OLC Accelerate 2026

Orlando, FL | Nov. 16-19, 2026

Complete Conference Program

onlinelearningconsortium.org | conference@onlinelearning-c.org

Monday, November 16, 2026

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Asia 2 -- The Sanctuary

The Sanctuary (10551)

Session Type: Other
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Our Sanctuary room is a quiet, reflective space available for all conference attendees to use. This is a quiet space room where disturbances should be kept to a minimum to allow conference attendees to rest and recharge. The Sanctuary room is open during regular conference hours. During the conference, join us for some quiet time to decompress, reconnect mind and body, and practice some self-care as we turn our focus inward for a short while. Mindfulness has been defined as a practice of "bringing one's attention to the internal and external experiences occurring in the present moment" (Baer, 2003). Join us in the Sanctuary today for some special mindfulness sessions (see the engagement schedule), or just to relax and decompress a bit throughout the day.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 8:30 AM - 8:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere III

Leadership Network Symposium Welcome (10545)

Session Type: Leadership Network Symposium Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dylan Barth, Ph.D. (Online Learning Consortium)
Abstract: The Leadership Network Symposium will kick off with a warm welcome from OLC's VP of Innovation and Programs followed by remarks from the LNS sponsors. Then, a short warm-up activity will set the tone for a highly-interactive day.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 8:45 AM - 11:00 AM | Southern Hemisphere III

AI for Leaders: A Best-Practice Exchange (10496)

Session Type: Leadership Network Symposium Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Alex Goryachev (Independent Consultant)
Abstract: "AI for Leaders" is a structured best-practice exchange where participants pool what works today and focus on where there is an immediate opportunity to use AI to achieve results, delivering on the promise of doing things cheaper, faster, and better. We break into three workstreams, one for each of those goals, and trade the practical, here-and-now applications that are already producing results. Running underneath the practical exchange is a deeper question: what this moment requires of us as leaders. As AI reshapes how our institutions work, leadership itself is changing, and our task is to guide our people through uncertainty and continuous change.

Participants will have a common opportunity to build, and leave with, a single shared playbook they can put to use the moment they're back on campus.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Asia 3

Five Months Left: Moving from Accessibility Compliance to an Inclusive Culture in Digital Higher Education (10488)

Session Type: Immersion Class (Pre-conference Workshop)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Renee Ford (The Pennsylvania State University)
Abstract: Higher education institutions got an extra year, and now just five months remain. Is your institution ready? This immersive workshop moves from regulatory requirements to lasting culture change, equipping educators and instructional designers with tools, checklists, and strategies to close compliance gaps and build accessibility culture that outlasts any deadline.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Asia 4

From Prompt to Practice: Building AI-Supported Case-Based Learning Experiences (10490)

Session Type: Immersion Class (Pre-conference Workshop)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Vanessa Dennen (Florida State University)
Abstract: How does generative AI support new possibilities for case-based learning? In this hands-on workshop, we will design, try, and revise AI-supported cases in real time. Together, we will explore prompts, lessons, and strategies that support ethical, reflective, and collaborative student learning across disciplines and contexts.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Southern Hemisphere III

Leadership Lightning Showcase: What's Working Now (10531)

Session Type: Leadership Network Symposium Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dylan Barth, Ph.D. - moderator (Online Learning Consortium)
Abstract: In a series of brief lightning talks, leaders will share initiatives that have made a measurable impact at their institutions, from AI implementation and student success strategies to organizational change and team development. Each presentation will be followed by a few minutes of audience questions and discussion.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Asia 4

Working in Uncertainty: Learning from AI Experimentation in Online Education (10487)

Session Type: Immersion Class (Pre-conference Workshop)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Nathan Pritts, Ph.D. (University of Arizona Global Campus), Karin Mente, MLIS (University of Arizona Global Campus)
Abstract: AI experimentation is everywhere, but scattered activity is not strategy. This hands-on immersion session helps participants move from reactive AI efforts to intentional institutional learning. Through examples, guided reflection, and practical planning, participants will design a campus-ready learning loop for one real AI-related challenge in their own context.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Asia 3

Discussion Boards That Don't Suck 2.0 (10489)

Session Type: Immersion Class (Pre-conference Workshop)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Sean Nufer (TCS Education System), Veronica Estrada (Pasadena City College), Keegan Long-Wheeler (University of Oklahoma)
Abstract: Tired of discussion boards that feel repetitive, forced, or transactional? This interactive workshop returns with new examples and stronger design tools. Participants will examine why discussions fail, explore practical alternatives, and redesign an activity for their own course. Move beyond “post once, reply twice” and create spaces for meaningful learning.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM | Southern Hemisphere IV

When Strategy Becomes Change: Leading Digital Learning Across Resources, Risk, and Relevance (10532)

Session Type: Leadership Network Symposium Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. Thomas Cavanagh (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: Digital learning leaders are increasingly asked to translate institutional strategy into meaningful change. This roundtable explores how leaders align resources, manage risk, build coalitions, and advance institutional relevance amid shifting learner needs, emerging technologies, and constrained budgets.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM | Southern Hemisphere V

The Secret to Growing as a Digital Learning Leader (10548)

Session Type: Leadership Network Symposium Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Garvey Pyke (University of North Carolina at Charlotte), Tina Parscal, Ph.D. (Colorado Community College System)
Abstract: Leadership growth happens as we move consequential ideas through complex organizations. In this interactive session, professionals whose leadership in digital learning is expanding will examine real challenges, engage with candid provocations, and work with peers to identify barriers and next steps—leaving with greater clarity and colleagues to call on.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 2:45 PM - 3:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere III

Burning Questions Marketplace (10570)

Session Type: Leadership Network Symposium Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Sherri Restauri (Online Learning Consortium)
Abstract: In this highly interactive session, LNS attendees will discuss the challenges, opportunities, and uncertainties they face through a series of facilitated, small-group conversations. You'll choose the questions most relevant to you and exchange perspectives with other attendees. Expect to leave the session with greater clarity around issues vexing you most.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall

OLC Accelerate 2026 Exhibit Hall Preview and Reception (10555)

Session Type: Evening Event
Track: N/A
Speakers:
Abstract: As we open OLC Accelerate 2026, join us for an early evening of light snacks, beverages, and community networking! Take this chance to get ahead on your exhibitor stamp card and engage in 1:1 conversations with our sponsors, exhibitors, and the OLC team. Stop by our AI Exploration Zone and Engagement Hub areas for special activities.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Convention Foyer

Early Registration (10556)

Session Type: Other
Track: N/A
Speakers:

Abstract: Don't wait in line Tuesday, November 17, 2026 morning and miss portions of our AI, HBCU, K-12, and Instructional Design Summits, First Time Attendee Welcome and Orientation, or the activities in our AI Exploration Zone and Engagement Hub, both located in the exhibit hall. Check-in at conference registration Monday, November 16, 2026 evening from 3-6pm US Eastern Time Zone to pick up your conference badge and materials. Following registration check-in, join us at the Exhibit Hall Preview for refreshments, games, and networking.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Convention Foyer - Field Guide Station

Early Registration Field Guide Welcome Station (10557)

Session Type: Other
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Welcome! The OLC Accelerate Field Guides are here to help you get oriented, learn how to navigate the mobile app, and find the best conference activities and groups for you. Stop by the Field Guide station near the registration desk for assistance.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

Like Totally Rad OLC 80's Human Bingo (10571)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Human Bingo: Find Your OLC Connections Skip the awkward networking and start connecting! Human Bingo turns meeting fellow OLC Accelerate attendees into an interactive challenge. Participants will mingle to find colleagues who match prompts on their bingo cards—professional experiences, interests, accomplishments, and a few fun surprises. Complete a row, fill your card, or simply see how many new connections you can make. No prep required—just bring yourself and get ready to meet your OLC community! Note: Your Human Bingo card can be redeemed for tickets to play Skeeball and a chance at prizes. Join us in the Engagement Hub (Atlantic Exhibit Hall) during evening receptions, lunches, and networking coffee breaks for your prize redemption!

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall - AI Exploration Zone

OLC Accelerate 2026 AI Exploration Zone Preview (10604)

Session Type: AI Exploration Zone
Track: N/A
Speakers: Dr. Sean Nufer (TCS Education System), Maikel Right (Florida International University)

Abstract: Join us during the Accelerate Exhibit Hall Preview Reception for some Open Exploration time to learn what the AI Exploration Zone has to offer you this week. Stop watching AI from the sidelines. Open Exploration treats you as a lifelong learner with a question worth working on. Bring a teaching or learning challenge and use the space to work on it with support from experienced guides and access to a range of AI tools. There are no canned demos and no expectation that you arrive with AI expertise. Our emphasis is on curiosity and hands-on experimentation that leads you somewhere useful.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 3:45 PM - 4:00 PM | Southern Hemisphere III

Leadership Network Symposium Takeaways and Closing Remarks (10546)

Session Type: Leadership Network Symposium Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dylan Barth, Ph.D. (Online Learning Consortium)
Abstract: The Leadership Network Symposium will wrap up with a facilitated reflection activity followed by closing remarks from OLC's VP of Innovation and Programs. LNS attendees will leave with concrete next steps to take back to their institutions.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 4:15 PM - 4:45 PM | Asia 1

First Time Attendee Welcome and Orientation (10562)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Christine Hinkley, CMP (Online Learning Consortium)
Abstract: If you're looking for support in orienting to the conference, the First Timers Welcome and Orientation is a must! Get support in planning your conference experience and kick things off with some casual networking. Immediately following the orientation session, join us for our Field Guide-led tour of the WDW Dolphin Convention Center. NOTE: There will be a repeat of this orientation session and tour on Tuesday, November 17, 2026 morning for those arriving later to the conference.

