Center for Research on Teaching and Learning Excellence
Annual Report
2019-20
Mission

“To engage faculty in research-based practices that innovate and enhance their teaching, resulting in clear and measurable advances in student learning.”

The CRTLE mission is to engage faculty in research-based practices that innovate and enhance their teaching, resulting in clear and measurable advances in student learning. The Center remains at the cutting edge of teaching and learning advances in online and on-campus environments to address the deep structured, logical thinking, intellectual, social, and emotional needs of students in today’s technological world. The Center’s goal is to prepare and advance university teaching so that each UTA student is highly prepared for the workplace of the future.

What we do:

- Transform and Innovate Teaching by Collaborating with Faculty
- Provide Faculty with Resources and Services
- Support Innovate Technology and Research-Based Teaching Approaches
Administration and Staff

Dr. Ann Cavallo
Assistant Vice Provost and Director CRTLE
Distinguished University Professor of Science Education
Profile: https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/ann-cavallo

Dr. Andrew M. Clark
QEP Director, and Associate Director, CRTLE
Associate Professor, Department of Communication
Mentis Profile: https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/andrew-clark

Susan Dequeant
Associate Director, Center for Service Learning and Program Lead, MAFE

Dr. Beth Fleener
Senior Teaching Innovation Research Associate
Joined CRTLE Fall, 2020
Mentis Profile: https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/elizabeth-fleener

Dr. Nali Kim
Teaching Innovation Research Associate
Joined CRTLE Fall, 2020
Mentis Profile: https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/nali+-kim

Lucinda Buhrkuhl
Program Coordinator
LINK Lab Staff

Dr. Justin T. Dellinger  Dr. Matt Crosslin  Barbara Crow  Dr. Goutam Sarkar  T. Lisa Berry

CRTLE Interns 2019-20

Shawn Sandlin  Joshua Shin  Ryan Hulla, Graduate Research Assistant
Department of English  Department of English  Department of Psychology

CRTLE Fellows 2019-20

Dr. Amy Austin, Dr. Melanie Sattler, Dr. Subhra Mandal, Dr. Thomas Dombrowsky,
Department of Modern Languages  Department of Civil Engineering  Department of Biology  Department of Nursing
Activities

Graduate Student Conference on Effective Teaching

This interactive conference is designed specifically for all graduate students to learn, develop, and advance effective teaching skills in higher education. Topics included classroom management; effective teaching; and teamwork.

74 Graduate Student attendees

Majority were new teachers

Five interactive sessions

Classroom Management

We held two interactive sessions on how to effectively deal with a variety of student-teacher interaction issues and manage your on-campus and online classes. Along with CRTLE staff and Fellows, Dan Moore of the Office of Student Conduct and Officer Garry Douthitt of the UT System Police Department offered guidance and procedures if situations call for their intervention. One session was face-to-face (see picture), but the other in August was held via Teams and added online issues to the session.

Teacher-Student Interactions and Class Management in On-campus and Online Courses

Dr. Ann Cavallito, Assistant Vice-President and Director
Dr. Andrew Clark, Associate Director and OEP Director
Dan Moore, Office of Student Conduct
Officer Garry Douthitt, UT System Police Department
Professional Development Seminars
Throughout the year we held many seminars. Some were for all faculty, some focused on topics for new faculty, while others were focused on graduate students. As we moved to online in spring 2020, these offerings were held via Teams. Among the topics covered were:

### All Faculty
- Mentor program
- Questioning
- Class management
- Course alignment
- Hybrid course
- Engaging students, humanizing online instruction
- Assessment tools and techniques for STEM
- LinkedIn Learning
- Accessibility

### New Faculty
- Mentor program
- Inquiry-based teaching
- Teamwork
- Questioning and Feedback
- Assessment

### Graduate Students
- Graduate student conference on teaching
- Questioning
- Teamwork
- Inclusive teaching

We played a leading role in training faculty with CDE and OIT as we moved online. Below are data illustrating some of our efforts during the transition in spring, 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Discounts</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Key Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 17</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Mentor program, Inquiry-based teaching, Questioning, Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 18</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Mentor program, Teamwork, Questioning and Feedback, Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Graduate student conference on teaching, Questioning, Teamwork, Inclusive teaching</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We provided training in areas such as:

- Mentor program
- Questioning
- Class management
- Course alignment
- Hybrid course
- Engaging students, humanizing online instruction
- Assessment tools and techniques for STEM
- LinkedIn Learning
- Accessibility
Canvas Courses

Due to the pivot in spring 2020 to online instruction we developed two Canvas courses to help faculty transition with effective online practices, and to prepare faculty for a move to hybrid instruction.

