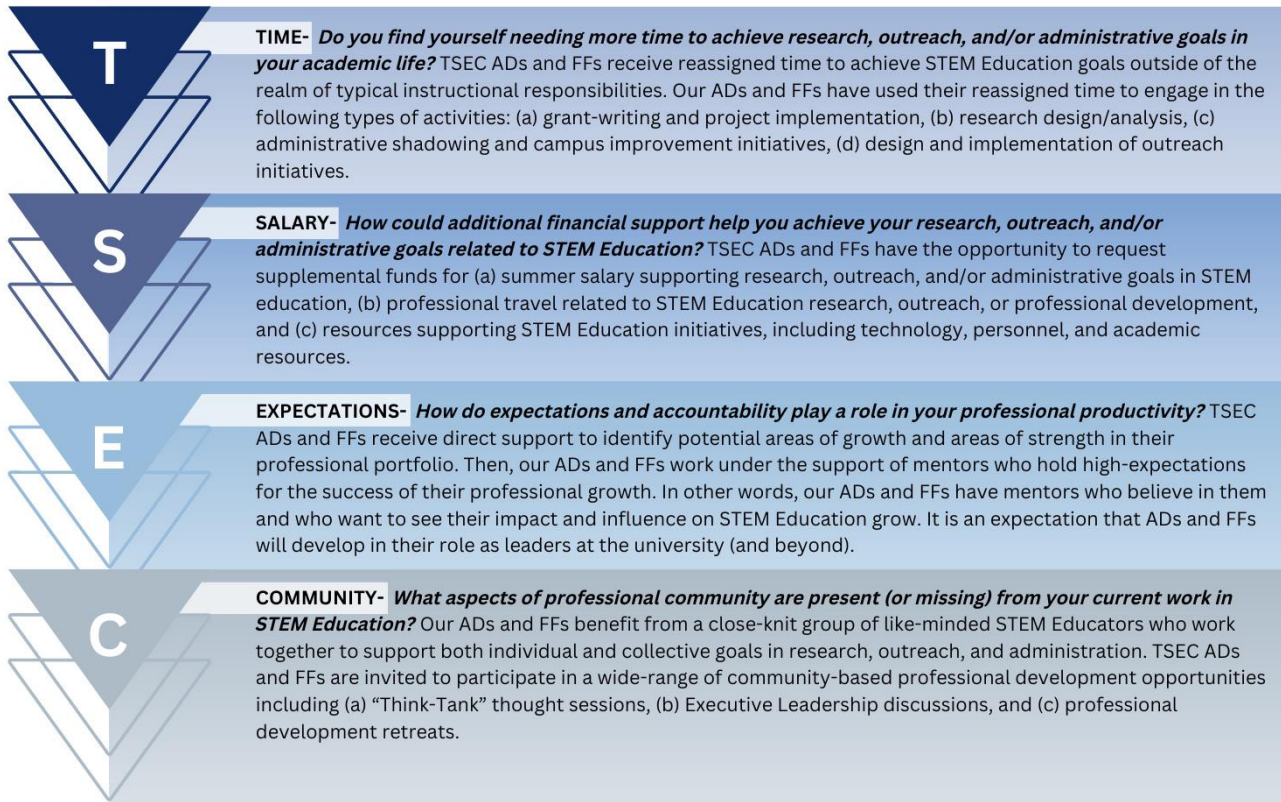
The following table outlines the expected workload and contributions of Associate Director and Faculty Fellow Positions.

<b>TSEC Appointment</b>	<b>Expected Workload</b>	<b>Expected Contribution</b>
Associate Director	3 WU per semester (Fall, Spring, Summer)	<i>Leadership</i> in TSEC community
Faculty Fellow	0.5 - 2.5 WU per semester (Fall, Spring)	<i>Participation</i> in TSEC community

Reassigned time to the Associate Director and Faculty Fellow positions will be negotiated between the faculty member, his/her chair and dean, and the TSEC Director. Summer salary support, when requested and approved, will be provided by TSEC but academic departments are expected to cost share academic term expenses associated with the course reassignment as a commitment to the Associate Director and Faculty Fellows program and the faculty member's professional growth.

Anticipated benefits of these positions include to develop as a leader in STEM education within a nurturing, collaborative, focused, and active environment; to expand your professional network and the impact of your outreach and research activities; and to become more visible and recognized for your contributions to STEM Education. A more comprehensive description of the reasons a faculty member may wish to participate are included in the Figure below, including the categories of Time, Salary, Expectations, and Community.

## Why become a TSEC Associate Director or Faculty Fellow?



TSEC welcomes any permanent, full-time faculty member, from any academic unit, with a demonstrated commitment to the mission of the Center (i.e., to improve K-20 STEM education both locally and nationally by identifying and addressing critical issues that promote access, equity, innovation, and leadership). Current TSEC initiatives and partners engage university faculty, K-12 teachers and students, professional organizations, and private foundations.

In anticipation of workload agreements being finalized for Summer and Fall 2023, we would like to receive preliminary materials no later than **Tuesday, February 21, 2023**.

Applications for **Associate Directors** should include:

1. Letters of commitment from your department chair, acknowledging that the proposed work is consistent with the faculty member’s expressed professional development and allowable under current workload policies.
2. A narrative limited to a maximum of four pages in which you:
  - a. Discuss an issue or issues in STEM education that you will take a leadership role in addressing and how you plan on executing your plan through your time in the Center.
  - b. Identify expected partners, collaborators, and audiences that will be recruited or impacted by your work.
  - c. Identify internal and external funding sources that will be pursued in support of your proposed activities.
3. An updated copy of your CV, highlighting activities, positions, and accomplishments related to the anticipated area of leadership in TSEC.

Applications for **Faculty Fellows** should include:

1. Letters of commitment from your department chair, acknowledging that the proposed work is consistent with the faculty member's expressed professional development and allowable under current workload policies. A predicted workload in the range of 0.5 - 2.5 WU for each semester.
2. A narrative limited to a maximum of two pages in which you:
  - a. Discuss an issue or issues in STEM education that you would like to learn more about through your time in the Center, and describe how being a part of the community in TSEC could help support your knowledge/skill development.
  - b. Identify expected partners, collaborators, and audiences that will be recruited or impacted by your work.
3. An updated copy of your CV, highlighting activities, positions, and accomplishments related to the anticipated area of participation in TSEC.

Applications will be assessed based on alignment with the TSEC strategic plan.

Inquiries and applications should be submitted via email to [tsec@mtsu.edu](mailto:tsec@mtsu.edu) or by contacting the TSEC Director via phone or text at (770) 310-3526.

Thank you for your consideration of this opportunity and for your support of STEM education.



Gregory T. Rushton, Ph.D.  
TSEC Director  
Professor of Chemistry