



2023 Fall Faculty Workshop
August 16, 2023
8:00 a.m. -12:00 noon
Carl Grant Events Center

- 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.** **Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.** **Welcome**
 Session 1: *Technological Challenges to Christian Higher Education*
 Jacob Shater
- 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.** **Session 2: *Panel on AI and Higher Education***
 David Malone, April Rowsey, and Colene Trent
- 9:45 – 10:00 a.m.** **Special Presentation**
- 10:00 a.m.** **Break**
- 10:15 a.m.** **Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS
(Each session will be offered twice – 10:15 and 11:10 a.m.)

Session I: ***Compassionate Teaching: Cultivating an Environment of Belonging in Your Classroom***
Location: White Hall 101
Speakers: Michele Atkins, Associate Provost for Accreditation and Research

Description: Researchers have found a strong correlation between a student's sense of belonging and college success factors such as academic engagement, motivation, self-efficacy, resiliency, emotional regulation, and academic achievement. Moreover, students who do not feel they belong may leave their environment, whether that be the classroom or the university. Compassionate teaching is a pedagogical approach that is designed to foster communication, connection, wellbeing, and, in turn, a sense of belonging in the classroom. Participants in this session will explore feasible ways to incorporate compassionate teaching into every course.

- Session II:** *Two Middle-Aged Men Discuss Gen-Z and Goblin Mode: What Is It? Why Does it Matter to Union? and the Article by Esme Partridge*
- Location:** White Hall 203
- Speakers:** Ted Kluck, Associate Professor of Communication Arts
Justin Barnard, Professor of Philosophy, Honors Community
- Description:** Join Ted Kluck and Justin Barnard as they discuss an article entitled “The Death of Ideals” by British writer/philosopher Esme Partridge.
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- Session III:** *Mental Health: The New (and often hidden) Elephant in the Room – Practical Policies and Opportunities for Faculty to Address the Elephant and Tend to the Student*
- Location:** White Hall 201
- Speakers:** Tamarin Huelin, Director for Counseling Services
- Description:** Similar to an increase in usage of trauma language, students are experiencing and verbalizing more mental health challenges. Many professors are unsure of how best to serve students, maintaining standards while also being appropriately responsive to mental health as parallel in many ways to physical health (and thus excuses for missing class, etc.). This session will focus on helping faculty to frame mental health in a more constructive way, providing opportunities for discussion and role play (i.e. how to respond when a student is crying), with the goal of providing faculty with practical takeaways for the semester.
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- Session IV:** *Trauma-Informed Teaching*
- Location:** White Hall 202
- Speaker:** Meghan Larson, Associate Professor of Social Work
- Description:** According to recent research, 85% of college students report having experienced at least one traumatic event in their lifetime, and 21% report exposure to a traumatic event while in college. Trauma and the resulting stress can play a significant role in college outcomes. In this workshop, participants will learn about the types of traumas college students may experience, as well as trauma-informed principles and strategies that may be implemented in the classroom to foster an environment that supports students in reaching their academic potential.
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- Session V:** *Navigating Union’s Grant Application Policies*
- Location:** White Hall 102
- Speaker:** Bill Thierfelder, Associate Professor of Biology
- Description:** Union’s policies governing applications for external grant funding, including government grants, were recently updated and will appear in the 2023 Faculty Handbook. The specifics of these policies and the reasoning behind them will be outlined in this 45-minute session. Participants are encouraged to come with any questions they may have, which will either be answered directly or addressed and followed up later.

Session VI: *Faculty Advising: Excellence in Academic Counseling*

Location: Hartley Recital Hall, Jennings Hall 123

Speakers: Brian Glas, Moderator; Panel - Jinni Leigh Blalack, Todd Stanfield

Description: Join a small faculty panel that discusses what they enjoy about advising and provide some insights to share related to how they advise, their approach to it, practical guidance, etc. We will also discuss primary requirements and the most common issues that the registrar's office encounters during student audits along with feedback directly from students that we can help address.

Session VII: *Financial Aid View on Advising: Top 10 Things Faculty Advisors Should Know About Financial Aid*

Location: Jennings Hall 225

Speaker: Derek Moore, Director, Student Financial Planning

Description: Financial aid and academics are closely intertwined, and decisions made regarding schedules or enrollment can impact a student's financial aid eligibility in the short and long term. In this session, Student Financial Planning will cover the top things to be aware of related to financial aid when advising your students academically. This will be a dialogue with the opportunity to ask questions.

Session VIII: *Building Mentoring Relationships with Students*

Location: Jennings Hall 325

Speakers: Nancy Cherry, Associate Dean, College of Education

Teresa Tritt, Associate Professor of Education and Director for Education Preparation

Description: Faculty in various programs seek to mentor students, but that mentoring looks different with traditional undergraduates versus online graduate students, for instance. This session would set a vision for mentoring students and identify practical ways to implement and improve mentoring within existing academic support services and academic programs.

11:10 a.m.

Repeat Concurrent Sessions