



The Love of Teaching Conference

PASSIONATE TEACHING: IGNITING THE LOVE FOR LEARNING

Co-sponsored by
The Office of E-Learning, Innovation and Teaching Excellence (ELITE) & The
Institute for Part-Time Faculty Engagement & Support (IPTFES)

Saturday, April 27, 2024
9:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
via Zoom

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Message from the President



Welcome to the Love of Teaching Conference. This year's Love of Teaching Conference focuses on how instructors can ignite a passion for learning in our students.

Montgomery College has long been dedicated to creating lifelong learners because a sense of curiosity and a hunger for knowledge are fundamental to success in all avenues of life. Our faculty and staff's dedication to promoting this zeal for learning is evident in their persistent and selfless work.

A sense of belonging is also essential for student success. Students who feel they belong in their classes are more likely to persist in their educational pursuits.

Equity in outcomes is a result that we should all strive for in our diverse classrooms, and fostering a desire to learn in our students will help yield those more equitable outcomes. I hope you find this conference stimulating. I encourage you to engage meaningfully with your colleagues—ask questions and swap strategies. Share stories about your learning journey. Reigniting your passion for learning will help you do the same for your students.

Jermaine F. Williams, Ed.D.
President

The Office of E-Learning, Innovation, and Teaching Excellence (ELITE)



Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Office of E-Learning, Innovation, and Teaching Excellence (ELITE), I welcome you to the 2024 Love of Teaching Conference.

This year's theme, 'Passionate Teaching: Igniting the Love for Learning,' embodies our dedication to fostering learning among our students, our faculty, and our staff.

At ELITE, our mission is to provide excellence and leadership within the diverse Montgomery College (MC) community in instructional professional development, learning technology support, and college-wide academic initiatives. We are passionate about ensuring that our educators are equipped with the latest tools and strategies to create a positive, inclusive, and engaging learning experience for every student. As we gather for this year's conference, we aim to explore innovative solutions that will empower all learners to embrace lifelong learning.

We are committed to holding ourselves accountable for seeking and providing practical, cutting-edge approaches to enhance the learning experiences of our faculty, staff, and students. Throughout the conference, you will have the opportunity to participate in insightful discussions and hear our panel of guest faculty members' thoughts. These sessions will provide invaluable insights into how to ignite a passion for learning.

I encourage you to engage with fellow educators, share your experiences, and create lasting connections to benefit your professional growth and students' success. Together, we can work towards a brighter, more inclusive future in education. Thank you for joining us at the 2024 Love of Teaching Conference, and I wish you an inspiring and rewarding experience.

Paul D. Miller, Ed.D.

ELITE Professional Development Director

A Welcome Message from The Institute for Part-Time Faculty Engagement & Support (IPTFES)



The Love of Teaching Conference is unique in that faculty can dive deeply into various instructional topics.

The exchange of intellectual ideas and thoughts from presenters and attendees like you is exactly what makes this conference one of a kind. On behalf of the Institute for Part-time Faculty Engagement and Support (IPTFES), we are grateful for your commitment to your own personal and professional growth. We hope that you are inspired by this experience and that your love for teaching continues to grow as a result. Here is more about the Institute.

We are now in our ninth year of providing resources and guidance to Montgomery College's part-time faculty and counseling community. The Institute also recognizes the exceptional work and contributions made by our faculty and counselors in serving the students at Montgomery College.

The Institute has embraced a broad range of responsibilities. Some of our core functions include:

- Providing part-time faculty orientation and professional development opportunities
- Serving as a problem-solving, trouble-shooting hub for technical and facility-related issues that impact teaching and counseling by part-time faculty and counselors.
- Providing resource centers where faculty can work, meet with students, and engage with colleagues.
- Assisting the academic and counseling departments in communicating and interacting with part-time faculty to advance department and College goals and initiatives more effectively.
- Serving as a source of information regarding rank advancement and appointment requests, professional development, and opportunities for full employment in the educational community.
- Providing a physical and virtual presence to support part-time faculty on and off campus during day and evening classes.