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 4:45 PM - 5:30 PM | Convention Foyer -- Field Guide Station

Tour of the WDW Dolphin Convention Center (10558)

Session Type: Other
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:

Abstract: Immediately following the Monday, November 16, 2026 afternoon First Time Attendee Orientation session, join the OLC Accelerate Field Guides and other conference attendees for a tour of the WDW Dolphin Convention Center. There is no better way to explore this hotel and learn about conference layout than on a guided tour. Meet near conference registration at the Field Guide Station. Be sure to wear comfortable clothing and shoes (as we will be moving throughout the tour). NOTE: There will be an additional opportunity to take this tour Tuesday, November 17, 2026 morning.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM | Asia 2 - The Sanctuary

Classic Morning Yoga (10567)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Charlotte Jones-Roberts (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: Begin your day with a grounding, energizing yoga practice designed to awaken the body and settle the mind. This all-levels class combines gentle warm-ups, classic standing and seated postures, mindful breathwork, and a restful closing relaxation. Participants will be invited to move at their own pace, with modifications offered throughout. Come as you are and leave feeling refreshed, centered, and ready for the day. Please bring your own mat (BYOM). If you do not have a mat, towels will be available.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Convention Foyer - Field Guide Station

Field Guide Welcome Station (10560)

Session Type: Other
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Welcome! The OLC Accelerate Field Guides are here to help you get oriented, learn how to navigate the mobile app, and find the best conference activities and groups for you. Stop by the Field Guide station near the registration desk for assistance.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM | Convention Foyer

Attendee Registration (10564)

Session Type: Other
Track: N/A
Speakers:
Abstract: Stop by attendee registration for your name badge and conference materials prior to your first session of the day. Learn about our conference mobile app and other tips to help you on your first full day of the conference.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 8:45 AM | Asia 4

Beyond the Bot: Building Purposeful AI-Powered Learning Experiences (9839)

Session Type: K-12 Summit Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Heather Pelkie (West Coast University)
Abstract: Move beyond AI tool demos and learn how to design purposeful AI-powered learning experiences. This practical session offers a simple design framework, classroom-ready strategies, and adaptable examples that help educators create assignments, activities, and assessments that support meaningful learning across online, blended, and face-to-face environments.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM | Southern Hemisphere I-II

ID Summit Welcome and Beyond the Pieces: Seeing the Whole in Instructional Design in a Rapidly Changing Environment (10131)

Session Type: Instructional Design Summit Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Sherri Restauri (Online Learning Consortium), Cindy Schanke (Online Learning Consortium)
Abstract: Instructional design is rarely productive or impactful with the use of just a single skill or a linear process. It is a holistic practice shaped by pedagogy, technology, collaboration, creativity, accessibility, data, and an understanding of how people think and learn. In this interactive opening, participants will identify the interconnected competencies instructional designers bring to their work and consider what can be lost when one “piece” is treated in isolation. Through a brief collaborative activity and facilitated synthesis, participants will establish a shared lens for the ID Summit: effective instructional design requires us to protect the human cognitive work that makes learning possible while drawing on creative problem-solving, design thinking, and emerging technologies such as AI. Participants will carry forward from this session a guiding question to carry through the Summit: How can we connect our tools, methods, and professional strengths into learning experiences that remain purposeful, inclusive, and distinctly human?

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 8:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere IV-V

Speed Limits, Signals, Speed Bumps, and Racetracks: A Practical Framework for AI-Aware Course Design (10276)

Session Type: AI Summit Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Crystal Akers, Ph.D. (Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey)
Abstract: Move beyond AI policing to purposeful course design. This session introduces a practical infrastructure of speed limits, signals, speed bumps, and racetracks for AI-aware course design. Participants leave with a TiLT-aligned template and assignment design prompts to support student judgment about AI use and its impact on learning.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 9:10 AM | Asia 5

HBCU Summit Welcome and Opening Panel: The State of Online Learning at HBCUs (10533)

Session Type: HBCU Summit Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: John Bannister (Florida A&M University), Tamasa Nelson (Howard University), N'Dieye Danavall (Morehouse School of Medicine), Dr Kelley Bailey (Florida A&M University)
Abstract: What does the future of online learning look like at HBCUs? Opening with an interactive welcome and HBCU roll call, this panel brings institutional leaders together to explore culturally responsive course design, student success and support, technology and infrastructure, and strategies for scaling online programs while advancing institutional missions.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Asia 2 - The Sanctuary

The Sanctuary (10552)

Session Type: Other
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Our Sanctuary room is a quiet, reflective space available for all conference attendees to use. This is a quiet space room where disturbances should be kept to a minimum to allow conference attendees to rest and recharge. The Sanctuary room is open during regular conference hours. During the conference, join us for some quiet time to decompress, reconnect mind and body, and practice some self-care as we turn our focus inward for a short while. Mindfulness has been defined as a practice of “bringing one’s attention to the internal and external experiences occurring in the present moment” (Baer, 2003). Join us in the Sanctuary today for some special mindfulness sessions (see the engagement schedule), or just to relax and decompress a bit throughout the day.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM | Southern Hemisphere I-II

The Human Side of AI: Protecting the Cognitive Work That Makes Learning Possible (10599)

Session Type: Instructional Design Summit Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: B. Jean Mandernach (Grand Canyon University)
Abstract: AI removes friction indiscriminately: it cannot tell the struggle that wastes learners' time from the struggle that does the teaching. Grounded in cognitive science, this session offers

instructional designers questions for advising faculty on AI adoption: not just what a tool does for learners, but what it takes from them.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 8:45 AM - 9:30 AM | Southern Hemisphere IV-V

AI-Powered Video Creation for Student-Centered Learning (9659)

Session Type: AI Summit Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Ashley Bondurant,PT, DPT, M.Ed (Medical University of South Carolina)
Abstract: AI-powered video tools are transforming online course development. This session shares a practical framework for using AI-generated instructional videos to improve student engagement, increase content consistency, and reduce production barriers. Participants will explore implementation strategies, lessons learned, and opportunities for scalable adoption across online programs.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 8:45 AM - 11:15 AM | Asia 4

Decoupling the Process from the Product: Redesigning Writing and Critical Thinking in an AI-First Era (10284)

Session Type: K-12 Summit Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Naketa R. Jones, Ed.D. (Baker College)
Abstract: Generative AI bypasses traditional written assessments, threatening student critical thinking. This interactive session introduces a 3-milestone "Socratic Process Portfolio" framework that restructures writing from its traditional form into a visible, active cognitive process. Attendees will explore disciplinary case studies and leave with actionable, AI-resilient redesign strategies. <h2> **NOTE** </h2> <h2>There will be a Networking coffee break from 9:30am-10:30am during this workshop </h2>

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM | Convention Foyer -- Field Guide Station

First Time Attendee Welcome and Onboarding (10563)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Christine Hinkley, CMP (Online Learning Consortium)
Abstract: If you’re looking for support in orienting to the conference, the First Timers Welcome and Orientation is a must! Get support in planning your conference experience and kick things off with some casual networking. Immediately following the orientation session, join us for our Field

Guide-led tour of the WDW Dolphin Convention Center. NOTE: This is a repeat of the Monday, November 16, 2026 orientation session.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall - Engagement Hub

Open Play in the Engagement Hub (10572)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Open Play invites participants to explore creativity, collaboration, and communication through interactive, hands-on activities. Using visual prompts from story cubes to generate spontaneous narratives, experience how simple images can spark imagination, flexible thinking, and creative expression. Through the collaborative challenge of the Mystery Box, discover how taking seemingly unrelated materials to solve a creative task can highlight teamwork, resourcefulness, and the value of diverse perspectives and skills. And maybe even engage in a face-to-face simulation of an online discussion forum, role-playing familiar participant types such as the expert, newbie, skeptic, cheerleader, lurker, and de-railer to examine how different communication styles influence group dialogue and engagement. Through laughter, experimentation, reflection, and discussion, participants will experience firsthand how low-stakes, playful activities can foster community, encourage participation, uncover group dynamics, and support deeper learning.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 6:30 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall --- Engagement Hub

The OLC Accelerate 2026 Engagement Hub (10592)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: At OLC Accelerate 2026 we invite attendees to visit the Engagement Hub, a dynamic space designed for connection, creativity, and community building. Attendees will collaborate in activities that foster peer connection, idea exchange, and just have fun!! Come see us in the Engagement Hub where the goal is simple: spark lasting connections, surface new perspectives, and empower everyone—from emerging professionals to senior leadership. Plan to contribute, converse, and create real-time connection. The Engagement Hub is open during regular exhibit hours. Check the schedule for specific session times. Note: Your Bingo cards can be turned in at the Engagement Hub during evening receptions, networking coffee breaks, and lunch time for Skeeball play and a chance to win fun prizes. Don't miss our Lite Brite photo op as well!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall - AI Exploration Zone

