# Center For \_\_\_\_\_\_ Teaching & Learning Excellence

## Annual Report



## 2021 - 2022

## **Message From The Director**

#### Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to present you with the 2021-2022 Annual Report from the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence. It's hard to believe our center is only three years old, but since its beginning in January 2019, the CTLE has grown and expanded services, programs, and outreach. We are committed to supporting all adjunct and full-time faculty, teaching in all modalities and in all locations. Our center team has worked tirelessly and passionately to address our university's diverse and evolving teaching and learning modalities and needs.

During the 2021-2022 academic year, the CTLE continued to support faculty with myriad programs and services, including our fall and spring Faculty Development Days. In Fall '21 we hosted internationally renowned author and teaching expert, Flower Darby, who inspired and challenged us to recognize and reclaim our "Resilience and Joy in Teaching." The center also launched a new initiative to assist faculty in developing hybrid courses, and we began a new peer-reviewed process to award technology mini-grants to faculty whose grant proposals demonstrate a capacity to effectively use technology to enhance teaching and learning. Also during 2021-2022, we hosted 16 self-paced Courses for teaching and Learning (CTLs), three Teaching and Learning Conversation groups (TLCs), three Faculty Book Clubs (FBCs), and 34 webinars and faculty panels on a variety of topics. Overall, more than 1,300 participants engaged in CTLE faculty development programs or events. Also, during the academic year, our CTLE teaching and learning specialists provided over 200 one-on-one consultations to faculty.

Saint Leo's CTLE website continues to grow and expand as the one-stop-shop for faculty, continually providing copious opportunities to inform, challenge, inspire, and occasionally entertain faculty. We now have over 182 content pages averaging 615 views each week, with over 32,000 hits last year, not only from our faculty but from universities across the country and around the world. In addition, our Simulated Experiences at Saint Leo program continues to grow and is now partnering with four other universities to offer our virtual reality simulations to their academic programs.

As I reflect on the past year, I would personally like to thank our faculty for their dedication to our students and for their teachable spirit. Their passion for making a difference in the lives of students and colleagues is inspiring and demonstrates all that is good at Saint Leo. I am also appreciative of a university that not only calls itself a teaching university but supports our efforts to live up to that.

Lastly, I want to thank our dedicated CTLE team for their innovative, skilled, passionate, can-do spirit, and for the countless hours they have dedicated to our mission of serving our faculty in ways that result in "academic success for all who teach and learn at Saint Leo University." I learn from them every day. I hope some of the events, resources, or services highlighted in this report encourage you to connect with our remarkable CTLE team to explore new adventures in teaching and learning as we continue to serve our students and each other-- together.

Warmest Regards,

Candau A. Roberts, Ph.D.

Candace A. Roberts, Ph.D. Professor, Director Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence



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## **CTLE** Team



Candace Roberts, Ph.D. Director of Center for Teaching andLearning Excellence



Kari Cremer Administrative Assistant



Greg Kunzweiler Assistant Director



Karen Garcia-McGowan Teaching and Learning Specialist



Issys Salazar Teaching and Learning Specialist



Emily Kochanski Simulation Specialist



Jessica Atkinson Simluation Specialist

#### Mission

The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence is dedicated to the advancement of teaching and learning at Saint Leo University. We serve as a resource for the academic community and a catalyst for the pursuit of pedagogical knowledge, research-based instructional practices, and scholarship, resulting in academic success for all who teach and learn at Saint Leo University.

