

# Faculty Resource Bulletin

## Faculty,

Hello! I'm happy to be serving as your Director for Teaching and Learning. The Faculty Resource Bulletin is one of many steps I'm taking to improve communication about local and statewide faculty professional development opportunities. In the coming weeks, this bi-weekly mailing will be paired with an online set of resources you can access from anywhere.

Highlights of this week's bulletin include:

- Institute for Culturally Responsive Pedagogy
- D2L Webinars
- Online Course Design Workshops
- Minnesota Summit on Learning & Technology

## Institute for Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

Century College & Online

June 5 - August 12

Registration deadline: April 8

\*Note: [registration form](#) requires signatures from Dean, Provost, and Chief Human Resources Officer

Minnesota State has identified a need to increase faculty cultural competence and use of culturally responsive and inclusive teaching strategies in order to advance equity and close the persistent opportunity gap for students. For 2018-19, Minnesota State will offer opportunities for faculty to participate in an Institute for Culturally Responsive Pedagogy (ICRP) designed by colleagues at Century College. Funding for the reasonable equivalent of .5 credit is available to college and university faculty interested in being part of a dynamic cohort of colleagues committed to the following:

- Increasing understanding of intercultural interactions and exposure to practical classroom applications to enhance student retention and engagement
- Modifying curriculum and instruction to an existing course
- Documenting personal journeys in culturally responsive pedagogy, sharing lessons learned with colleagues at both formal and informal gatherings
- Growing as leaders in advancing culturally responsive pedagogy and equitable practices
- Contributing to campus transformation at all levels

For more information and registration:

<https://mnscu.sharepoint.com/sites/asa/SitePages/topic.aspx?topicID=24&pageID=146&state=pages>

## **D2L Webinars**

**Online**

**April 3 & 10**

These are free 1-hour webinars offered by the Minnesota Online Quality Initiative. Scheduled sessions are listed on the [MOQI Eventbrite registration page](#). Pre-registration is required.

The following webinars will be offered in the next two weeks:

**D2L Brightspace – Groups and Discussion Boards**

The D2L Brightspace Discussion Board tool can be used for users to ask questions, discuss course content, and work together in assigned groups and sections. In this webinar, we will discuss how to create discussion forums and topics as well as highlight how to provide feedback and assess student posts. We will also discuss the basics of the Groups tool and discover versatile uses of the group tool such as to allow students to select research topics, choose their own groups for small group projects, and engage with students in one-to-one ongoing private conversations for the duration of your course.

After this webinar, you will be able to

1. Create D2L discussion topics and forums
2. Provide feedback and assess D2L discussion posts
3. Discuss a variety of uses for the Groups tool within a D2L course
4. Create and manage D2L group restrictions

### **D2L Brightspace – Intelligent Agents and Release Conditions**

D2L Brightspace Release Conditions are conditional requirements that restrict access to specific content, resources, or areas within the D2L Brightspace Learning Environment. Setting release conditions allows you to create learning path through your course by releasing content to students based on performance, which ensures that students complete one activity before gaining access to another. In this webinar, we will demonstrate the process of setting release conditions and provide examples of how they can be used in courses. This webinar will also introduce D2L Brightspace Intelligent Agents. Intelligent Agents can assist instructors by providing an automated notification when a defined activity occurs in a course or when there is a lack of login or course entry.

After this webinar, you will be able to

1. Create release conditions within a D2L course
2. Create an intelligent agent within a D2L course

3. Discuss strategies for using release conditions and intelligent agents to create personalized experiences for students

## Online Course Design Workshops

### Online

#### Select from dates beginning in May

Funding for registration fees has been made available from the Title III: Adult Learner Success grant. Please contact [Monica Ibara](#), Title III Project Coordinator, for registration instructions.

#### **Applying the Quality Matters Rubric (APPQMR) Online workshop**

This is a 2-week facilitated online workshop with no class meetings. There are no pre-requisites. Cost: \$45.

Workshop Description from QM: *The Applying the QM Rubric (APPQMR) workshop is QM's flagship workshop on the QM Rubric and the process of using the QM Rubric to review online courses. It is intended for a broad audience, including but not limited to faculty, instructional designers, administrators, and adjunct instructors who wish to understand more about the QM Rubric and process of course review.*

*The APPQMR is the pre-requisite for the Peer Reviewer Course, which is the required course to become a QM Peer Reviewer.*

#### **Improving Your Online Course (IYOC) Online workshop**

This is a 2- or 3-week facilitated **online** workshop with no class meetings. Pre-requisites: You must have an online or blended course to work on during the workshop. Cost: \$35

Workshop Description from QM: *The “Improving Your Online Course” workshop explores the QM Rubric and provides a framework to improve the quality of online and blended courses. Participants use the QM Rubric to review their own courses and develop a course improvement plan.*

*The content is based on the 23 essential Specific Review Standards of the Quality Matters Rubric. Participants come away with a plan for course improvement, so enrolling in the workshop with an online or blended course with a pre-developed course is required.*

## Minnesota Summit on Learning & Technology

University of Minnesota  
July 31 - August 1

As technology in education has become an integral part of the learning landscape, more questions arise. This year, the Summit is encouraging exploration and conversation of complex questions, and a deeper look into the future role that technology will play in the teaching and learning landscape. This conference, formerly known as the Minnesota eLearning Summit, is back in 2019 with a new emphasis on pedagogy and teaching and new technologies and will feature presentation styles that inspire innovation and curiosity.

Funding for registration fees has been made available from the Title III: Adult Learner Success grant. Please contact [Monica Ibara](#), Title III Project Coordinator, for registration instructions. For more information on this event: <https://ccaps.umn.edu/minnesota-summit-learning-and-technology>. **Registration for this event is not yet open.** Stay tuned for how to take advantage of the funding!

## Event Calendar

April

Monday 1	Tuesday 2	Wednesday 3	Thursday 4	Friday 5
		<a href="#">D2L Webinar: D2L Brightspace - Groups and Discussion Boards</a> 12:00-12:50pm Online		<a href="#">D2L Connection Conference</a> 7:45am-4pm Normandale Community College
Monday 8	Tuesday 9	Wednesday 10	Thursday 11	Friday 12
<b>Registration Deadline:</b> <a href="#">Institute for Culturally Responsive Pedagogy</a>		<a href="#">D2L Webinar: D2L Brightspace - Intelligent Agents and Release Conditions</a> 12:00-12:50pm Online		

Descriptions for events are presented here as they appear on organizations' websites. Please contact me if you have any questions about these opportunities, or if you have information about an opportunity you'd like to share with your faculty colleagues.

All best,  
Martin

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