

Colleagues,

The Center for Teaching & Learning (CTL) is excited to launch a new initiative aimed to acknowledge and share the many teaching successes in our courses. As a way to publicly celebrate some of our work in the classroom, the CTL is undertaking a new initiative, “Innovative Assignments and Activities,” that will highlight some of the most effective and creative work designed by our faculty. Faculty can submit assignments for consideration, and all submitted work will be peer-reviewed by members of the CTL Advisory Board and UP teaching community. They will select the best work(s) to be featured during faculty development day and recipients will receive \$250.

By sharing our best assignments, we hope to enhance the discussions around teaching on campus as well as acknowledge the great teaching, often hidden, that occurs every day at UP. Our hope is that this new initiative will reward the great teachers here and maybe even help to motivate us all to develop new and challenging assignments that help our students reach their full potential.

We invite applications in the following categories by April 1, 2023.

- **Collaborative activities:** Do you or your colleague(s) have an effective collaborative classroom activity? What does this activity look like, and how does it promote peer-to-peer engagement in addition to student learning?
- **Community engagement:** Do you or your colleague(s) have an effective community engagement activity? What does this activity look like, and how does it promote community engagement in addition to student learning?
- **Creative uses of online tools:** Do you or your colleague(s) have a particularly effective method or activity that uses online tools (applications, programs, or Canvas tools) to promote student learning? What does this activity look like, how does it work, and how does it impact student learning?
- **Skills across the curriculum:** any activity that empowers students by teaching them how to learn skills across the curriculum, such as reading, writing, speaking, critical thinking or others.
- **DEIJ-informed pedagogy:** any activity that centers DEIJ-informed pedagogy, for example, effective revisions of course learning outcomes to center equal access to learning, especially through culturally and socially meaningful course work, assessments that increase sense of belonging, based on micro-affirmations, or re-thinking of course activities or resources that promote or increase understanding of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.

Application Details: If you have an assignment or activity that you use in your class that you believe is effective in supporting student learning, please submit the following:

1. The name, email, phone number, and campus.
2. Category of the Application
3. Course specifics including the class level, size, and type (lecture, seminar, studio, etc.).
4. Briefly describe the assignment. Details outlining the specific activity or assignment (title of the activity, courses where the activity is or can be used, learning outcomes (150 words), description of the activity written so it may be adopted by others(300 words), and a rationale(150 words) Why did you design this particular assignment/activity, was there a problem you were intending to address or seeing a new way to help students grow?
5. A reflection on the effectiveness or impact of the activity or assignment (300 words)

Please submit to Terence Favero (favero@up.edu), Director of the Teaching and Learning Center.

DATE: April 1, 2023.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at favero@up.edu

Terry Favero, Ph.D.