AI Exploration Zone - Open Exploration (10600)

Session Type: AI Exploration Zone
Track: N/A
Speakers: Dr. Sean Nufer (TCS Education System), Maikel Right (Florida International University)
Abstract: Stop watching AI from the sidelines. Open Exploration treats you as a lifelong learner with a question worth working on. Bring a teaching or learning challenge and use the space to work on it with support from experienced guides and access to a range of AI tools. There are no canned demos and no expectation that you arrive with AI expertise. Our emphasis is on curiosity and hands-on experimentation that leads you somewhere useful.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 9:15 AM - 9:40 AM | Asia 5

Table Talk & Reflection: Exploring the HBCU Community's Priorities (10537)

Session Type: HBCU Summit Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dionne Thorne, Ph.D. (Morgan State University)
Abstract: What issues are shaping digital learning across the HBCU community? In this interactive table talk, participants will explore hot topics identified through an HBCU community survey, exchange experiences and ideas in small groups, and collaboratively capture insights around AI, course design, faculty development, student success, strategy, policy, and support.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM | Convention Foyer -- Field Guide Station

Tour of the WDW Dolphin Convention Center (10559)

Session Type: Other
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Immediately following Tuesday, November 17, 2026 morning's First Time Attendee Orientation Session, join the OLC Accelerate Field Guides and other conference attendees for a tour of the WDW Dolphin Convention Center. There is no better way to explore this hotel and learn about conference layout than on a guided tour. Meet near conference registration at the Field Guide Station. Be sure to wear comfortable clothing and shoes (as we will be moving throughout the tour).

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall

Networking Coffee Break (10579)

Session Type: Other

Track: N/A
Speakers:
Abstract: Join us in the Exhibit Hall for our first networking coffee break of the conference. Not only is this an opportunity to recharge with a fresh cup of coffee or tea, but you will also have the opportunity to network with other attendees. Check out the activities in the Engagement Hub and AI Exploration Zone, or use this time to meet with our conference exhibitors and work on your exhibitor stamp card for a chance at some awesome prizes! Don't forget to complete your Totally Rad OLC 80's Human Bingo card by chatting with other attendees. You can stop by the Engagement Hub during this break to redeem your Bingo card to play Skeeball and win prizes, or just participate in our OLC Lite Brite photo op!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

'Reply All' and Other Organizational Crises (10134)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Dr. Amy Johnson (University of Arizona Global Campus), Haley Sampson (University of Arizona Global Campus), Dr. Bryan Aylward (University of Arizona Global Campus)
Abstract: Participants work in small groups to create and defend fictional policies on topics such as meetings that should have been emails, conference snack distribution, and "reply all" misuse. Through playful debate, they explore decision-making, governance, and communication while examining how policies influence behavior, organizational culture, and outcomes.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Asia 5

HBCU Innovation & Networking Experience (10538)

Session Type: HBCU Summit Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dionne Thorne, Ph.D. (Morgan State University), John Bannister (Florida A&M University)
Abstract: Bring your coffee or snack and connect with the HBCU community! This facilitated networking experience transforms the conference break into an interactive space for conversation, connection, and idea-sharing. Explore topic tables and interactive stations, contribute to a collaborative digital wall, and continue conversations with panelists and fellow Summit participants.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall - AI Exploration Zone

The Crossroads of AI and Gamification (10605)

Session Type: AI Exploration Zone
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design

Speakers: Dr. Sean Nufer (TCS Education System)
Abstract: Gamification is not about making learning feel like a game. It is about designing responsive experiences that challenge learners while providing meaningful choice and feedback. This session examines how AI can make those experiences easier to create and personalize while keeping learning outcomes and educator judgment central to instructional practice.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Europe 2

Online Labs in STEM & Allied Health: A Roundtable on Student Readiness, Faculty Capacity, and AI (10671)

Session Type: Focus Group
Track: N/A
Speakers: Caitlin Runne-Janczy (Science Interactive Group)
Abstract: Online and hybrid lab courses are growing, especially in Allied Health. Drawing on Science Interactive's 2026 Annual Lab Report, this roundtable explores student readiness, faculty capacity, and AI in the lab. Together, we'll review the findings, compare them with what's happening on participants' campuses, and share strategies for expanding access while strengthening quality.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM | Southern Hemisphere IV-V

Calibrating Trust in AI: Designing Assignments and Simulations That Build Critical Judgment (10069)

Session Type: AI Summit Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Julianna Woite (D'Youville University)
Abstract: This session offers actionable approaches for designing assignments and AI-enabled simulations that strengthen students' ability to critically assess AI use. Through concrete examples and interactive activities, participants will explore methods for calibrating trust, fostering informed judgment, and embedding responsible, scalable AI integration across diverse disciplines.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Southern Hemisphere I-II

From Stuck to Solution: Using Creative Problem Solving, Design Thinking, and AI to Transform Learning Design (10184)

Session Type: Instructional Design Summit Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Debby Marindin, EdD, PMP (MUSC and College of Charleston)

Abstract: Faculty face increasing pressure to innovate while navigating rapid technological change. In this highly interactive workshop, participants will use Creative Problem Solving, Design Thinking, and AI-supported ideation to tackle authentic educational challenges, generate innovative solutions, and leave with practical frameworks they can immediately apply.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall - AI Exploration Zone

AI Exploration Zone - Open Exploration (10601)

Session Type: AI Exploration Zone
Track: N/A
Speakers: Dr. Sean Nufer (TCS Education System), Maikel Right (Florida International University)
Abstract: Stop watching AI from the sidelines. Open Exploration treats you as a lifelong learner with a question worth working on. Bring a teaching or learning challenge and use the space to work on it with support from experienced guides and access to a range of AI tools. There are no canned demos and no expectation that you arrive with AI expertise. Our emphasis is on curiosity and hands-on experimentation that leads you somewhere useful.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 10:45 AM - 11:15 AM | Asia 5

What's Working at My HBCU? Lightning Spotlights (10539)

Session Type: HBCU Summit Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dionne Thorne - moderator (Morgan State University)
Abstract: What's working at HBCUs right now? This high-energy series of five-minute lightning spotlights puts successful practices center stage. Presenters from different HBCUs will rapidly share innovations, approaches, and lessons from their institutions, giving participants a fast-paced opportunity to discover ideas, celebrate successes, and learn from across the HBCU community.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

OLC Feud (10549)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Danny Beason (D2L Corporation)
Abstract: Get ready to survey the OLC community! In this fast-paced, Family Feud–style game, participants will team up to guess the most popular responses to questions about online learning, higher education, technology, and the wonderfully relatable experiences of our profession. Come ready to laugh, compete, connect with colleagues, and see how well your answers match the OLC crowd. No prep required—just bring your best guesses and your competitive spirit!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Asia 2 -- The Sanctuary

Know Your WHY (10663)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Dr. Samira Galvao (National University)
Abstract: Knowing Your "WHY" explores the purpose, values, and motivation that drive our personal and professional journeys. Understanding our WHY provides clarity, strengthens commitment, and helps us remain focused when challenges arise. When we connect our goals to a meaningful purpose, we are better equipped to move forward with intention, resilience, and confidence.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Southern Hemisphere IV-V

Beyond AI Surrender: A Critical AI Pedagogy Framework for Scaffolded, Reflective Learning Environments (9982)

Session Type: AI Summit Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Drew Moser (Wayne State University)
Abstract: Higher-ed conversations about AI often focus on avoiding “AI surrender,” where students use AI to short-circuit learning. This session introduces the Critical AI Pedagogy Framework, a scaffolded, iterative approach that helps faculty redesign learning experiences to promote critical literacy, thinking, reflection, and responsible AI use.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Asia 4

Trust, Presence, and the Human Dimension of Digital Learning (10547)

Session Type: K-12 Summit Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Alyssa Tormala (Laurel Springs School)
Abstract: The closing session focuses on the human qualities that remain essential in digital education. As more aspects of teaching and learning are mediated through platforms and tools, the importance of teacher presence, trust, feedback, and relational connection only grows. This session will examine how schools can preserve the human dimension of learning while adapting to new realities in digital environments.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 11:25 AM - 11:40 AM | Asia 5

Shaping the HBCU Research Agenda: Online Learning, Scholarship, and Publication (10540)

Session Type: HBCU Summit Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: N'Dieye Danavall (Morehouse School of Medicine), Tangela Towns (Winston - Salem State University)
Abstract: What research and publications does the HBCU community need next? Join a collaborative conversation to identify priorities for HBCU-centered online learning scholarship, explore topics for a developing special journal issue, and connect researchers, practitioners, and potential contributors. Your ideas can help shape this publication opportunity—and future directions for HBCU scholarship.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 11:40 AM - 12:00 PM | Asia 5

Shaping the Next Era of Online Learning at HBCUs: Summit Closing Conversation (10541)

Session Type: HBCU Summit Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: John Bannister (Florida A&M University)
Abstract: Where does HBCU online learning go from here? Close the Summit with a forward-looking conversation featuring reflections from speakers and panelists, bold predictions, and calls to action. Participants will add their own insights to our collaborative notes, make final connections, and consider how we can shape what comes next—together.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall

