



## Dorothy & Bill Cohen Honors College Presidential Innovator-in-Residence Program

Wichita State University proposes the creation of a new initiative that will serve as a catalyst in achieving our institutional focus on innovation.

The Presidential Innovator-in-Residence Program will be a signature Wichita State University program focused on graduating a new generation of students better skilled and more equipped to create innovative solutions to complex societal challenges.

The Presidential Innovator-in-Residence Program is designed to complement traditional faculty lines by providing students and faculty opportunities to have direct access to innovative leaders in a diverse range of fields whose work will complement and enhance the academic and real-world opportunities in the Dorothy and Bill Cohen Honors College.

One of the advantages of the Presidential Innovator-in-Residence Program is that areas of focus can change annually and take many different forms—the program itself has the flexibility to be “innovative.” Examples of areas of focus could include public policy, entrepreneurship, the environment, corporate governance, artificial intelligence and society, health disparities etc. Topics would be jointly cultivated by our students and faculty in partnership.

The innovators will be drawn from across the globe and be selected based on their different life experiences and who have accomplished internationally recognized accomplishments based on “outside the box” approaches to complex societal challenges with a focus on south-central Kansas and beyond. The goal is to help our students find fulfillment and purpose in their professional paths, wherever those paths may lead.

Innovators may hold the residency for one semester or one academic year or for shorter, more intensely focused periods of time as appropriate to their interests and work. They will be required to teach one Honors course or seminar open to the entire campus per semester. In addition, they will be asked to give a community-wide talk hosted on the WSU campus showcasing the value of innovation.

Importantly, they will be focused on mentoring student & faculty cohorts on developing innovative approaches to identified problems. This will include Wichita State University hosting an international workshop on the thematic of the academic year with the Presidential Innovator-in-Residence Program co-chairing the workshop. Academics, government, non-governmental organizations, industry and media will be invited and participate with students presenting research posters, papers and talks with faculty mentors. The outcomes of the workshop will be published for a global audience.

### **Budget / annum (to be refined)**

Stipend for PIR: \$55,000/ academic semester fulltime, including 35% benefit  
\$20,000/housing + meals in WSU residence hall/semester  
\$5,000 travel (air)  
\$20,000 organize and host workshop (WSU can match), including one semester  
graduate student assistant salary  
**\$100,000/year**