#### **Guiding Principles**

- 1. There are many ways to teach well; we support intellectual inquiry, the scholarship of teaching and learning, and instructors' unique exploration and application of evidence-based practices.
- 2. Faculty development is most effective when driven by faculty needs and interests.
- 3. When faculty members share successful practice and scholarship, we grow as a community of educators. To support pedagogical growth, scholarship, and the free exchange of ideas, the center supports faculty collaboration through small and large communities of inquiry as well as through university wide programing.
- 4. The Center encourages supportive, inclusive, and learner-centered teaching practices.
- 5. The Center provides research-based programs and resources to support pedagogical growth and practice in all applicable teaching modalities, and for all levels of instructors including adjunct, assistant, associate, and full professors.
- 6. The Center honors the diversity, abilities, and contributions of all Saint Leo faculty.
- 7. The Center encourages and supports responsible, inquiry-based risk-taking and innovation.
- 8. The Center cultivates a welcoming, collegial learning environment predicated on mutual respect and trust.
- 9. The Center provides non-evaluative, confidential support through observation and teaching consultation.

## **CTLE Website**

The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence maintains a dynamic and growing website of over 182 pages and countless resources. The website provides professional development and support for faculty through articles, guides, videos, offerings, and more. Some of the offerings include one-on-one consultations, Courses for Teaching and Learning (CTLs), webinars, faculty development days, workshops, simulations, Teaching and Learning Conversation groups (TLCs), and much more.



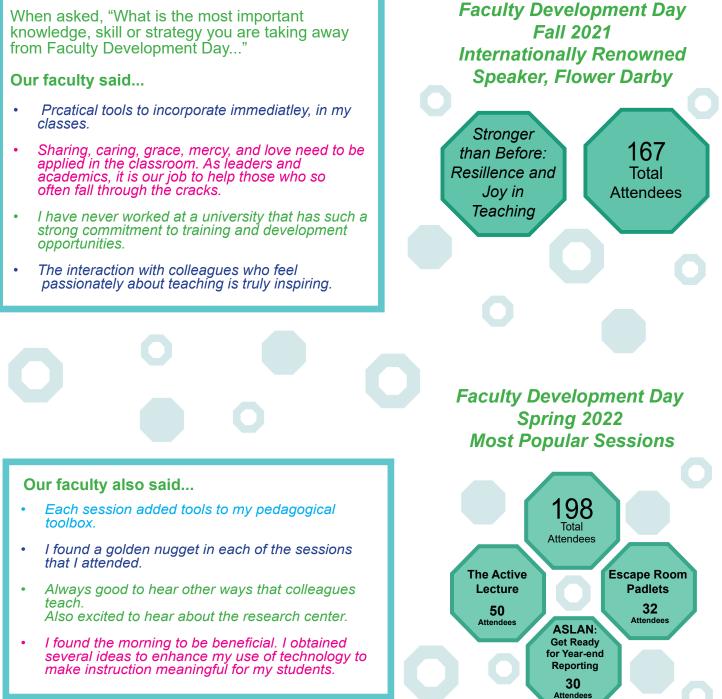
## Blogs

The CTLE uses the blog to educate, inform, inspire or entertain faculty. Topics range from professional development opportunities to ways for enhancing teaching and learning practices.

Center for Traching and Learning Excellent SAUNTLEO UNIVERSITY		Distance (Freedom)	e ( ganeser ) egane se la presenció a subrescrias artes : A la derant Alfales Rectancies :
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		hanging Leaves - hanging CTLs	
	States - Land Margaret Control - Contractor	Faculty Forum for eaching and Learning	

### Programs and Services Faculty Development Day

The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence presents two Faculty Development Day events each year, one in the Fall and one in the Spring. During Fall 2021, we hosted an online interactive program with internationally renowned presenter Flower Darby. The topic was "Stronger Than Before: Resilience and Joy in Teaching. In Spring 2022, we accepted more proposals than ever before on topics with the theme, "Reimagining Learning." The faculty presented effective strategies and creative work-arounds that have emerged in response to the pandemic.



#### **Programs and Services**

## CTLs, TLCs, and FBCs

Personalized Professional Development. In the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, we believe that professional development should be practical, convenient, and inspiring. We've done the research, we've considered the options, and most importantly, we've listened to our faculty. As educators, your needs, motivations, and interests vary, so your professional development options should too.

