
COM's Professional Learning Center

Opening in 2025 - 2026

COMmunity Engagement Fall 2024 Goals

- To learn more about the prof learning needs of each academic discipline
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Timeline of the PLC Task Force

Spring 2023 - Continuing: A Professional Learning Center task force came together to make recommendations for the new Professional Learning Center that will be part of the new Center for Student Success at College of Marin.

Fall 2024: Get additional feedback from departments, groups, committees, etc across campus on draft recommendations from the task force.

2025-2026: Professional Learning Center Opens in the new Center for Student Success!

Key Tasks of the Task Force

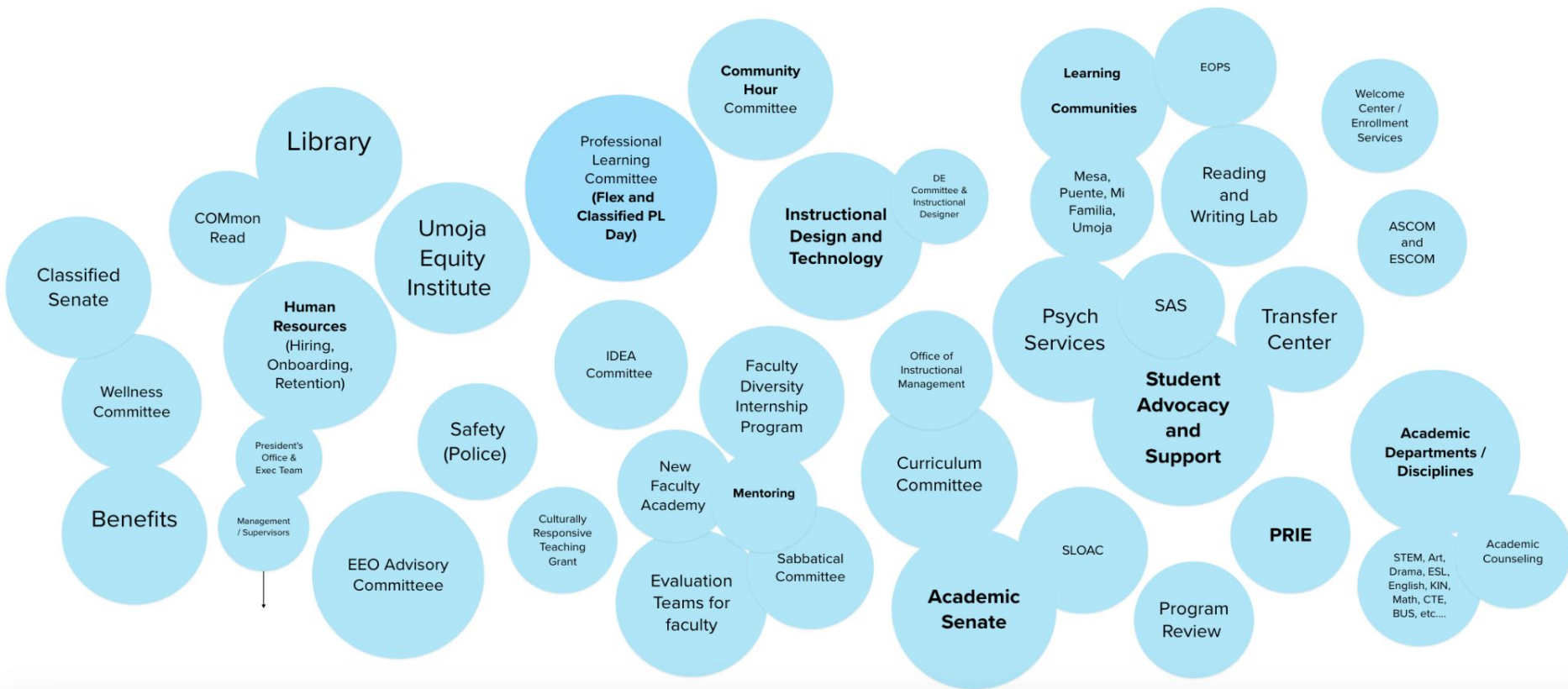
Recommend the vision and goals of the center, as outlined in Objective 5.2 in the [Strategic Plan 2022-2025](#)

- **Convene professional learning stakeholders (task force)** to work towards the creation of a Teaching and Learning Center that promotes inquiry, innovation, collaboration, and the embodiment of COM's vision of powerful learning across the district.
- **Identify current College initiatives**, such as the faculty mentor program and UMOJA Equity Institute, that reflects the work in Action Step 5.2.1 **and how this space can amplify and support this work.**
- **Devise the vision and goals of the Teaching and Learning Center** based on an inventory of work already in progress at the institution **and develop infrastructure**, including staffing and space design, **to connect and scale professional learning activities** described in Objective 5.1.