Effective Online and Hybrid Course Design Courses and Live Discussions

Discussions
- 7/10/2020 - 33 attendees
- 7/17/2020 - 26 attendees
- 7/24/2020 - 19 attendees
- 8/28/2020 - 16 attendees

Online Canvas Course
- 164 total registrants

Hybrid Canvas Course
- 147 total registrants

Effective Online Teaching Course with Certificate
The Effective Online Teaching Short Course guides faculty in creating effective online courses in any discipline using Canvas tools and other resources. Faculty will learn techniques, strategies, and tools to design online courses that engage students, humanize instruction, effectively measure student learning, and more.

Hybrid Teaching Design Course with Certificate
The Hybrid Teaching Design Course in Canvas engages faculty in learning effective practices and creating high-quality hybrid design courses for teaching. The course will address topics such as synchronous and asynchronous designs as well as lab/studio and assessment practices.
During the summer of 2020, The Center for Research on Teaching and Learning Excellence (CRTLE) designed a Microsoft Teams Live event series to showcase outstanding UTA faculty members and their work, providing stimulation, education, and entertainment during this period of uncertainty. UTA faculty, students, staff, alumni, and the community were welcome to join.

317 faculty, staff, and community members attended across all sessions

5 key topics

11 faculty presenting research

Creative Escapes: Art, Literature, and Music
Presenters: Dr. Amy Austin, College of Liberal Arts; Dr. Jacqueline Fay, College of Liberal Arts; Dr. Laura Bennett Cameron, College of Liberal Arts

Creative Escapes: Design and Place Making of Buildings and Landscapes
Presenters: Dr. Hyesun Jeong, College of Architecture, Planning and Public Affairs; Professor David Hopman, College of Architecture, Planning, and Public Affairs

Creative Escapes: Understanding the Mind and Care for Mental Health
Presenters: Dr. Paul Paulus, College of Science; Professor Kiva Harper, School of Social Work

Creative Escapes: Fitness, Health, and Nutrition
Presenters: Dr. Stephen Newhart, College of Nursing and Health Innovation; Dr. Thomas Dombrowsky, College of Nursing and Health Innovation

Creative Escapes: Science as a Verb for Science Teachers and Engineering Design
Presenters: Dr. Greg Hale, College of Science; Dr. Melanie Sattler, College of Engineering
Feedback

We received positive feedback for the various events we developed, presented and/or sponsored. Below is a sample from the Creative Escapes series.

Providing insightful and useful information

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Great session! Thank you for offering different types of learning sessions.

This was a great idea. If possible, it would be nice to do every semester. My only criticism was about faculty info, which may have been there and I did not notice. Thanks!

Was better than expected and I've shared it with others.

I preferred group discussion more than just presentations. It was helpful but it could be more helpful if there was a group discussion or a panel of speakers rather than only one speaker.

It was informative and fun. Please do it again.

The range of topics was appreciated and the presentations were exceptional. Please do more!

Please do it again. It was informative and fun. It's nice to see fellow colleagues give a talk on their subject.

I especially enjoyed the first program and Dr. Bennett Cameron's presentation.

I would have listened to all of them but I got too busy. They were not at the most convenient time.

Enjoyed Creative Escapes, thank you!

The ones I attended were very interesting and a nice break from everything else going on. I hope you continue to do them.

Overall, I loved the Creative Escapes series. I hope the university continues to host such series in future summer and winter holidays. Some suggestions: Bring more diverse topics and more engaging speakers that can inspire people to do stuff beyond their regular routine.

Thank you for providing the recordings -- I plan to take advantage of the recordings. I could not attend all sessions.

Telecommuting has provided me the opportunity to join in on sessions that I could only ever attend during my lunch hour. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and learned quite a bit. I look forward to making my own ceviche dish!

The session was great and it would be helpful if they continue.

I enjoyed the variety of disciplines and topics represented along with different ideas/activities suited for different age groups (adults such as landscape and design, etc. and young children/young adults such as fun experiments, etc.)