Attendee Lunch on Own (10583)

Session Type: Other
Track: N/A
Speakers:
Abstract: The exhibit hall will be closed today for lunch from 12:00pm-1:30pm. Please rejoin us at 1:00pm in the exhibit hall for desserts and coffee as you enter Pacific Hall for our 1:30pm keynote address.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM | Pacific Hall

Keynote Address: Educating for the Unknown (10582)

Session Type: Keynote Address
Track: N/A
Speakers: Alex Goryachev (Independent Consultant)
Abstract: We are now preparing learners for jobs that don't yet exist, with tools that didn't exist last year, to solve problems we can't yet name. AI has collapsed the half-life of what we teach, shifting education's mission from transferring knowledge to building the capacity to learn, unlearn, and relearn alongside intelligent machines. Drawing on the largest AI deployment in public higher education and two decades of enterprise innovation, this keynote shares entrepreneurial best practices for moving from access to equity, protecting integrity and critical thinking, and reinventing our institutions to lead what's ahead.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 2:45 PM - 6:30 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall - AI Exploration Zone

AI Exploration Zone - Open Exploration (10602)

Session Type: AI Exploration Zone
Track: N/A
Speakers: Dr. Sean Nufer (TCS Education System), Maikel Right (Florida International University)
Abstract: Stop watching AI from the sidelines. Open Exploration treats you as a lifelong learner with a question worth working on. Bring a teaching or learning challenge and use the space to work on it with support from experienced guides and access to a range of AI tools. There are no canned demos and no expectation that you arrive with AI expertise. Our emphasis is on curiosity and hands-on experimentation that leads you somewhere useful.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere A3/A4

Access First - A Digital-Ready Student Aid Kit to Boost Student Confidence, Resilience, and Mental Health (9661)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Paul Mueller, Ph.D (Chamberlain University-Illinois), Brigitte Powell, Ph.D. Ed.D. (Chamberlain University-Illinois)
Abstract: Online students often face academic and emotional strain amid fragmented support. This facilitated session explores the design of a scenario-based Student First Aid Kit that organizes help around student situations, reducing cognitive load. Participants analyze friction points and co-create adaptable design principles for human-centered, accessible digital support.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 2

Practical Design Decisions for Real Courses: Human-Centered AI in ADDIE (9924)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Nafije Prishtina (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: Are your courses still human by design? In this interactive session, participants examine how instructional designers and faculty integrate generative AI within ADDIE without compromising pedagogy, accessibility, alignment, or ethical responsibility. Grounded in UCF practice, participants engage in collaborative discussions to identify practical strategies for learner-centered, responsible course design.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Asia 1

From Pillar to Portfolio: Leading Coherent Innovation in AI for Online Learning (10015)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Nathan Pritts, Ph.D. (University of Arizona Global Campus)
Abstract: Many institutions name AI a strategic priority, but scattered pilots rarely create coherence or measurable impact. This facilitated conversation helps participants examine AI as an operational portfolio across online learning, curriculum, faculty development, learner support, governance, and workforce alignment, using shared questions to map activity, gaps, partnerships, and next steps. <h2> </h2>

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 8

Beyond Doing Good Work: Strategically Communicating the Value of Centers for Teaching and Learning (10163)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Nicole Weber (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater), Eric Loepp (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater)
Abstract: Recent critiques of Centers for Teaching and Learning (CTL) raise timely questions about visibility, value, and impact. In this conversation, CTL leaders and staff will examine how we communicate our work upward and across institutions, exchange advocacy strategies, and co-create approaches for making CTL contributions more visible and valued.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 1

A Community of One – Tips and Strategies for Creating Inclusive and Supportive Online Community for Individual Student (9649)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Puja Shahi, Ph.D. (Chamberlain University-Illinois), Dr. Audrie Cruz-Sealey, Ph.D. (Chamberlain University-Illinois), Dr. Justin Wiethop, DC, MTAA (Chamberlain University-Administrative Office)
Abstract: This presentation highlights multi-layered strategies to boost engagement and retention in online courses through early connection, structured academic interactions, targeted nudges, and personalized feedback on assignments. By prioritizing meaningful faculty-student relationships and intentionally designing assignments, these interactions foster belonging, confidence, and increased use of academic support while balancing faculty workload.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 2

A Gamified Approach to a Classroom Equipment Orientation (9986)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Brent Hirata (University of Hawaiʻi, Leeward Community College)
Abstract: Improving upon traditional in-person classroom technology orientations, a gamified learning experience was developed to engage busy faculty and staff. The Technology Enhanced Classroom (TEC) Escape Room utilizes H5P Game Map and supporting technologies to provide an immersive, scalable training model that appeals to a diverse range of instructional styles.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 3

Beyond Teaching: Digital Pathways for Mid-Career Faculty Development (9957)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Sara Kacin, Ph.D. (Wayne State University)
Abstract: Mid-Career faculty advancement remains under-supported in digital learning. This session introduces a scalable, on-demand model providing 24/7 access to resources that complement decentralized support structures. Participants will explore a three-phase framework and adaptable tools to expand access, equity, and sustainability in faculty development.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 4

Beyond the Mock Interview: Designing Community-Engaged Learning Experiences Through Virtual Partnerships (10235)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Holly Mace, Ph.D. (Southwestern Oklahoma State University)
Abstract: This presentation highlights a virtual community-engaged learning project connecting business students and ReMerge participants through mock interviews conducted via Zoom. Attendees will explore course design strategies, technology-enabled engagement, lessons learned from implementation, and practical ideas for developing meaningful university-community partnerships that extend learning beyond the traditional classroom.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 5

Combining Academia with External Clinical Practice to Enhance Faculty Retention and Recruitment Research Idea (9849)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Virginia Edwards, DVM (Colorado State University-Fort Collins)
Abstract: With the critical shortage of teaching faculty within clinical education programs, creative approaches at retention warrant consideration. This research idea explores if faculty prefer a hybrid approach to their job responsibilities and discusses how they can be applied to strengthen faculty recruitment and retention.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 6

From Overwhelmed to On Board: A Tiered Approach to Building Faculty Accessibility Capacity (10212)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Kiley Forsythe (Mississippi State University)
Abstract: When mandates arrive, faculty compliance anxiety is real. This session shares how one instructional support team built a tiered professional development model — from scalable awareness tools to personalized consultations — that moves faculty from overwhelmed to genuinely confident in making their own courses accessible.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 7

Illuminating Online Health Professions Education:Beyond the Syllabus Strategies in Professional Identity and Soft Skills (10201)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Cynthia Patrick (SUNY Empire State University)
Abstract: Illuminate the next era of digital learning by reimagining how we teach professional identity, empathy, and teamwork online. This session highlights human-centered design strategies, authentic assessments, and interprofessional frameworks that empower health professions learners to develop essential competencies for collaborative, patient-centered practice.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 8

Keeping Learning Real: Navigating AI Use, Motivation, Engagement in Online Courses (10293)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Molly Vetter Dreier (University of Missouri-Columbia)
Abstract: This session explores how student AI use is shifting from cognitive offloading to cognitive outsourcing in asynchronous online courses. Presenters share evidence-based course design strategies that discourage outsourcing, enhance authentic engagement and motivation, and involve participants in a collaborative strategy-swap to develop practical approaches for promoting meaningful, sustained student learning.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 9

Principal Preparation Programs Address the Research on What Principals Need by Implementing Innovative Digital Practices (9838)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Stephanie Sullivan (Murray State University), Abbie Morris (Murray State University)
Abstract: Addressing the readiness gap identified in recent research, this session demonstrates how an Educator Preparation Provider integrates AI and digital simulations to support principal candidates. Participants will engage with innovative tools for communication, high-stress decision-

making, and well-being, gaining actionable, crowdsourced strategies to ensure leaders are "day-one ready" for modern challenges.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 10

Proving expertise and impact: a structured and measurable learning approach for urgent AI upskilling at scale (10197)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: David Matthew (Pluralsight)
Abstract: Standard success metrics are still emerging in the age of AI, meaning leaders are left without a reliable way to scale initiatives or demonstrate value. This session can highlight how new structured approaches can provide a blueprint for these efforts through targeted skill development, governance models, and enterprise learning frameworks.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 11

Rethinking Teaching Classroom Management in Graduate Asynchronous Online Courses in the Age of AI (9890)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Kelly S. Rippard (Old Dominion University)
Abstract: This conversation focuses on how to make an asynchronous graduate secondary classroom management course work when many students choose to use AI to complete assignments. Topics include how some activities are structured to limit the value of AI while others capitalize on the affordances that AI offers to enhance learning.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 12

Stacking Competency: A Simulation-Driven Framework for Interdisciplinary Microcredentials (9964)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Lydia Kite OTD, MOT,OTR/L,CAPS (Bowling Green State University)
Abstract: This session explores a scalable framework for developing competency-based microcredentials through interdisciplinary simulation partnerships. Attendees will examine how stackable digital badges, simulation-based learning, authentic assessment, and cross-disciplinary

collaboration can support workforce readiness, experiential learning, and transferable professional skill development across academic programs.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 13

