

FACULTY INQUIRY GROUP THEMES

FACULTY WERE ASKED WHAT ENGAGEMENT, ACTIVE LEARNING, AND COMMUNITY MEAN TO THEM IN THEIR ROLES AS INSTRUCTORS. SEVERAL THEMES EMERGED SPECIFIC TO TEACHING PRACTICES AND THE IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORT SERVICES. PROBLEMS AS WELL AS NEEDED RESOURCES WERE ALSO DISCUSSED.

TEACHING PRACTICES THAT FOSTER STUDENT ENGAGEMENT, ACTIVE PARTICIPATION, & COMMUNITY

On-Site Classrooms

Teaching Styles & Approaches

- Variety of modalities and activities (lecture, videos, assignments, field trips, games, discussion, group work, presentations, quizzing, etc.).
- Intrusive teaching.
- Flipped classrooms.
- Brisk pace to prevent boredom.
- Students in teaching role with established classroom rules.
- Service learning (Coyotes in the Classroom, Project Hope House).



Connections

- Ice breakers (introductions, games).
- Connections with students (learn and use names).
- Engagement of students (convey that you're all in this together).
- Buddy system (pair successful students with strugglers).
- Peer review of work / tutoring.
- Instructor participation in community events (e.g.:Star Party).

Content

- High rigor / high standards.
- Practical applications and real-world observations.
- Scaffolding to more difficult concepts.
- Self-reflective activities (Why are you here?).



Supports

- Supplemental instructors (S.I.s) in the classroom.
- Library orientations.
- High-touch teaching (Calling, embedding services at point of need).
- Technology (iPads, cell phones, voice capture, instant polling, Joinme, MathLab, Random.org, Adobe Connect, etc.).

Environment

- Comfortable / non-threatening learning environment (permit food, play music in the lab).
- Office hours in lab or LRC (point of need).
- Smaller class sizes.

Online Classrooms

Teaching Styles & Approaches

- Assignments requiring students to observe/ participate in community events.
- Well-selected discussion forum prompts.
- Requirement that students quote from the text in each discussion post.
- Journals for personal reflection (builds trust).

Structure

- Discussion forums/assignments requiring several logins and responding to others.
- Extra points for students who post early and model good posting behavior.
- Online classes with extra structure.

Connections

- Wikis and glossaries to promote a sense of online community.
- Synchronous office hours online using Joinme and Adobe Connect.
- Embedded librarian: High touch support to instruct on research, citations, and evaluation of information.
- Contact with students (calling / mailing) before classes to explain important role of classroom community.
- Q&A forums where peers can jump in and answer questions.
- Follow-ups with struggling / concerned students.



Environment

- Smaller class sizes.
- Comfortable / non-threatening learning envi-

iTV Ideas

- Group presentations that compel students from different sites to work together.
- Positioning of instructor in the back, rather than the front of the room, so that all sites can see.
- Field trips where each site meets in person.

FACULTY INQUIRY GROUP THEMES

ISSUES AND NEEDS RELATED TO FOSTERING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN THE CLASSROOM

Administrative

Challenges

- No more iTV TAs—impacts ability to create engagement and community.
- Not enough time scheduled between iTV classes for faculty-student interactions.
- Art gallery: diminished stipend
- Increased paperwork for events and speakers.
- Adjuncts not paid for office hours or prep time.
- Lack of support for ESL students besides ENGL 40.



Considerations

- Providing evening services (switchboard, counseling, admin, print shop).
- Using CCAAlert (or other) for student outreach / reminders before semester starts.
- Offering more professional development (training in emerging technologies and Moodle, opportunities for faculty to share teaching ideas).
- At Sites: holding regularly scheduled meetings between faculty, admin, and staff.

IT and M&O

Challenges

- Making sure that printers and equipment in iTV classrooms working.
- Ensuring that iTV bandwidth doesn't impact on-campus connectivity.
- Being proactive about fixing problems and updating equipment.
- Keeping buildings and facilities clean, updated, and at comfortable temperatures.
- Keeping classroom supplies stocked (markers, erasers, etc.).



Considerations

- Automatically populating calendars/meetings in Outlook.
- Making sure PE equipment and machines are in working order.
- Providing comfortable chairs for students on 3rd floor of Main Building.
- Making all classrooms into Smart classrooms.

Distance Education / Online / iTV

Online Challenges

- Difficult to engage online learners.
- Difficult to accommodate DSPS learners online.



iTV Challenges

- Difficult without TAs at remote locations to help manage iTV classrooms and help engage students in discussions.
- Difficult to promote sense of community using iTV.
- Small iTV monitors do not allow effective display of art slides or allow instructors to recognize student faces to call them by name.

Supports Needed

- Training to use Moodle to its fullest extent.
- Easy video creation.
- Server space to house videos.
- More videos to embed in online classes (Intro to library, APA, navigating Moodle, Intro to tutoring, etc.).

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Problems

- Unrealistic expectations.
- Easily distracted in class (by cell phones, friends).
- Not serious about or engaged in their education (e.g. attending college to snowboard).
- No stake in learning.
- Irresponsible.
- Underprepared.