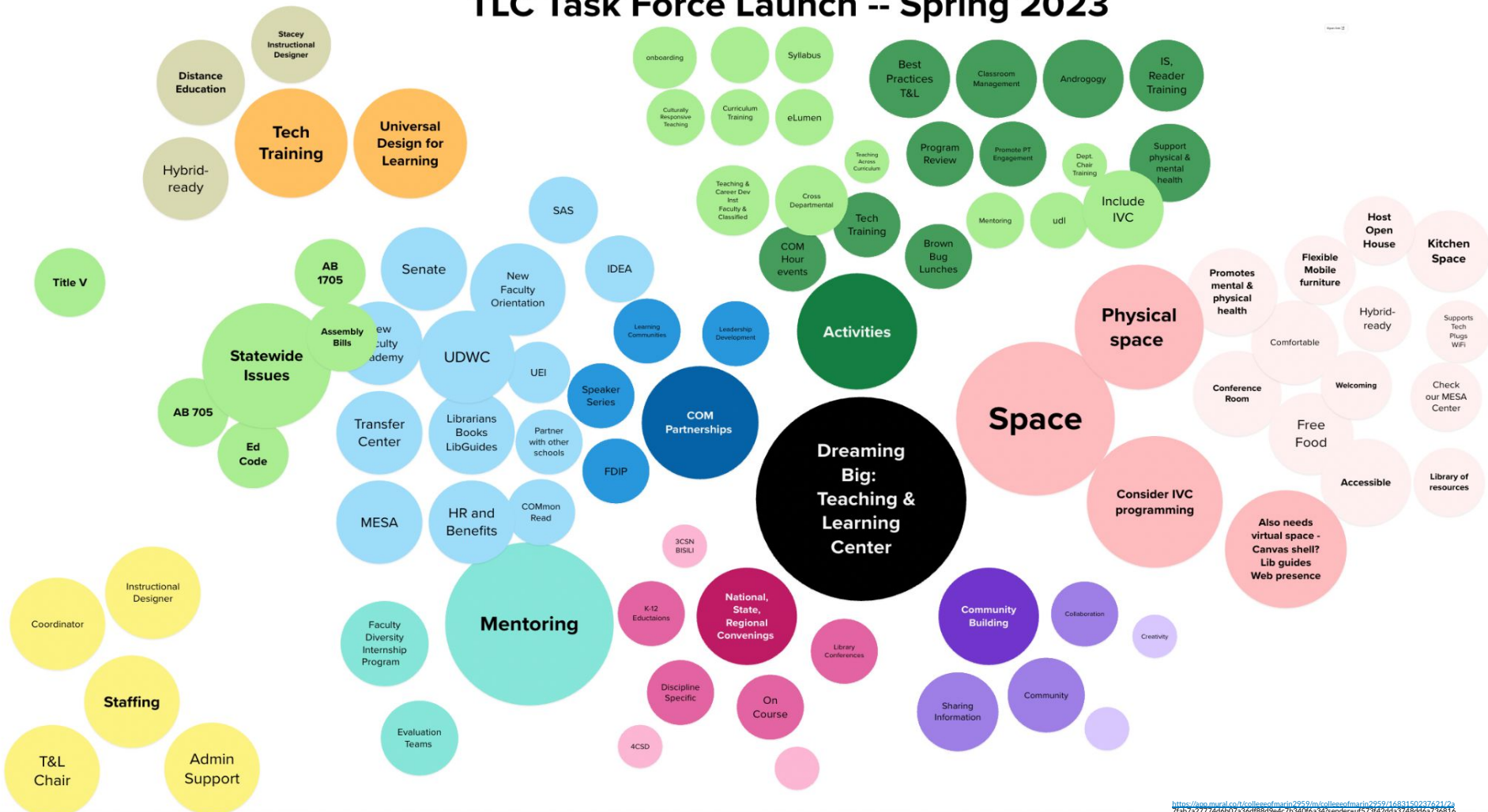
The creation of a TLC was also included in the 2023 ISER, as part of the **“innovative, equity-minded initiatives and practices”** of the College with a goal of serving **“as a hub for innovative staff and faculty professional development.”**

Where does professional learning take place at COM and by whom? TLC Task Force Launch -- Spring 2023

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1bwFY0CELhmkpoadVXGcwP7IaRBm7PjNntzWhTOJJo/edit?usp=sharing>



TLC Task Force Launch -- Spring 2023



Recommended Vision & Goals for the PLC

Vision: The Professional Learning Center (PLC) organizes and promotes learning and training opportunities for faculty, classified professionals, and administrators to support student, employee, and institutional success.