Sunsetting with Purpose: Protecting Student Success During Program Deactivation (9771)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. Bryan Aylward (University of Arizona Global Campus)
Abstract: Academic programs must sometimes be phased out, but without a clear strategy, program deactivation can create uncertainty for students, faculty, and staff. Providing a high-level practical roadmap for sunsetting online programs while prioritizing student success. Drawing from UAGC’s experience in managing program closures, this presentation will explore best practices.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 14

The Prompt Is the Pedagogy: Teaching Faculty to Design with AI (9686)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: John D. Solis, Ph.D. (St. Mary's University)
Abstract: Prompting is not a technical skill – it is an instructional design competency. This session introduces faculty and instructional designers to structured prompt templates that redesign assignments for higher-order thinking, develop rubrics, and draft AI course policies. Attendees leave with ready-to-use tools that also model productive AI use for students.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 3

Walden University’s AI-Ready Graduates Framework (9545)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Joseline Castaños, PhD (Walden University), Dr. Kristi Trapp (Walden University), Dr. Ali Mclaughlin (Walden University)
Abstract: <a>Students are already using AI. Faculty are struggling to keep up. Employers are demanding AI skills. But higher education is grappling with a critical gap: AI use without fluency. This

session introduces the AI-Ready Graduates Framework, a scaffolded approach to developing ethical, reflective, and human-centered AI fluency.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere E1/E2

Evaluating Teaching in the Digital Era (9578)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Thomas J. Tobin (Independent Consultant), Jean Mandernach (Grand Canyon University)
Abstract: Come to this hands-on, interactive session and learn a comprehensive model for observing, evaluating, and assessing teaching that takes place across multiple technology-supported environments. We'll cover: 1: Planning to evaluate technology-mediated teaching 2: Incorporating technology across teaching feedback methods 3: Data gathering and implementation 4: Customizing your evaluation strategies

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Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Americas Seminar

Designing Engaging Virtual Experiences: Using Gallery Walks to Recreate In-Person Interaction Online (9607)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Kaitlyn Cremer, OTD, SCLV (Baylor University), Jana Hickman, OTD (Baylor University)
Abstract: Reimagine virtual events as interactive, engaging experiences. This session showcases how a gallery walk combined with live Zoom interactions transformed a virtual event into a dynamic, high-energy scholarly event. Participants will explore practical strategies to design engaging virtual experiences that foster interaction, feedback, and connection.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Asia 4

You Are the Investigator: A Live True-Crime Case Study in Digital Learning Design (9631)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Roni Jackson Co-CEO/Co-Founder (Red Flag Mania)
Abstract: Step into a live investigation, make a decision in minutes, then unpack why it worked. This session reveals a proven framework for designing high-stakes, story-driven courses that boost engagement and completion, and ends with a hands-on sprint to improve your own course immediately.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere II

Lighting the Way: Embedding Information and AI Literacy into the Digital Classroom (9642)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Megan Bowers (Columbia Southern University), Dr. Jennifer Steinford (Columbia Southern University), Laura Rhoden (Columbia Southern University)
Abstract: To illuminate the future of digital learning, educators must do more than build resources; they must help students discover, value, and apply them. This session shines a light on how collaboration, course design, and assessment can integrate information and AI literacy into online courses and brighten pathways to student success.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 1

What's New in Federal Policy—and What It Means for Digital Learning (9739)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Cheryl Dowd (WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies)
Abstract: Federal policy is reshaping the digital learning landscape. We break down the latest rulemakings from the U.S. Department of Education and the web accessibility regulations from the U.S. Department of Justice, translating complex requirements into clear institutional implications. Walk away with an understanding of what's changing, the compliance risks, and what's next.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere D

Designing for Cognitive Variability: AI + UDL for Neurodivergence, Giftedness, and Disabilities (9903)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Amanda Pacheco (University of Central Florida), Dr. Charlotte Jones-Roberts (University of Central Florida), Dr. Danielle Pratt (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: This presentation explores how AI, Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and emotionally responsive pedagogy supports anxious, gifted, and neurodivergent learners in online environments. Findings from this mixed-methods study examine how students use AI for organization, emotional regulation, tutoring, and motivation, illuminating intersections between cognitive variability, digital learning, and learner agency.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere I

Clarifying Competency-Based Education: AI-Augmented Design and Active Engagement in Professional Health Science Programs (9909)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jessica Packer (Stony Brook University), Kristin Hall, PhD (Stony Brook University)
Abstract: Transform your online programs by moving from testing to authentic, competency-based assessment. This session showcases a nursing curriculum redesign using AI as a pedagogical partner for source-grounded research, leadership simulations, and professional synthesis. Learn a scalable roadmap for integrating emerging technologies while maintaining alignment and human engagement.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 5

A Closer Look at Generation Z: Research Findings and Implications for Higher Education and the Workplace. (9935)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Stacey Bose (Cedarville University)
Abstract: This session describes one department's quest to learn about Gen Z and uncovers surprising truths. Quantitative data collected from professors and Gen Z students will be presented along with recommendations for teaching and connecting with Gen Z in the higher education classroom and preparing Gen Z to enter the workforce.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Asia 5

Beyond the Dashboard: Turning AI Sentiment into Better Learning Experiences (9980)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Jennifer Wurch (Penn Foster), Lauren Stash (Penn Foster)
Abstract: AI-driven sentiment and visibility data can help institutions turn abundant learner feedback into actionable change. By aligning marketing, curriculum, and academic teams, institutions can translate Large Language Model (LLM) insights into improvements in learner experience, persistence, and program quality through shared accountability and cross-functional collaboration.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 7

GitHub is for IDs, Too: Using Free Developer Tools to Build Custom LMS Interactives (10016)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Anna Everett, Ph.D. (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Jian Su, Ph.D. (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Abstract: Think GitHub is only for software engineers? Think again! Conquer code anxiety in this hands-on sandbox session. You will use simple, browser-based GitHub tools and AI to "vibe code" stunning interactive elements. You will actively create, host, and embed an interactive element in your LMS – no programming experience required!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 6

The Vibe Coding Calculator: A Decision Framework for Developing Interactive Learning Activities (10082)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Joy Oettel (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Abstract: When should you use AI "vibe coding" versus eLearning authoring tools? Discover a custom "Development Approach Calculator" to make the best choice. Learn to package vibe-coded interactives into SCORM files for grade tracking, and get the exact AI prompts to build custom decision tools for your team.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Asia 3

Consultation Coach: AI-Supported Role-Play for Educational Development Consultations (10128)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Rachel Bowens (Wayne State University), Jessica Paruch (Wayne State University)
Abstract: This session explores how custom GPTs can support low-stakes consultation practice for educational developers through iterative role-play and coaching-based feedback. Participants will explore how to create customizable GPTs that support consultation practice, professional confidence, and reflective development through AI-supported role-play.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere V

Leading Responsible AI Process Change in Online Quality Review: Human-on-the-Loop Leadership and Evidence of Impact (10234)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Tonya Amankwatia, Ph.D. (AI 2030), Dylan Barth, Ph.D. (Online Learning Consortium), Ronna Jackson, DBA (Global Advisory Institute Council Member, AI 2030)
Abstract: In a new collaboration between AI 2030 and OLC, this session positions instructional designers as human-on-the-loop leaders in responsible AI adoption and online quality review. Participants will explore where AI creates new leadership and documentation responsibilities, applying OLC's program-level quality scorecard through the lens of AI 2030's responsible AI framework.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere A1/A2

Enhancing the Transparency of GenAI Assignment Guidance: A Research Based Approach for Faculty Development & Measurement (10238)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Andrew Wiss, PhD, EdM, FNAP (George Washington University)
Abstract: This session presents a faculty development initiative that adapted the Transparency in Learning and Teaching (TILT) framework to provide assignment-level generative AI guidance. We will share essential elements of this faculty development program and outcomes. We also introduce the TILTai scale, a validated instrument for measuring student perceptions of genAI-transparency.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 4

The New Accessibility Roadmap: Scaling Digital Accessibility Across an Institution (10244)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Abby Ruessler (Southeast Missouri State University), Dr. Jana Gerard (Northwest Missouri State University)
Abstract: In April 2024, the DOJ updated ADA digital requirements to WCAG 2.1 AA. Though the deadline has been extended to 2027, many organizations remain unprepared. This presentation

compares how two institutions achieved large-scale compliance without additional staffing by maximizing localized, scalable strategies and existing campus structures.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere IV

Online Students Are Lonely. Let's Talk About What's Changing That. (10257)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Katy Kappler (InScribe), Terri Hines (Colorado Technical University)
Abstract: Online learners chose asynchronous education to fit into a full life, not to navigate it alone. In this panel, administrators from leading institutions explore how digital communities are showing us what the online experience was always meant to be, creating spaces where students feel belonging, build social capital, and persist.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere C

What Are We Assuming? Using Positioning Theory to Reveal Hidden Narratives in Digital Learning Design (10278)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Vanessa P. Dennen (Florida State University)
Abstract: Digital learning is shaped by powerful, often invisible narratives about innovation, data, and learner responsibility. This session uses positioning theory to analyze common storylines and uncover their impact on learner agency. Participants will leave with a practical framework for critically examining assumptions and redesigning learning environments in more human-centered ways.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere III

