CeTEAL Special/Shared Interest Group (SIG) Program
Pilot Program

Overview

CeTEAL is piloting several special/shared interest groups (SIGs) for the 2017-18 academic year. The SIGs will bring interested faculty and staff together around common topics of interest. During the first year, the goals of the SIG program are to:

1. Bring together faculty and staff with shared experiences or interests to begin or further conversations
2. Build community and increase collaboration across campus; get out of the silos and meet new colleagues
3. Set up a network of individuals with a shared interest
4. Bring multi-disciplinary and cross-departmental expertise together to discuss complex issues
5. Establish communities of practice at CCU to provide a framework for sustained professional development, dialogue, and research

The SIGs may be cross-disciplinary including faculty and staff who examine a topic through the lenses of many fields and lived experiences. SIGs may also be cohort-based where a department or already established group participates in one of the proposed topics. Several proposed topics are listed below, and other topics are invited for consideration.

Proposed Topics for the 2017-18 Academic Year

- Signature Pedagogies: Disciplinary Teaching Practices in the Classroom
- Turning Your Teaching into Research (Scholarship of Teaching and Learning)
- Universal Design for Learning
- Race, Ethnicity, Cultural Diversity and the Learning Environment
- Gender and Identity in the Learning Environment
- Gaming, Serious Gaming, Game Studies and Gamification
- Innovative Technology in the Classroom (Instructional Technology)
- Active Learning Strategies in the Classroom
- The Demands of Being a Caregiver (Childcare, Eldercare, Sibling-care, etc.)
- Faculty and Staff Parents Group
- Faculty and Staff of Color
- Early Career Faculty
- **Coming Soon:** Mindfulness for Work-Life Balance
- Other topics are welcome and encouraged

Format

The initial idea is to connect the groups and see what is possible with each group. CeTEAL will create an online group through Office 365. The members of the group decide upon the format for each SIG. Individual commitment to a SIG can be as simple as participation in an email distribution list, monthly meeting or occasional lunch or coffee.

SIGs should develop organically based on the members. Each SIG may plan activities for the year such as scheduling an initial meeting for the members and establishing meeting times and a preferred mode of communication. CeTEAL will be happy to facilitate, attend or assist with SIGs but will not impose requirements upon the groups.

If you are interested in joining any of the SIGs or have other questions, please email Jenn Shinaberger (jshinabe@coastal.edu) or CeTEAL (ceteal@coastal.edu). Other ideas for SIGS are encouraged and invited. Sign-up on the CeTEAL website under Register for Sessions.
CeTEAL Special and Shared Interest Group (SIG) Programs

Below is a list of special interest groups (SIGs) for the 2017-2018 year with brief descriptions. Each SIG has a description and a set of questions that may be the starting point for discussion.

**Signature Pedagogies: Disciplinary Teaching Practices in the Classroom**

- This SIG will identify methods of teaching, ways of thinking, and professional practice that defines how each discipline prepares students. Guiding questions: How do we prepare students to think like a _____ (teacher, biologist, historian, manager, etc.)? How do we teach in my discipline? What disciplinary assumptions do we make? What professional values do we convey to our students?

**Turning Your Teaching into Research (Scholarship of Teaching and Learning)**

- This SIG will explore how to consider teaching as a scholarly endeavor. What research on teaching and learning has been conducted in my discipline? How do I design a research project appropriate for my classroom? What questions do I have about student learning in my classroom?

**Universal Design for Learning**

- This SIG will explore universal design in all aspects of learning. What are the barriers and opportunities in designing for all learners? What can we learn from the process of universal design? What resources do we have on campus that assist and promote universal design? What barriers still exist for learners and what work still needs to be done? What research exists to inform how we design courses for diverse student populations?

**Race, Ethnicity, Cultural Diversity and the Learning Environment**

- This special interest group will explore how the social and historical construction of race affects the learning environment for students and faculty. Who is included and who is excluded in the learning process? How do we address privilege in the learning environment and confront dominate ideology? What can we learn from the lived truths and experiences of others? What research can we bring from our disciplines to inform the conversation? What resources exist on campus for faculty, staff, and students? What work still can be done to improve our campus?

**Gender and Identity in the Learning Environment**

- This SIG will explore the complexity of gender and identity beyond the binary to push toward more gender-inclusive teaching. How do we handle “spark moments” or conflict around gender and identity in the classroom? How can we be aware of microaggressions and their impact on the classroom and beyond? What research exists for best practice in gender-inclusive teaching? What resources exist on campus for faculty, staff, and students? What is still missing and what work still needs to be done to further impact our campus?

**Gaming, Serious Gaming, Game Studies and Gamification**

- This special interest group will explore gaming, game studies, and gamification. What is a gamer? What is the difference between gaming, game studies, and gamification? How do you transfer the elements of gaming to a classroom? What research has been done on gaming in the classroom? What is the broader context of gaming within our culture and how does it relate to my discipline?

**Innovative Technology for Teaching (Instructional Technology)**

- Formerly #nerdlunch, a small group of faculty and staff who got together occasionally over lunch to discuss all things technology, this SIG will explore innovative and best practice of technology for teaching. What will the future of technology bring to our classrooms? What are some interesting and innovating technologies that you use in your classroom? What are interesting trends in other disciplines with technology? This group will “ooh” and “ahh” along with you at cool technology.
Active Learning Strategies in the Classroom

- This SIG will explore active learning in and out of the classroom. How do we define active learning in the classroom? How do we overcome the constraints of active learning to improve student learning? What are the barriers to active learning for faculty and students? What are the perceived risks associated with active learning?

The Demands of Being a Caregiver in Academia (Childcare, Eldercare, Sibling-care, etc.)

- This SIG will explore how being a caregiver impacts our day-to-day life. What are the joys and frustration of being a caregiver? What does it mean to be a caregiver? How does being a caregiver impact time, health, finances, and family? What shared and individual experiences can we use to support one another?

Faculty and Staff Parent Group

- This SIG will offer a way for faculty and staff parents to connect and find a community, particularly soon-to-be parents, new parents or new faculty who can use advice navigating academia and CCU as a caregiver. Experienced parents are welcome to offer suggestions, support, and advice. What things do new parents need to know? How do you balance the demands of work and family life? What are struggles unique to parents in an academic setting?

Faculty and Staff of Color

- This SIG proposes to connect faculty and staff of color in order to build community, shared connections and cross-departmental relationships and interactions at CCU. This group is intended to be a space where faculty and staff of color who self-identify can discuss issues they face and strategies for navigating the academy.

Early Career Faculty

- This SIG will explore the needs of early career faculty. This group is intended for faculty who are between their first year and third-year review, and those interested in the mentoring of early-career faculty. What resources do early career faculty need? How can we help early career faculty feel connected to their department, college, and institution?