#### **Courses for Teaching and Learning**

Our Courses for Teaching and Learning (CTLs) are opportunities for you to explore innovative teaching practices, to learn more about evidence-informed instructional strategies, and to try out the latest educational technologies – all at your own pace.

#### Top 4 Attended CTLs

Teaching at Saint Leo

**12** CTLs were facilitated in 2021 - 2022

280 Faculty Registered

237 Courses Completed

Creating Module-Level Objectives

Using the LMS to Support On-ground Hybrid, and Blending Instruction

Introduction to Universal Design and Learning

#### **Teaching and Learning Conversations**

Teaching and Learning Conversation groups (TLCs) focus on teaching and learning topics in an informal, discussion-based format. These sessions provide faculty a chance to share their teaching experience and learn from each other.

3 TLC Groups were offered in Fall 202121 Faculty Registered



#### **Faculty Book Clubs**

The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence supports Faculty Book Clubs (FBCs) which provide members with opportunities to meet and discuss books on a variety of topics related to teaching and learning.

- **3** Book Clubs were offered in Fall 2021
- 12 Faculty Registered

**Books Selected** 

Equity by Design

Small Teaching Online

Relationship - Rich Education

### **Programs and Services**

## **WEBINARS**

Webinars are 60-minute live sessions that feature faculty speakers and are delivered via Zoom. They offer conversations and opportunities to learn more about various topics that are important to faculty. Every semester is different, and our webinars provide a space to discuss the latest technologies, best practices in teaching and learning, and current topics like digital wellness and self-care.

Highe	est Attended Web	inars		Attendees
Faculty Pa by Reflect	Faculty Panel: "Teaching with Technology: Shaping the Future by Reflecting on the Past"			41
Tips and T Scholarsh	Tactics to Accelerate your Resen	arch and		21
Now, New at Saint Lo	v, Next: the Ever Changing Sim .eo	ulated Experie	ences	19
Easy D2L	Analytics for Instructors			15
Students'	Sense of Belonging: The Cultur	rally Engaging	Campus	14
	<b>EVENT TYPES</b>	# of Events	# of Attendees	
	WEBINARS	20	205	
	HYBRID WEBINARS	9	209	
	FACULTY PANELS	5	75	

## Simulated Experiences at Saint Leo

Simulated Experiences at Saint Leo (SESL) are virtual reality scenarios featuring animated environments and characters portrayed by actors in real-time. Powered by a blend of artificial intelligence and live human interaction, we provide experiential learning for essential skills in the workplace. Using trained professionals who orchestrate the interactions between learners and avatar-based characters, Simulated Experiences at Saint Leo achieves the realism needed to deliver measurable, high-impact results. Our simulated experiences extend beyond Saint Leo. Other universities utilizing our simulated experiences to support student learning include: Weber State University, Limestone University, Tuskegee University, and Florida Gulf Coast University.

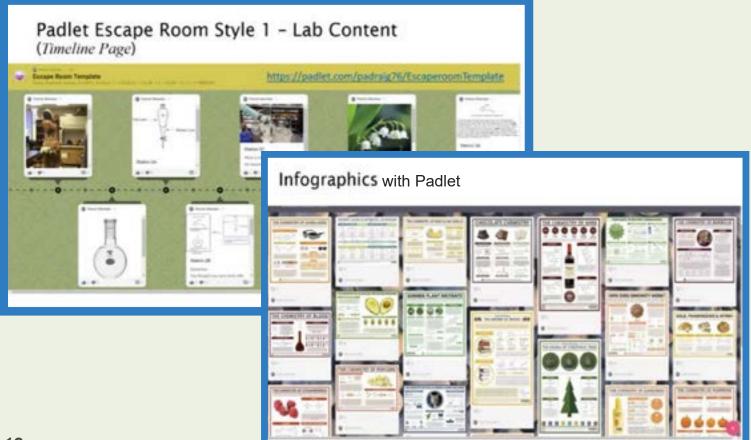


## Faculty 1:1 Support Faculty Mini-Grants

The CTLE department provides one-on-one consultation sessions to Saint Leo faculty members on various topics such as teaching strategies, Zoom support, D2L guidance, educational technology tools, and much more. A faculty member can fill out a CTLE support ticket on our website, and a Teaching and Learning Specialist will contact them within regular business hours.