Smeal AI@Work: A Replicable Blueprint for Upskilling Faculty and Staff with AI in Higher Education (10330)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Renee Ford, Ph.D. (The Pennsylvania State University), Dr. Heidi Watson-Held (The Pennsylvania State University)
Abstract: How do you move an entire college to a coordinated community of practice? Smeal AI@Work is a staff-focused college-wide upskilling AI initiative built on tools, training, and peer

learning for administration and operations. Learn about the model, sessions, incentives, and lessons learned so your institution can build something similar.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

Open Play in the Engagement Hub (10573)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Open Play invites participants to explore creativity, collaboration, and communication through interactive, hands-on activities. Using visual prompts from story cubes to generate spontaneous narratives, experience how simple images can spark imagination, flexible thinking, and creative expression. Through the collaborative challenge of the Mystery Box, discover how taking seemingly unrelated materials to solve a creative task can highlight teamwork, resourcefulness, and the value of diverse perspectives and skills. And maybe even engage in a face-to-face simulation of an online discussion forum, role-playing familiar participant types such as the expert, newbie, skeptic, cheerleader, lurker, and de-railer to examine how different communication styles influence group dialogue and engagement. Through laughter, experimentation, reflection, and discussion, participants will experience firsthand how low-stakes, playful activities can foster community, encourage participation, uncover group dynamics, and support deeper learning.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Asia 2 -- The Sanctuary

Tech Recess (10664)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Dr. Samira Galvao (National University)
Abstract: Tech Recess encourages intentional breaks from technology to reset, recharge, and reconnect. Stepping away from screens, even briefly, can create space for reflection, movement, meaningful connection, and renewed focus. The goal is not to disconnect from technology completely, but to create a healthier and more purposeful relationship with it.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere E3/E4

From Resistance to Responsible Use: A Behind the Scenes Look at Ethical, Human-Centered AI Integration (9933)

Session Type: Gamified Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment

Speakers: Mallory Matthews, Ph.D. (Tennessee Tech University), Dr. Chelsea Dowell (Tennessee Tech University)
Abstract: Meet the cast of student AI learners in this gamified session exploring how attitudes shape AI use in higher education. Participants step into the spotlight through live scenarios and real-time polling. Faculty set the scene for effective AI integration by comparing participant responses with findings from a course-based AI implementation.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Europe 5

Enable and Engage at the Right Moment (10619)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Kyle Cole (Instructure Inc)
Abstract: Most users don't open emails, so timing and placement matter more than ever. This session shows how Impact delivers relevant messages, surveys, and walkthroughs directly inside the learning experience. Learn practical strategies for reaching overwhelmed learners and educators, gathering real-time feedback, and building a connected experience without disrupting anyone's workflow.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Europe 2

From Too Many Tools to the Right Tools: Lessons in Learning Technology Consolidation at ASU (10614)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A
Speakers: Marcus Popetz (Harmonize Learning), Lissa Fresquez (Arizona State University-Skysong), Michael Arseneault (Arizona State University-Skysong)
Abstract: As institutions look to streamline their learning technology ecosystems, tool consolidation is becoming an increasingly common strategy. But reducing the number of platforms on campus is rarely a simple technical decision. It affects faculty workflows, departmental needs, student experiences, support models, procurement priorities, and vendor relationships.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Europe 3

Group Projects, Reimagined: A Gamified Look at What Actually Works in Online Courses (10615)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A

Speakers: Brennen Cannon, Ed.D. (Florida Polytechnic University), Jonathan Olshock (Peerceptiv)
Abstract: Group projects in online courses are harder to manage than they should be. In this interactive session, attendees will step into the student role to simulate an entire group project using a rubric-based digital tool. Along the way, we'll compare each step to the familiar paper-based process so attendees can weigh both approaches.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Europe 4

Respondus Exam Integrity: New Features, Fresh Ideas (10617)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A
Speakers: Rebecca Schkade (Respondus)
Abstract: See the latest enhancements for LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor, including second camera support, handheld device detection, and the use of MS Word and Excel during secure exams. You'll also discover innovative and cost-effective ways these tools are used for in-class assessments, labs, pop-up testing centers, presentations, and remote proctoring.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Europe 1

Lightening Innovation Round: Universities transforming Learning (10646)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A
Speakers: Gregory Barker (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor), Dr. Jennifer Cutts (Project Kitty Hawk), Dr. Cody House (George Washington University), Justin Horvath (Tufts University), Regina Law (Noodle)
Abstract: This lightning innovation round features innovators in higher education, including University of Michigan, George Washington University, Tufts University, and Project Kitty Hawk, transforming the learning experience through better curriculum design, thoughtful applications of AI, and new ways of teaching.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:45 PM - 4:30 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

Beyond the Elevator Pitch: Mindful Networking for Meaningful Connections (10324)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Maxine Frendel, MA (Western Governors University)

Abstract: Networking sometimes feels rushed or transactional. This interactive session begins with a brief guided meditation practice and explores how presence, curiosity, and active listening can transform networking into meaningful connection. Participants will engage in conversations and practical activities such as a story exchange, curiosity conversation, and ask and offer exchange.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:45 PM - 4:30 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall - Engagement Hub

Networking Coffee Break (10580)

Session Type: Other
Track: N/A
Speakers:
Abstract: Join us in the Exhibit Hall for our second networking coffee break of the conference. Not only is this an opportunity to recharge with a fresh cup of coffee or tea, but you will also have the opportunity to network with other attendees. Check out the activities in the Engagement Hub and AI Exploration Zone, or use this time to meet with our conference exhibitors and work on your exhibitor stamp card for a chance at some awesome prizes! Don't forget to complete your Totally Rad OLC 80's Human Bingo card by chatting with other attendees. You can stop by the Engagement Hub during this break to redeem your Bingo card to play Skeeball and win prizes, or just participate in our Lite Bright photo op!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 3:45 PM - 4:30 PM | Europe 1

Noodle Networking (10672)

Session Type: Focus Group
Track: N/A
Speakers: Kamilah Lewis (Noodle)
Abstract: Hang around for a scoop of something sweet! The Lightning Innovation Round may be over, but the fun is just getting started! Grab a scoop of sorbet, mix and mingle with fellow higher ed leaders, and keep the fresh ideas and great conversations flowing. After all, the best ideas and connections are even sweeter with a little sorbet!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Northern Hemisphere A3/A4

Blueprint for Belonging: Scalable Strategies for Online Learner Success (9830)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment

Speakers: Jennifer Duncan (Georgia State University), Andrea Hendrciks (Georgia State University), Gabriela Mcnicoll (Georgia State University's Perimeter College), Shannon Bone (Georgia State University's Perimeter College)
Abstract: How do you build belonging at scale with a small team? Discover a replicable model where hubs, faculty development, and coordinated support systems help online students and instructors feel connected, supported, and empowered. Walk away with immediately usable strategies to strengthen engagement, persistence, and community in any online environment.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Oceanic 6

Beyond the AI Hype: Purposeful Design, Meaningful Engagement, and Lessons from the LMS (9979)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Lisa Clark (Blackboard), Alex Fiscus (University of South Carolina-Columbia)
Abstract: What happens when AI moves from novelty to necessity? Explore how institutions are moving beyond experimentation and using AI with intention. Leaders from multiple universities will share practical strategies, lessons learned, and real examples of leveraging AI to support instructional design, faculty innovation, and meaningful student engagement.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 1

A Faculty Perspective: Strategies and Challenges in Providing Feedback in Online and Blended Courses (10002)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Hong Wang, Ph.D. (Northern Virginia Community College)
Abstract: Feedback is an essential component in teaching. As online and blended learning continue to expand in higher education, educators are seeking practical and sustainable approaches to delivering feedback that is effective and manageable. This session will share top ten strategies and major challenges with solutions faculty shared through practitioners' lens.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 2

Beyond One-Time Training: Building an Ecosystem for Digital Teaching Excellence (10268)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support

Speakers: Alli Peterson (Texas Woman's University)
Abstract: Examine how faculty development can evolve from scattered offerings into a more scalable, policy-aligned ecosystem. Explore how existing resources are being aligned with institutional priorities and how a structured pathway can support stronger digital teaching practices.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 3

Creating Meaningful Engagement--- Results-Driven Strategies to Establish Transformative Online Learning Experiences (10335)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Patty Ann Bogue, Ph.D. (Mississippi State University)
Abstract: During this session, we will discuss practical, results-driven strategies for creating impactful engagement in online learning environments. This session explores evidence-based approaches to foster connection, motivation, and active participation while helping educators and instructional designers transform online courses into impactful learning experiences that promote deeper learning, resilience, and successful outcomes.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 4

Designing the Magic: Building Your Leadership Presence in the First 90 Days (9798)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Cairo Jones (Virginia Commonwealth University), Sydney Wilk (Virginia Commonwealth University), Nicki Nasrin (Virginia Commonwealth University)
Abstract: Every great experience starts with strong leadership and your first 90 days really set the stage. Learn how to design the magic by setting priorities, understanding your team, building partnerships, and creating a credible, engaging leadership presence that inspires trust and lasting impact.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 5