Please reach out to us.

Your involvement with the Institute begins by visiting our website at <https://info.montgomery-college.edu/resources/part-time-faculty>.

Please also connect with us on Facebook: @MC.PTFaculty

Professor Erik Swanson
IPTFES Interim Director

The History

The Love of Teaching Annual Conference is held every spring on the last Saturday in April. Originally conceived by Instructional Designer Dr. Carol Moore, the first conference was held in 2016. The Love of Teaching is different from other professional development events in that it celebrates the teaching profession. It allows participants to explore a topic of interest with colleagues and do so in a convivial atmosphere that allows for greater camaraderie and collaborative learning. Since its inception, the event has grown in participation and is one of the most popular professional development events offered at Montgomery College.

About The Love of Teaching Conference

This year's conference aims to invigorate instructors and reignite their passion for teaching through insightful discussions, shared experiences, and active engagement.

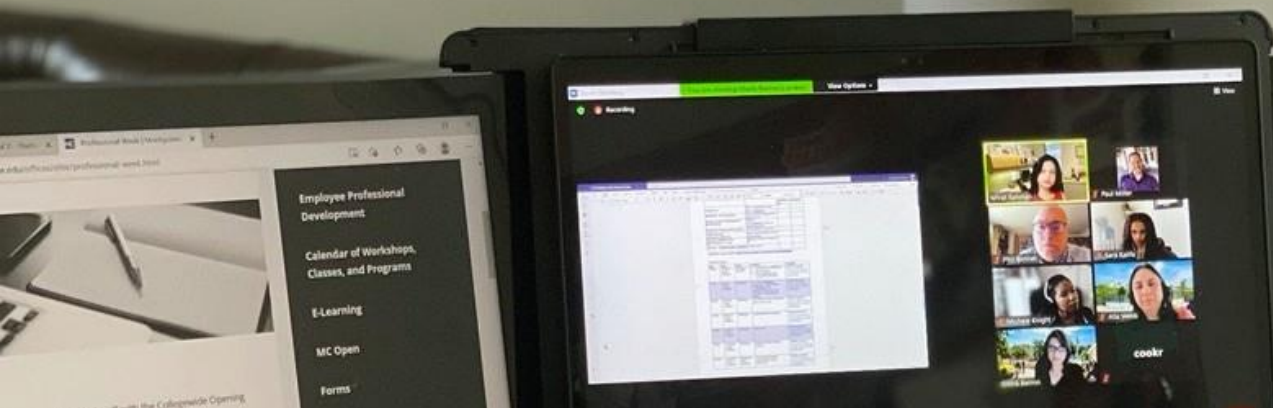
The conference will begin with a panel discussion, during which selected Montgomery College instructors known for their innovative teaching methods will share their challenges, triumphs, and strategies for cultivating a love for learning in their classroom. Following the panel discussion, attendees will participate in interactive breakout sessions to explore topics and scenarios related to passionate teaching.

Celebrate the transformative power of passionate teaching and embark on a journey to inspire and empower the next generation of learners!

Love of Teaching Planning Committee

Ms. Gloria Barron, Instructional Designer, ELITE
Mr. Philip Bonner, Instructional Designer, ELITE
Ms. Elizabeth Feldman, Part-Time Faculty, IPTFES
Mr. Nghi Nguyen, Web Specialist, ELITE





Schedule

Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Paul Miller

9:15 a.m.-9:25 a.m.

Ice Breaker Activity and Sign-in

9:25 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

Welcome Remarks, Dr. Paul Miller, ELITE Professional Development Director

9:30 a.m.-9:35 a.m.

Dr. Michael Mills

9:35 a.m.-9:45 a.m.

Dr. Jermaine Williams, President

9:45 a.m.-10:50 a.m.

Panelist Discussion

10:50 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Breakout Session 1

11:30 a.m.-11:40 a.m.

Team Reports

11:40 a.m.-12:10 p.m.

Breakout Session 2

12:10 p.m.-12:20 p.m.

Teams Reports

12:20 p.m.-12:25 p.m.

