The Middlebury Bread Loaf School of English, a summer graduate program tailored to K-12 English and Language Arts teachers, is renowned not only for the top quality education it provides but also for its premier, year-round professional development network, the Bread Loaf Teacher Network (BLTN). BLTN brings together outstanding teachers in targeted states and supports innovative collaborations between teachers and their students—collaborations which put students at the center of the educational process. BLTN teachers work together to develop powerful pedagogies that link classrooms to community, reading and writing to the world (see www.middlebury.edu/blse/bltn and http://sites.middlebury.edu/bltnmag/).

The Vermont cohort within BLTN has inaugurated a community-linked learning project giving students from a number of Vermont schools a credit-bearing opportunity to pursue independent and collective research on a common topic. We are looking for outstanding Vermont public school teachers who are interested in undertaking intensive graduate study at the Bread Loaf School of English as well as in joining Vermont BLTN and bringing their talent and ideas to the group’s innovative initiatives.

Fellowships: The Bread Loaf School of English is offering a limited number of special fellowships of up to $5,000 each for Vermont public school teachers, to support summer study at the Bread Loaf School of English and year-round professional development through BLTN. Fellows will attend Bread Loaf (new fellows at the Vermont campus) in summer 2016, will become active members of the Bread Loaf Teacher Network, and will collaborate with other Vermont teachers on projects that link education to community.

Eligibility: All fellowship applicants must be full-time teachers in a Vermont public high school or middle school: they must have completed a minimum of one year of teaching by June 2016 and must be teaching in a Vermont public school during the 2016-17 academic year. Applicants must also apply for admission to the Bread Loaf School of English. Previous fellows are eligible to apply for 2016 Vermont BLTN fellowships.

Fellowship Obligations:

- Fellows must enroll in either one or two graduate courses at the Bread Loaf campus in Vermont. New fellows take one designated Group 1 course in writing, pedagogy, or literacy (contact Dana Olsen at dolsen@middlebury.edu for course options). Students who have already taken a course in pedagogy at Bread Loaf are encouraged but not required to take an additional Group 1 course.

- All fellows must participate in weekly BLTN campus meetings and collaborate with other Vermont BLTN teachers on projects that will support youth leadership and civic engagement. These projects can become the basis for an Independent Reading Project, which carries one unit (three semester hours) of course credit.
During the 2016-17 academic year, fellows will work with a Vermont coordinator to create and effect a plan of action.

Fellows must submit three reports on their Vermont BLTN projects and activities:

Before the end of classes at their campus: a report on Bread Loaf courses and summer work, detailing Vermont BLTN plans for 2016-17

February 1, 2017: a progress report on their projects and Vermont BLTN activities

June 15, 2017: a final report on their projects and Vermont BLTN activities

Fellows must acknowledge the Bread Loaf School of English and the Vermont BLTN fellowship in all publications and presentations resulting from their fellowship year.

Award notifications: Fellowship recipients will be chosen and notified on a rolling basis beginning April 29, 2016.