From Policy to Pedagogy: Building Custom AI Agents That Support Academic Integrity (9685)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: John D. Solis, Ph.D. (St. Mary's University)

Abstract: Move beyond AI policy and into intentional design. This session explores how instructional designers and faculty collaborate to build custom AI agents, governed by instructor-authored instructions and curated knowledge sources, that scaffold student thinking, protect academic integrity, and create AI-enhanced learning experiences students cannot simply outsource to a chatbot.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 6

Incorporating LLMs into Written Assignments: Student Comparison of AI- vs. Student-Generated Writing (10282)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Elizabeth Bradley, Ph.D. (SUNY Empire State University)
Abstract: AI tools are both a challenge and opportunity in higher education. To engage students in deep learning, faculty are advised to take a process-oriented approach to written assignments while fostering AI literacy. This research evaluates the impact of incorporating LLMs into course assignments; methods, results, and recommendations will be discussed.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 8

Mentoring Online Doctoral Students and Alumni Toward Scholarly Presentations and Publications (10053)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Maggie Broderick, PhD (National University), Cary Gillenwater, PhD (National University), Gary Walker-Roberts, Ph.D. (National University)
Abstract: This discovery session will present scenarios crafted from both research and personal experiences of mentoring online doctoral students and alumni toward scholarly presentations and publications. The goal is for attendees to have some strategies grounded in real-world scenarios to ponder. Let's share ideas to guide emerging scholars online!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 9

Pedagogical Penguinauts: Storytelling in Learning Design and Technology Labs (10162)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design

Speakers: Molly Caldera Arroyo, M.A. (Baylor University)
Abstract: Breaker! Breaker! This is Penguinaut, Scout, inviting you to an adventure about storytelling, curiosity, and evaluation rooted in instructional design best practices and principles. In this session, we will discuss the value of playfulness and character-driven learning in keeping learners engaged in online labs. Penguinauts—lift off!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 10

Taming Wild AI: A Framework for Governed Practice in Online Professional Education (9761)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Aman Sunder (College for Financial Planning), Dr. Jeffrey Barnette (College for Financial Planning)
Abstract: The Framework of AI-Augmented Advisory Performance (FAAP) shifts the conversation from “adding AI” to identifying the capabilities that remain scarce, defensible, and professionally required. Drawing on research in financial planning education, human-AI collaboration, and professional standards, presenters explore the distinction between governed and “wild” AI use in professional education.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 11

The Sorcerer's AI Assistant: Are the Marching Broomsticks Helping Get the Job Done? (10281)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Christopher Mong, Ph.D. (Purdue University-Main Campus), Connie Hahn (Purdue University-Main Campus), Erica Young (Purdue University-Main Campus)
Abstract: Artificial intelligence is rapidly transforming course design, teaching, and learning. But are AI tools helping educators and students achieve better outcomes—or simply creating new challenges? Join us to explore faculty, instructional designer, and student perspectives on AI's role in online learning.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 12

To Infinity and Beyond Pixels: Building Online Courses Through Intentional Graphic Design (9812)

Session Type: Discovery Session

Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Tina Calandrino, M.Ed. (University of Central Florida), Dr. Joseph Lloyd (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: "Buzz" into this interactive session where research shows that intentional visual design improves engagement, comprehension, and belonging for all learners in online courses. Discover practical, immediately applicable strategies for designing courses that are visually compelling, culturally aware, and built with every student in mind.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 13

Using AI-Powered Classroom Simulations and Flexible Learning Environments to Reach Future Rural Teachers (10216)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Mark Gale (Athens State University), Katie Holm (Athens State University), Christen Lott (Athens State University), Michael McKelvy (Athens State University)
Abstract: Rural teacher candidates may face barriers to frequent classroom placements and instructional coaching. Learn how AI-powered classroom simulations embedded within flexible learning environments can provide accessible, high-quality teaching practice and help future educators develop instructional skills through realistic scenarios, immediate feedback, and reflective practices.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic B - Position 14

What's Next for Digital Learning (and What to Do About It) (10226)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Kim Arnold (EDUCAUSE), Nicole Muscanell (EDUCAUSE)
Abstract: Explore how strategic foresight and futures thinking can help institutions navigate emerging challenges and opportunities in digital and online learning. Drawing on the 2026 EDUCAUSE T&L Horizon Report, participants will engage with signals of change, examine possible futures, and identify practical actions to support more intentional, future-focused strategies.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Oceanic 7

AI as a Learning Co-Designer: A Recipe for Engaging Students Beyond Basic Prompting (9535)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jennifer Yowell (Virginia Commonwealth University)
Abstract: This session explores how educators can use AI as a co-designer to create engaging, adaptive learning activities. Participants will analyze and refine AI-generated content, applying structured workflows and pedagogical strategies to move beyond basic prompting toward more intentional, learner-centered course design.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Northern Hemisphere C

High Expectations with High Structure: Redesign ideas for Digital Instruction in Higher Education (9621)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Burcu Karabina (university of Waterloo)
Abstract: How do we maintain rigour without overwhelming students in complex courses? High expectations alone are not enough. This session translates cognitive science into practical design strategies. Experience a short lesson and see how structured learning can shift thinking from "It doesn't make sense" to "Let me try this."

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Oceanic 8

A Design Perspective: Lessons in coaching teachers to build online courses (9645)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Scott Nolt (Medical University of South Carolina)
Abstract: Expand your online offerings without sacrificing quality, even with limited resources. Learn how we trained educators to see through the lens of a designer, build facilitator-ready courses, and ensure consistency and reliability across sections. Gain practical frameworks, templates, and strategies for creating scalable, transferable online learning.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Northern Hemisphere D

Guardrails, Not Gotchas: Ethics, Policy, and Practice that Supports Real Learning (9677)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment

Speakers: Prof. Christian Moriarty JD MA (St Petersburg College)
Abstract: Faculty across higher education are doing remarkable things with AI, and the policies supporting that work matter. This session offers practical, ethics-centered frameworks for building AI policies that genuinely serve learners, flexible enough to reflect your discipline, principled enough to defend. Walk away with tools you can use Monday, November 16, 2026 morning.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Americas Seminar

From Check-box Compliance to Humanized Online Learning: Reframing RSI Through Social and Emotional Learning (9759)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Jessica Paruch (Wayne State University), Rachel Bowens (Wayne State University)
Abstract: Regular and substantive interaction (RSI) can be more than a compliance requirement. This session explores how social and emotional learning (SEL) principles can humanize online learning through intentional, meaningful interaction. Participants will redesign online course elements and leave with practical strategies for creating more supportive, engaging, human-centered online learning experiences.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Europe 8

Beyond the Bot: Navigating Integrity, Quality, and Long-Term Impact in AI (9783)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Heather Shellabarger (United Theological Seminary)
Abstract: Explore a shift from AI experimentation to intentional integration. This session examines the ethical landscape of generative AI, evaluates its long-term impact on institutional success, and presents rigorous methodology for measuring AI response quality to ensure academic integrity and instructional excellence in digital learning environments.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Oceanic 4

Architecting Attention: Using Creator "Curiosity Loops" to Beat Digital Learner Fatigue (9871)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Ed Buchanan (Signal and Story LLC)

Abstract: Why do audiences skip 5-minute meetings but binge 40-minute YouTube deep-dives? The difference is architecture, not production. This session introduces "Curiosity Loops," a creator-led framework to eliminate digital fatigue. Learn to transform dry content into high-stakes experiences that compel persistence and re-energize your virtual presence.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Asia 1

A Back-Office AI Playbook: Analytics, Automation, and Innovation for Continuing Education and Academic Operations (9991)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Matthew Vick (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater), Lucas Peterson (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater)
Abstract: Beyond the classroom, generative AI provides new opportunities to improve the business operations that empower innovation in higher education. Participants will in exploring and evaluate four use cases of AI with sanitized data to help automate tasks allowing better communication, pricing decisions, and market analysis.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Oceanic 2

Navigating Online Writing Instruction in the Age of AI (10036)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jennifer Pellish, Ed.D. (Grand Canyon University)
Abstract: As generative AI becomes commonplace, essay-only summative assessment no longer reliably evidences students' composing, reasoning, and research. This session presents a practical approach to redesigning writing assessment around a coherent "assessment architecture" using lower-stakes artifacts to make learning observable, maintain rigor, and document process in AI-mediated writing.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Oceanic 5

Building Community by Design: Practical Strategies for Human Connection in Online Courses (10119)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Allyson Schrimper-Minor (Miami University of Ohio - Hamilton (Regionals))

Abstract: Online learning can feel isolating for both students and instructors. Drawing on qualitative research and practical teaching experience, this session explores evidence-informed strategies for fostering belonging, engagement, and meaningful connection in asynchronous courses. Participants will leave with actionable techniques to strengthen community in their own online learning environments.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Southern Hemisphere IV

The power of personalized pathways for degree and non-degree programs (10124)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Nathan Green (Skillwell), Dr. Thomas Cavanagh (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: With agentic and adaptive AI, institutions can finally deliver on the promise of personalized education, unlocking new programs for adult and online students and new pathways for corporate partnerships.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Oceanic 1