I appreciate the variety of content.

I thought they were nicely done and quite relevant for this time. It was a nice range of topics.

Dr. Laura Bennett Cameron's classical music presentation was especially good -- she was knowledgeable, poised and engaging, and the content she provided was perfect for a classical music overview. Very interesting. Thank you.
Seed Grants
The CRTLE and QEP Research Seed Grant Competition supports research that seeks to better understand and advance excellence in teaching and learning and that focuses on the assessment and enhancement of teamwork.

CRTLE Research Grant Awards
- Melissa Hulings, College of Education, *Self-efficacy in Elementary Science: What Impact Does the Classroom have on Early Career Teachers*, $2,500
- Bonnie Boardman and Caroline Krejci, College of Engineering, *Simulation of Production and Inventory Control using the Computer Game Factorio*, $5,000
- Karabi Bezboruah, College of Architecture, Planning and Public Affairs, and Peggy Semingson, College of Education, *An Examination of Learning Effectiveness in Online Graduate Programs*, $5,000
- Nicholas B. Pollock, College of Science, *Learning Efficiency and Student Perceptions of Teaching Labs in Anatomy and Physiology: Hybrid versus Traditional Style*, $2,500

QEP Teamwork Research Grant Awards
- Aida Allen, College of Science, *Project- and Service- based Learning to Enhance Teamwork, Sense of Belonging, and Career Application of Mathematics among Business Math Students at the University of Texas at Arlington*, $2,500
- Saltanat Childress, Rachel Voth Schrag, Karla Arenas-Itotia, and Tracy Orwig, School of Social Work, and Thomas Dombrowsky, Jackie Michael, and Jenny Roye, College of Nursing and Health Innovation, *Developing and Implementing Inter-professional Education on Screening, Risk Assessment, and Safety Planning for Gender-based Violence (GBV) among Nurses and Social Work Students: Using Live and Online Simulation*, $5,000
- Amanda Olsen and Candace Joswick, College of Education, *Teaching and Learning Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Data Analysis Techniques in an Education Master’s Program: An Online Team-Based Learning Approach*, $5,000
- Grace Ellen Brannon, College of Liberal Arts, Liwei Zhang, College of Engineering, and Monica Zhan, College of Liberal Arts, *Teamwork Perceptions and Processes in Engineering Students: Testing the Effectiveness of a Team-based Cooperative Learning Intervention*, $5,000

$37,500 in seed grant funds awarded to 20 faculty representing 7 colleges and schools
Collaborate UTA, provides undergraduate students with a competitive edge by assessing and enhancing a key skill that employers desire: teamwork.

Through the creation of a Student Teamwork Guide, development of Professional Learning Communities, and a Seed Grant Program to promote research, faculty and staff are working to develop innovative and effective ways to enhance and assess teamwork in the classroom and prepare our students for success both during, and after their time at UT Arlington.

The Maverick Advantage Faculty Engagement (MAFE) Program engages, educates, prepares, and supports faculty on understanding what the Maverick Advantage is. It encourages faculty to integrate one or more of the Maverick Advantage activities into their academic courses, thereby giving students the opportunity to obtain Maverick Advantage experiences within their academic coursework.

Service learning integrates community service into academic coursework, whereby students engage in classroom activities and reflection related to the performance of local service projects within the course.

More than a volunteer opportunity, service learning benefits both the student and the community partner through reciprocity of needs, which furthers the students' educational goals while promoting civic responsibility.

From focused collaboration with classmates and the community partner, to practical, real-world application, along with reflection and assessment, the learning process becomes a much richer and more well-rounded experience.
CRTLE Faculty Showcase

We had a fantastic session with our Faculty Fellows sharing their work and best teaching practices in our celebration of teaching excellence. We had over 70 attend the event! Files on unique and innovative teaching are posted by Faculty Fellows in our various programs at the Showcase Teams site including: CRTLE, IDEAS, MAFE, PLC, and CSL. Access these files along with the recording and other documents by visiting the site:

5 programs; 1 Center; 70 attendees
All contributing to student success!
Email: Contact us at CRTLE@uta.edu

Follow Us: Twitter @CRTLE_UTA and Facebook @CRTLEUTA

Website: Find resources, calendar of events, news, and more at https://uta.edu/crtle