The goals of the Professional Learning Center are to:

- Advance equity-centered principles to increase engagement, access, and success.
- Inspire a culture of continuous learning
- Facilitate connections, leverage resources, and promote cross-disciplinary and departmental collaboration across campuses
- Foster excellence and innovation in teaching to transform classrooms.
- Provide mentorship and training to enhance effectiveness.
- Develop technology skills to support innovation.
- Provide employees with the skills to accomplish the college's mission and goals.

Additional Recommendation Highlights

- Professional Learning Center as name
- Shared leadership model that includes ongoing representation from all groups leading professional learning on campus

Staffing and Leadership: Task Force Recommendations

Tri-Chairing Model of Leadership for the Professional Learning Center: Classified Professional Learning Coordinator (50% position), Faculty Coordinator (Current Faculty Flex Coordinator), Rotating Administrator (Appointed by President; assigned to the Professional Learning Committee and current Champion of related Strategic Plan Goal if applicable)

Professional Learning Center leadership (faculty, Classified, administrator) reports directly to the Vice President of Student Success and Student Services[SS1] , and the Center lives under this VP organizationally.

The leadership of the Prof Learning Center collaborates directly with and serves on the existing Professional Learning Committee.

The Task Force, which includes representatives from key stakeholders engaged in professional learning, becomes the Professional Learning Center's Advisory Group/Board[SS2] that meets at least once per semester to help build the agenda/focus areas for the Prof Learning Center each semester. This Advisory Group would share their dreams/vision for the semester/year with the Professional Learning Committee so that the committee could help support this vision.

Instructional Design is part of the Professional Learning Center

Faculty in leadership roles in professional learning (examples: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and Practices leads, Umoja Equity Institute, DE Coordinator, etc) will be invited to participate in the Advisory Council and Professional Learning Committee to give input on faculty professional learning.

What's Next....

Visits to department meetings and other opportunities to give feedback (Fall 2024)

Listening Sessions: Academic Departments

Social Sciences	Centering Native American Curriculum	Discipline specific books	Need to give feedback on physical space	
	Technology loaning to faculty (laptops)	Publications (Economist, New Yorker)	Decolonizing the curriculum focus	
	Cutting edge technology	Computer stations	Small group presentation capability	
BIS	Share innovative classroom practices	Help with current discipline research	AI	
	Innovative technology	OER / Online resources	Learn from each other ("I need to take your class") Seminars	
	Cross discipline sharing - what are other faculty doing?	Access to professional licensure training	Bring other schools in to share what they do (rather than going out)	
Physical Sciences	Learn from other disciplines	Computer stations and innovative technology to try	Connect with others outside department	Gathering space / cafe
	Invite in local research institutions (or go out)	Carry Flex topics (AI) through semester	Host an event / conference at COM	Book club
	Seminars	Cross discipline demos (brown bag lunches)	Thorny issue: Most faculty do not leave SMN	
Life Sciences	Gathering space (loungey)	Education / Pedagogy texts	Space for part-timers to work	Light and windows
	Innovative teaching practices	Peer Support and teaching observations	Zoom capability (sound control)	Large space for brown bag lunches
	Periodicals	Cross discipline conversations	Copier?	

Sample Listening Sessions

Behavioral Sciences

Collegial Support:
Difficult classroom situations

Restorative practices / listening sessions (UEI)

Leads in PLCenter must be neutral (no agenda)

Conflict resolution

Mental health support for faculty

Caring campus / caring for each other

Kinesiology

Space and tech to record and edit asynchronous videos

Movement analysis technology

Bringing our expertise over to other side of campus

Hybrid technology to join meetings

Brown bag lunches

Cross discipline learning – education through movement

Designated space for movement education

Questions We are Gathering Input on:

- What are faculty and staff in your area excited about with an upcoming Professional Learning Center?
- What will get faculty and staff in your area using the Center?
- What will be most valuable to faculty and staff at the Center?
- The creation of a TLC was included in the 2023 ISER, as part of the “innovative, equity-minded initiatives and practices” of the College with a goal of serving “as a hub for innovative...professional development.”

What could help make this happen?