Center for Teaching and Learning

November Newsletter

CTL November Newsletter Highlight Reel

Student Belonging Project
Upcoming Events
Open Applications Recognition
Faculty Recognition

Student Belonging Events
To Register for College Belonging Workshops

Dr. Lisa Nunn

Dr. Nunn earned her B.A. in Literature and Theater from Whittier College, and both her M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, San Diego. She is currently a Professor of Sociology at the University of San Diego, where she serves as the Director for the Center for Educational Excellence.

Dr. Nunn is best known for her important work in student belonging. She is the author of College Belonging and 33 Simple Strategies: A Week-by-Week Resource for Teaching First-Year and First-Generation Students. She focuses on the struggle that students experience as they transition from high school to university life. Her books provide practical tools that faculty can use to foster greater academic belonging with their students.

Session 1

Fostering College Belonging

November 19th, 2021 (Virtual)
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Or

January 11th, 2022 (In-Person)
KSU Ballroom
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.*

How could colleges foster a greater sense of belonging for students? Understanding how belonging happens in classrooms (academic belonging) and in campus cultures (campus-community belonging) allows everyone to comprehend the significant roles we represent in the lived experiences of students.

* Healthy lunch options are provided for those who have registered for the Working Lunch (01/11/2022)
KSU Ballroom, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Session 2

Building a Toolkit for Fostering Academic Belonging

11/19/2021 (Virtual)
2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Or

01/11/2022 (In-Person)
KSU Ballroom
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

Building on session 1, join us for a deeper dive into concrete, practical strategies faculty can use in their teaching and interactions with students to foster college belonging.

Sponsored by the
Kent State University Center for Teaching and Learning
www.kent.edu/ctl

Office of the Provost
Registration for all sessions is required
Visit www.kent.edu/ctl to register
The Student Belonging Project has allowed your strategies to improve students' sense of belonging to help others at KSU. Shown below are 5 straight-forward strategies that you can consider adopting for your next class session.

**Late semester strategies for student belonging:**

- Share a story of college woe. This may be a time you overslept your alarm, had problems with your roommate, or struggled to find money to eat something other than instant noodles.
- Help students remember what they are passionate about or what they are really good at doing.
- Do a fun activity in class—something that allows students to laugh or commiserate. Think about something other than a traditional written response such as a haiku, a limerick, or drawing.
- Practice a mindfulness or gratitude exercise with your students.
- Talk with students about wellness practices

We would love to hear how you are helping to support students' sense of belonging. Please consider using this link to contribute to our growing database of strategies. **You will be entered into a random drawing to win a prize.**

**Congratulations to Student Belonging Project Prize Winner**

Jeanne Smith, English  
Kent Campus

As the random drawing winner of the Student Belonging Project, Jeanne actively engages her students by inviting them to participate in a “mid-semester reset” survey. The survey consists of everything class-related from the beginning of the semester to mid-semester. “Doing this survey and follow-up gives the students a sense of agency, and they do engage with the work of thinking about how we want the second half of the semester to go”.

To read Jeanne’s complete strategy and other valuable submissions, visit the Student Belonging Project website

**Click here to submit your strategy and see others**
Virtual Interactive Workshop

IT’S IN THE SYLLABUS: CRAFTING A SYLLABUS FOR FIRST GENERATION STUDENT SUCCESS
Monday, November 8, 2021 | 12:00pm - 1:30pm

- 75 min interactive presentation
- 15 min continued conversations and Q&A

This session is part of the First Generation Celebration Week. In this session, instructors will learn strategies for using the syllabus as an important tool that communicates not only course policies but care and commitment to students and their learning. This interactive session will further explore strategies that promote student engagement with the syllabus.

Click Here to Register

Open Applications
Deadline coming soon: Wednesday, November 17th
Teaching Scholars is a year-long faculty learning community focused on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL).

The primary goal of the program is to support faculty in the design, implementation, and assessment of scholarly projects that identify and create significant learning environments.

Benefits of the Teaching Scholar Program Include:

- Participating in a year-long program that focuses on the scholarship of learning and teaching
- The development of collegial relationships across disciplines
- Participation at one funded conference on learning, teaching, and SoTL
- Participants will receive a 3 credit hour workload reallocation. Their units receive $3000 to defray the costs associated with the load lift.
- Developing methods for studying, documenting, and assessing learning and teaching.

[Click here to learn more and apply to the Teaching Scholars Program]
Want to use an Active Learning Space?

College of Visual Arts room 251 (CVA251) is a flexible learning space for up to 36 students.

The space is truly flexible to facilitate interaction—tables, chairs, and whiteboards can all move. Chromebooks are available for each student and double sided white boards allow for each half of each table to have their own space to write.

Learn more and request CVA251

November Featured Faculty
Dr. Dankovich is being recognized for his innovations in the classroom.

Dr. Krishnan is being recognized for her lifelong commitment to excellence in teaching.

Dr. Zhang is being recognized as a new faculty member committed to making a difference for students.

Learn more about what they have accomplished and view previous featured faculty at https://www.kent.edu/ctl/featured-faculty-month

We would love to hear from you about what you and your colleagues are doing. Email us your nominations at ctl@kent.edu.

The Teaching Recognition Awards Program recognizes actions that enhance teaching and learning at Kent State University. The program allows instructors to earn tiered awards (bronze, silver, gold & platinum) for their efforts to learn about, implement, evaluate and investigate evidence-based instructional practices. All instructors at Kent State, including graduate students and faculty of
all appointment types (TT, NTT, adjunct) are eligible to participate.

**Congratulations to all award recipients!**

**Silver Award Recipient:**
Grace Keenan

**Gold Award Recipient:**
Daniela Popescu

**Platinum Award Recipient:**
Ana Wetzl

Click here to learn more & apply for an award

Further Learning Opportunities

**Inclusive Teaching Endorsement Opportunity**

Kent State instructors are eligible to earn the Inclusive Teaching Endorsement offered by the Ohio College Teaching Consortium. More information on how to take advantage of this opportunity to deepen your learning and commitment to inclusive teaching can be found by clicking the button below.

Click here to learn more about the endorsement

**Connect with Us:**

CTL is here to support you; whether it is teaching face-to-face, remote, or a combination of both. Email ctl@kent.edu with your questions and/or set up a consultation time.

ctl@kent.edu
http://www.kent.edu/ctl

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