CTLE awarded 7 faculty members tech mini-grants after a blind peer review process. Recipients were awarded subscriptions to either Padlet or Nearpod. The tools were used to engage and support students with educational technology in their courses. Faculty members agreed to share their experience using the tool with the academic community via a webinar, video tutorial or presentation.



## Social Media & Faculty Leaderboard

CTLE's social media accounts utilize the platforms for our Center's announcements and to support faculty development by providing instructional and professional resources. Social media allows faculty to connect with CTLE via the different networks they prefer.



## **Faculty Leaderboard**

The Faculty Leaderboard encourages and recognizes faculty who participate in various professional development opportunities such as Faculty Development Days, Base Camps, Webinars, TLC's, FBC's and Courses for Teaching and Learning. Faculty are encouraged to apply what they learn and share that knowledge and experience with other faculty. The more you learn, the more points you earn. For the second year in a row, the College of Education and Social Services collectively earned the most points on the Faculty Leaderboard.

Top Leadeboard Individuals						
Rivera-Singletary, G.		3.6 K				
Delgado, Brown, L.	2.4 K					
Stoupenos, V.	2.2 K					
Dadez, E.	2.1 K					
Picot, C.	2.1 K					
Atkins, H.	2.1 K					

Top of the Leaderboard by College



## Faculty Advisory Board FAB

The Faculty Advisory Board is an essential part of the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence. The FAB provides important insight and feedback regarding faculty experiences and needs, thereby informing our planning of programs and services. Members also often assist with faculty development events. This committee includes broad representation from throughout the university, including full-time and adjunct faculty from various centers and those teaching in various modalities.



## Faculty Advisory Board FAB







Rev. Sha'Leda Mirra, Ph.D.



Brandy Pollicita, M.S.



## **End Of Year Survey**

When designing faculty development activities, the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence team always considers faculty members' feedback. At the closing of the academic year, we encourage faculty to take a few moments to complete an end-of-year survey to provide us with valuable input on our programs and services.

**82%** of faculty surveyed responded that professional development opportunities or resources provided by the CTLE impacted their teaching in 2021-2022.

Faculty

#### Future Topics Faculty are Interested in Most

#### Technology

Ways to engage, motivate, improve student learning. Navigating the course software. Techniques to get students to turn in assignments.

The use of quality library resources.

PAPROVED.

~CTLE has been a godsend trying to stay one step ahead of faculty needs.

~CTLE has a good variety of courses and materials to help instructors when needed.

~I learned about new technology and ways to use it. Most importantly it allows me to connect with colleagues for support and exchange of ideas. ~CTLE has allowed me to learn about other tools to improve my online teaching practice.

~The CTLE programming has made me think about new/ different ways of presenting ideas/information to students.

~CTLE has effectively provided a lot of resources for faculty from webinars to individual help.

## **CTLE Footprint**



The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence serves all Saint Leo full-time and adjunct faculty members on campus, at centers, and online. The footprint of the CTLE is much more expansive than the traditional academic colleges and divisions. In order to effectively serve and support the faculty so they can positively impact their students, the CTLE also partners with divisions such as Assessment and Institutional Research, the Center for Academic Vision and Excellence, Human Resources, Learning Design, the Department of Information Technology, the Center for Research, the Office of Military Affairs, and many others. The Saint Leo Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence also has established partnerships with four other universities, providing their academic programs with augmented and virtual reality simulations through our Simulated Experiences at Saint Leo. The leaves on the tree below show the outreach of the CTLE.

