The UNP Community Scholar in Residence is a $12,240 award given to a full-time, tenure or non-tenure track, faculty member of the University of Utah over TWO academic years ($6,120/year). A request for proposals is issued every two years.

Philosophical grounding: UNP understands this work to be ‘community-engaged scholarship’, at the University of Utah, a collaborative, participatory process in which the rich resources of the university and community are combined to integrate research, teaching, and partnership work in a way that identifies and addresses community-based/identified issues from a social justice framework while promoting socially responsible knowledge. Faculty, staff, students, west side residents and other members of the community work together as meaningful partners to develop those practices that produce tangible outcomes to benefit the partners and their communities and that disseminate new knowledge in a variety of ways. UNP recognizes the time-intensive nature of community-engaged scholarship, and thus awards the CSIR award to support two full academic years of engagement on a project to allow faculty and partners to collaborate on the development, implementation, and dissemination of the proposed work.

Award Goals:

• To foster community-engaged scholarship at the University of Utah by supporting faculty members to engage actively in UNP partnerships in a way that allows them to integrate teaching and research into their partnership work.

• To serve as a catalyst for faculty to achieve this integration, regardless of where they are in their careers, and to provide visibility for their work.

• To provide needed resources to an area of work in need of development that fits the strategic goals of UNP.

Criteria for selection of Community Scholars:

• Selected Faculty member(s) has expertise and interests that match the interests and needs on a planned or on-going UNP partnership.

• Faculty member has demonstrated a commitment to the broad area of work through involvement in teaching, research, or community engagement related to the project, and has already committed time to learning about the project and interacting with those involved.
The faculty member’s department and college support the involvement.
Community members involved with the specific project agree that the involvement of the faculty member will be beneficial to the project.

Types of work anticipated from Community Scholars:

- The specific work will grow out of the needs of a planned or on-going campus-community partnership project.
- Tangible outcomes may include teaching of community seminars, involvement of community-engaged-learning students in a project, written reports or data collection, program evaluation designs, creative works, or any other mutually-agreed upon outcomes.
- The CSIR faculty will identify the audiences and modes of disseminating their work that are most appropriate and effective for that specific project, and will work with UNP staff to implement these.
- The CSIR faculty will provide UNP with a short written report on the work undertaken during the year that will indicate the links between research, teaching, and community engagement.

Benefits to the Community Scholar in Residence:

- Involvement will enrich the scholarship and meaningful work of the CSIR through the synergy of community-based research and teaching.
- Community Scholars in Residence will be recognized at appropriate community, departmental, college, or university functions and will be graphically displayed in an appropriate place on campus.
- An honorarium of $6,120 will be given to the Community Scholar in Residence each of the two-year award (for a total of $12,240) to help with full or partial course buy-out or for a faculty development account, to assist with supporting student or resident involvement, materials, or other proposal-related costs as decided by the recipient.

Benefits to the campus and the community:

- Campus community members will have new opportunities to participate in active problem-solving and social justice work within the Salt Lake community.
- The west side community will have additional human resources to assist in addressing neighborhood issues.
- The interpersonal networks that connect the broader community will be strengthened.
- The tangible outcomes of the specific project will benefit all those involved.
- Connections built through project interactions may attract neighborhood students.
to the U and other higher education institutions, and may result in increased diversity in Utah higher education.

Application Process:

- Proposals must be submitted via email to T.Molina@partners.utah.edu by 5:00 PM on June 8, 2024.
- The application process for the CSIR will open every two years to all faculty who are currently or have been active in UNP partnerships, and the award will last for two academic years.
- The faculty member is asked to provide a 3-5 page proposal describing the work to be completed during their time as a Community Scholar in Residence. The spirit of the CSIR is to support faculty to connect their partnership work with their scholarship (i.e. research, practice, and/or teaching). Proposals should address the following:
  1. Faculty member’s connection to UNP and his/her work to date with the partnership to which the CSIR work will be connected.
  2. Describe plans for moving forward the integration of teaching and research with partnership work.
  3. Describe anticipated or potential products of work, with a focus on how those products will be reciprocally beneficial, and how the products will be disseminated in the community.
  4. Address strategies for making the work sustainable (i.e. how will the knowledge or work be transferred to the community so that it can keep going?) after the CSIR work is completed.

Process for selection of Community Scholars:

- Proposals will be reviewed by UNP staff and partners for feasibility and alignment with UNP’s strategic plan. Proposals will then be reviewed by a committee comprised of UNP Board members representing University, resident, and community organization stakeholders, former CSIR recipients, and one UNP staff member.
- In April of the academic year prior to service, an appropriate staff member, Board member, or community or campus partner will formally invite the selected faculty member to serve in a capacity to be defined in writing. The agreement will be signed by the faculty member, the department chair, the cognizant dean, and the director of UNP.

The selection will be finalized by July 30, 2024 for the following academic year.