

**Professional Learning Committee
Summary of Activities and Priorities
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Overview

With the closure of campus and the move to remote instruction and student support, 2020 presented incredible challenges, opportunities, and demand for professional learning. As a result, we had record levels of employee participation in professional learning activities, including 236 faculty who completed the intensive Online Teaching and Design course. During the past year, the PLC increased collaborations with other campus groups, provided employee training and support for pressing challenges, and continued working on longer-term goals.

Flex Week Themes and Highlights

Academic Year 2020-21

- Flex Theme: Cultivating Empathy, Care, Connection, and Inspiration
- Focus on providing resources for remote instruction and student support and employee wellness in response to COVID-19. Includes technology training, teaching strategies, mental health, and equity implications.
- Partnered with IR&D “Classroom Cultural Ecology” work facilitated by Eva Meyers. Started in June and continued with monthly sessions for faculty throughout the fall semester.

Academic Year 2019-20

- Fall Flex Week: Transforming the Student Experience by Expanding the Equity Toolkit
- Fall Classified Staff Professional Learning Day: Inspiring Ourselves to Uplift Our Students
- Spring Flex Week: Expanding and Reflecting on Our Equity Toolbox of High Impact Practices
- Spring Classified Staff Professional Learning Day: Changed from a one-day activity in March to a series of virtual sessions in June and July because of the campus shutdown. Joint planning between the PLC and the Classified Senate.
- Virtual Faculty/Staff Appreciation event

Developing PLC Priorities

In developing priorities and programming, the PLC referred to the:

- Annual Professional Learning Survey: Created and administered by the PLC.
- Educational Master Plan 2019-2025 and Strategic Plan 2019-2022.
Task force members included Cara Kreit, interim PL facilitator for 2019-20, and PLC members Carol Hernandez, Tonya Hersch, Beth Patel, Cari Torres-Benavides.

- Spring and Fall Faculty Remote Instruction Surveys: Including specific questions about professional development needs.
- CCCCCO Vision for Success Goals.
- PLC SWOT Analysis.

Ongoing Themes and Priorities

- Develop a robust, engaging Flex program that meets needs of all employees.
- Increase depth of Flex program offerings by offering ongoing sessions on a particular topic. Examples include multi-semester offerings related to [Joe Feldman](#) and Grading for Equity and work with [Eva Meyers](#), author of *Raise the Room*, to create a Community in Practice designed to improve facilitation skills to engage and inspire students.
- Focus on equity-minded strategies and content for all employees.
- Support physical, mental, and financial health and wellbeing of employees.
- Create Teaching and Learning Center - Includes advocacy for a space in the new integrated LRC and developing mission and value statements and programming focus.
- Increase participation in Flex/professional learning events by all employees.
- Partner with Classified Senate, Umoja Equity Institute, IDEA Committee, Wellness Committee, UPM, and others to create a culture of learning across campuses and increased sense of community.
- Create list of core competencies for faculty, staff, and management to use as a guide for planning and evaluating PL activities.



- Provides a personalized PL site for employees to view, register, and evaluate events; access online training; and record Flex activities. Implemented in fall 2018.
- Use reporting features to track Flex activities, support faculty in completion of their Flex obligation, and analyze participation for planning purposes.

By the Numbers

38 Spring 2021 Flex Week Events	33 Fall 2020 Flex Week Events	236 Faculty who completed Online Teaching and Design training since spring 2020	181/182 PT Faculty who completed their Fall 2020 Flex Obligation
16 Department Meetings during Flex Weeks	12 Events in Classified PL summer 2020 series		100% FT faculty on track to complete their 2020-21 Flex obligation