Conference Wrap-up, Erik Swanson, Interim Director, Institute for Part-Time Faculty Engagement & Support (IPTFES)

12:25 p.m.-12:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks

About Our Panelists



Carrie Fitzgerald has taught astronomy and physics at MC since 2009. She also serves as the director of The Montgomery College Astronomical Observatory located on the Rockville campus. She holds a BS in physics from Stetson University, an MS in observational astronomy and a PhD in nuclear astrophysics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is an enthusiastic educator of all things astronomy, and as a NASA Solar System Ambassador, Carrie gives public lectures, workshops, and observing opportunities throughout the DMV.



Ellen Olmstead has taught at state universities, HBCUs, Ivy League colleges, urban high schools, TRIO programs, Upward Bound programs, multi-service community centers, and prisons for more than 22 years.

However, her primary commitment has been teaching at community colleges because they often serve a diverse community and first-generation students who are seeking a postsecondary education. She believes that educational opportunities are integral to social change.



Debra Poes has been a faculty member at Montgomery College since 1984. Beginning as a mathematics professor, she also served as the Chair of the Department of Mathematics, Interim Instructional Dean for Science, Engineering and Mathematics, and Director of the School of Education. In the fall of 2023, she returned to the classroom full time to teach math and advise students. While she has taught a wide range of math courses, she particularly enjoys teaching future teachers how to communicate math without fear. She holds degrees in Mathematics and Education from Truman State University as well as an MA in Mathematics from the University of Maryland-College Park.



Gregory Sember is an Associate Professor. He completed his undergraduate studies at East Carolina University with a focus on American politics and U.S. history. He has taught Political Science for seven years with experiences in Wyoming, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Maryland. His political experiences include working in two state capitals, lobbying, and volunteering with several interest groups. He generally teaches American Government and Introduction to Political Science.



Racquel Francis is a part-time ESOL instructor in the Adult Education and Literacy Grant (AELG) Program, Refugee Training Program, and EARN MIBEST Early Childhood Education Program. She has taught ESOL for more than a decade in the D.C. area and in Colombia through two Fulbright Fellowships. Additionally, she has written multiple curriculum frameworks, led professional learning communities, served on conference planning committees, and facilitated English teaching workshops.

Discussion -Scenario 1

Theme: Meeting Deadlines

Susie is always late to class by about 10-15 minutes. More times than not, she turns in her assignments late, yet she is a gifted writer, and the work she does turn in is usually great. What do you recommend to alter these habits, or is this something professors should not be too concerned about because the work she produces is good?

Should you discuss these issues with Susie? Explain.

Notes

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Discussion - Scenario 2

Theme: Engagement

Jack appears to face challenges with maintaining focus and engagement during class sessions. Sitting in the back of the room, his demeanor suggests a certain level of distraction, and his submitted work shows potential but you feel he can do more. You believe that Jack possesses untapped capabilities beyond what he currently demonstrates in the class.

How can you reach Jack so he can fulfill his potential?

Notes

Takeaways

What are your key takeaways from this event?







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Information About the HUB

The Hub is ELITE's virtual space for teaching and learning resources. Visit the HUB via the link below for just-in-time information and helpful advice on the art and the science of teaching.

<https://mcblogs.montgomerycollege.edu/thehub>



 Events and Workshops Resources for all ELITE events and workshops including presentations, workshop recordings, etc.	 Professional Associations and Conferences Information on different associations faculty can sign up with, and also conferences faculty can attend.	 Online Courses and Training Visit MCLearn to explore the large number of course offerings available to all MC employees.
 Workforce Development and Continuing Education (WDCE) The Workforce Development and Continuing Education (WDCE) programs at Montgomery College provide a wide range of noncredit and credit educational offerings and services designed to meet the needs of county residents and businesses.	 Open Educational Resources (OERs) Open Educational Resources (OER) are freely available learning materials that can be downloaded, edited, and shared to better serve all students.	 Employee Development Cohort Programs Learning Pathways Professional Goals and Self Evaluation Resources

MC