Student Roles

- Need to be self-directed and seek assistance / attend office hours.
- Need to learn self-efficacy skills like time management.
- Need to be serious and committed to college, ready to engage and actively participate.
- Need to be mentally and physically prepared.

FACULTY INQUIRY GROUP THEMES

STRENGTHENING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE CLASSROOM & STUDENT SERVICES (COUNSELING, LRC, FINANCIAL AID, ETC.)

What Faculty can do to help

- Remind students about support services on the syllabus and during the semester.
- Recommend tutors more aggressively.
- Assign a writing assignment about Academic Pathways / life maps.
- Provide diagnostic assignments with immediate feedback in first week of semester.
- Invite librarians and counselors as guest speakers.
- Embed librarians in online classes with research papers and projects.
- Put course textbooks on reserve at the library.
- Embed tutors and other supports into online classes.
- Use a Moodle page for on-site classes, populated with student services, resources, and tutorials.



What Student Services can continue to do

- Create resources for instructors to embed in online classes and disseminate to students in on-site classes.
- In collaboration with faculty, make counseling presentations to classes that are streamlined and informative.
- Streamline process for contacts to counselors (Single point of contact? CTE vs. GE?).
- Ensure there are enough people answering phones in admissions, counseling, financial aid, etc.

What about?

- One-stop shop for student services, food-court-style (nicely labeled, info kiosk)?



Areas for Improvement

Tutoring & Early Alert

- More tutors and S.I.s, especially at the sites.
- Fewer roadblocks to becoming a tutor or S.I., and more training and opportunities, especially online.
- Rebranded “tutoring” so students see it as more than a final option before failure.
- Improved Early Alert (needs consistency, feedback loop, simplification for struggling students, more faculty involvement).

Library

- Video Library Tutorials, instead of static screenshot tutorials.
- Easier access to library resources in online courses (reading lists, omit step for students inputting ID).

Front Door Services

- Mandatory online assessment for students enrolling in online classes.
- More people answering phones in student services offices.
- Discussion about website vs. InsideCC (has InsideCC hindered our website efforts to connect with students?)



RESOURCES & SUPPORT NEEDED

Professional development:

- **How online tutoring works.**
- **Technology to connect with students.**
- **Early Alert process.**

More counselors.

Evening services.

Whatever Happened To?

- **Printed catalog and schedules?**
- **Gigantic block schedule (Allowing everyone—faculty, staff, counselors—to see all classes, where gaps are, where opportunities are, etc.).**



MATRICULATION CAMPAIGN

Ideas for Success

In the Classroom

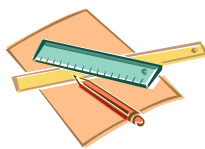
- Enlist faculty to pass out matriculation materials.
- Have students list educational goals (life map) as ice-breaker or personal journal assignment.
- Ask students about their matriculation progress.
- Complete some parts of the Student Educational Plan in classroom with faculty?
- Identify students on class rosters who have completed all matriculation steps; faculty give reminders to students who haven't.

Front-end Processes, Pathways & Registration

- Hire more counselors/ed. advisors (including online).
- Prep for assessment test and schedule tests regularly at sites.
- Create gigantic block schedule.
- Introduce Master Student course.
- Website: funnel students into matriculation processes; market matriculation.
- Prescribe course schedule (Math, English, IC in first term).
- Get faculty involved in registration.

High Schools

- Dual-enrollment courses.
- Bridges between high school and college.



Questions

- What do we do about students who only take classes for personal enrichment?
- Is counseling prepared to accommodate forced matriculation? Do they have the time and resources?
- Will forcing matriculation make students more successful?
- Why do we need matriculation AND pathways?
- Will this cause enrollment to shrink even more?
- What data proves the effectiveness of online orientations?
- Do we have the ability to provide high-touch support to online students?
- Do we connect with ESL students?
- Do a few posters on the wall constitute an effective campaign?

3 MAJOR TAKEAWAYS OF THE FACULTY INQUIRY GROUPS

1. Communication

- Between Counselors and Faculty: Must work more in concert, providing mutual assistance.
- Between Admin and Faculty: Must address negative perceptions of climate survey results, as well as communicate more effectively regarding evening closures, use of CCAalert system, new web-site rollout, updates of DegreeWorks, CurricUNET, staffing plan, class scheduling, etc.
- Between M&O and IT and Faculty: Must communicate about facilities, slow campus internet speed due to iTV classes, new signs in classroom concerning max occupancy, etc.

2. Adjuncts

- Pay adjuncts for office hours and prep time.
- Allot the time and resources to forge stronger connections between adjunct faculty and students.

3. Professional Development

- Provide more discussion opportunities like Faculty Inquiry Groups.
- Provide more support for how to teach.
- Discuss active participation and engagement at department meetings.
- Request faculty lounge for eating and hanging out.
- Consider horizontal and vertical collaboration (e.g. Math teacher creating a lecture for a nursing class).
- Provide opportunities for new teachers to sit in and observe seasoned teachers.