A Scalable Workshop Model for GenAI Integration in the Online Classroom (10164)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Steven Goss (New York University), Dr. Rosemary Osso (New York University)
Abstract: In this education session, the presenters will introduce a faculty-centered approach to designing and deploying generative AI assistants in online learning environments, delivered through a semester-long professional development workshop. As institutions seek meaningful ways to integrate AI into teaching and learning, many faculty are still navigating the transition from experimentation to purposeful implementation. The presenters will discuss their framework and demonstrate how it effectively guides faculty in the purposeful design, implementation, and iteration of custom AI assistants to support online course lessons, assignments, and projects.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Northern Hemisphere A1/A2

Raising the Bar: A Quality Scorecard for K-12 Blended Learning Programs (10169)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support

Speakers: Dr. Kaye Shelton (Lamar University)
Abstract: K-12 blended learning contineus to grow but what constitutes quality remains underexplored. This paper presents the OLC Quality Scorecard for K-12 Blended Learning Programs. Drawing on current research and best practices, the scorecard provides K-12 educators with a practical tool for continuous program improvement, implications for policy, and program design.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Asia 5

Leveling Up: Climbing the AI Support Tiers for Student Success (10179)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Adam Davi, M.A., M.S. (University of Arizona), Megan Kohler (The Pennsylvania State University)
Abstract: Grab your climbing gear and get ready to scale the AI mountain of student support and explore tiers of student learning. The AI mountain may look big from the bottom, but we'll take you level by level to get to the top and deepen learning for students.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Southern Hemisphere II

Beyond Prompting: Teaching Faculty to Think Critically, Creatively, and Strategically with AI (10185)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Debby Marindin, EdD, PMP (MUSC and College of Charleston)
Abstract: Many faculty workshops focus on AI tools, prompts, and productivity. This session explores a different question: How do we help educators think critically, creatively, and strategically with AI? Participants will learn practical frameworks for developing deeper AI literacy and fostering more thoughtful, innovative use of emerging technologies.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Southern Hemisphere I

Mission-Aligned AI in Adult Learning: Redesigning Online Programs with Cultural and Workplace Relevance (10203)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Yan Xu, Ph.D. (Spelman College), Marla Byrd, MS, MEd (Spelman College)

Abstract: Explore a mission-aligned framework for redesigning online certificates for working adults while holding true to the HBCU institutional culture. This session showcases a co-design model integrating AI-supported pedagogies and Universal Design for Learning. Gain scalable strategies to ensure deep engagement and sustainable, personalized learning outcomes for diverse professional learners.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Southern Hemisphere V

You Already Have What It Takes A Working Session on the Cognitive Prerequisite for AI Partnership (10224)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Tawnya Means (Bowling Green State University)
Abstract: The prerequisite for thinking well with AI is not technical fluency. It is cognitive: the willingness to bring real problems, push back, and stay curious. This working session pairs evidence with practice, giving participants a chance to do partnership work in the room with a problem they are actually facing.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Oceanic 3

Policy, Pills, and Playbills: Three AI-Enhanced Online Course Design Stories (10233)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Kimberly Hall (University of South Florida-Main Campus)
Abstract: AI is reshaping higher education, emphasizing the need for purposeful, learning-centered AI integration. This session examines how learning designers and faculty incorporated AI into learning experiences while maintaining rigor and integrity, sharing three course examples with practical strategies, insights, and adaptable tips for effective AI use in online courses.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Northern Hemisphere E1/E2

Specifications Grading in Online Courses: Lessons from One Faculty Member's Journey (10251)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Leslie Gould (Angelo State University)

Abstract: <p class="MsoNormal" style="margin: 3pt 0 5pt">Traditional grading systems often reward points over mastery. Specifications grading offers a alternative where faculty define standards, students meet them, and grades reflect real competence. In this workshop, participants will explore specifications grading, examine a real course implementation, and spend the majority of the session drafting their own framework.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Asia 4

Moving Beyond Detectors: Promoting Trust with AI in the Classroom (10260)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Stephanie Korslund, Ph.D. (University of Cincinnati), Ashley Seibert (University of Cincinnati)
Abstract: Ditch the AI detector and explore practical strategies that promote trust and integrity with AI. Join us as we critically examine current practices and what can be done to develop more equitable approaches to integrity with AI. Walk away with ideas for creating more inclusive, integrity-driven AI-enhanced learning environments.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Southern Hemisphere III

A Jacket Too Big? University Futures Reimagined through an AI Task Force, AI Accelerator, and AI Curriculum Pathways (10307)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. Kiran Budhrani (University of North Carolina at Charlotte), Jordan Register (University of North Carolina at Charlotte)
Abstract: What happens when AI leadership feels like a jacket that is too big, but the university must grow into it quickly? This session shares how UNC Charlotte moved AI task force recommendations to an AI Accelerator model that advances AI literacy, leadership engagement, faculty development, and AI Curriculum Pathways.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

Open Play in the Engagement Hub (10574)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:

Abstract: Open Play invites participants to explore creativity, collaboration, and communication through interactive, hands-on activities. Using visual prompts from story cubes to generate spontaneous narratives, experience how simple images can spark imagination, flexible thinking, and creative expression. Through the collaborative challenge of the Mystery Box, discover how taking seemingly unrelated materials to solve a creative task can highlight teamwork, resourcefulness, and the value of diverse perspectives and skills. And maybe even engage in a face-to-face simulation of an online discussion forum, role-playing familiar participant types such as the expert, newbie, skeptic, cheerleader, lurker, and de-railer to examine how different communication styles influence group dialogue and engagement. Through laughter, experimentation, reflection, and discussion, participants will experience firsthand how low-stakes, playful activities can foster community, encourage participation, uncover group dynamics, and support deeper learning.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Asia 3

AIM-HE: A Modality-Flexible Accessibility Implementation Model for the Next Era of Digital Learning (9876)

Session Type: Featured Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Eunice Ofori (Tulane University)
Abstract: This session introduces AIM-HE, a modality-flexible accessibility implementation model organized around three recurring phases and six actions: Assess, Align, Imagine, Implement, Monitor, and Maintain. Attendees will examine how AIM-HE supports accessible course design, faculty development, digital learning, and quality assurance across online, hybrid, HyFlex, and face-to-face environments.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Europe 4

From Access to Readiness: Closing the Quality Gap in Online Science Learning (10644)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Dr. Caitlin Runne-Janczy (Science Interactive Group)
Abstract: Explore how to close the gap between access and quality, from student readiness and faculty capacity to added pressures facing allied health programs. Drawing on Science Interactive's Annual Lab Report, attendees explore strategies like pairing virtual and hands-on practice, matching support to student tools, and effective ways to use AI.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Europe 3

Design Matters: Key Lessons for Better Canvas Courses (10645)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Kenneth Larsen (Cidi Labs), Jess Kahlow, Ph.D. (Cidi Labs)
Abstract: Great course design isn't accidental—it's intentional. Explore research-backed principles from Cidi Labs' Design Matters series that improve engagement, accessibility, and student success in Canvas. Walk away with actionable, no-code strategies using DesignPLUS to elevate your course design practice.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Europe 5

The Confidence Effect: What Drives Online STEM Students to Persist and Scale (10648)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Christina Fleming (Labster), Malte Stäps (Labster)
Abstract: New research shows 41% of online STEM students have questioned finishing their program and it's not quality and access driving that, it's confidence. See the data, then watch how immersive learning experiences turn that confidence gap into both an enrollment growth and retention advantage.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Northern Hemisphere E3/E4

Beyond Best Practice: Lessons from 15+ years of collaborative, agile, learner-centered design (10651)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A
Speakers: Daniel Kalef (Online Education Services, Inc (OES)), Annie Phalen (Online Education Services, Inc (OES)), Meghann Caldwell (Online Education Services, Inc (OES))
Abstract: How do we design online learning that preserves faculty voice, moves at pace, and still delivers an exceptional learner experience? Drawing on 15+ years of practice and the newly published SCALE framework, this session shares practical approaches to collaborative design, agile execution, and learner-centered quality.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM | Europe 2

Clarity in the Process: Empowering Responsible Student Use of AI (10656)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A
Speakers: Leah Stockstill (Turnitin)
Abstract: How do we embrace a model of intentional, collaborative innovation when it comes to student use of generative AI? This session explores how we can empower students to use these tools without compromising academic honesty by treating AI as a collaborator rather than a shortcut. Participants will explore practical strategies to incorporate AI into student learning, and discover how to build a classroom where innovation and integrity go hand in hand.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 5:15 PM - 6:30 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

OLC Accelerate 2026 Engagement Hub Welcome Reception: Totally Rad Connections & Trivia! (10595)

Session Type: Evening Event
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Cheryl Fulghum (Haywood Community College)
Abstract: Step into our 80s-inspired Engagement Hub, where learning, networking, and friendly competition collide. Test your knowledge of 80s gaming, music, and film, while earning bragging rights and connecting with fellow attendees. Whether you're a pop culture pro or just here for the fun, the Engagement Hub is your go-to destination for building connections, sparking conversations, and making your OLC Accelerate experience truly unforgettable. So, grab your virtual mixtape and join us for a totally awesome adventure!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 5:15 PM - 6:30 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall

OLC Accelerate 2026 Welcome Reception (10597)

Session Type: Evening Event
Track: N/A
Speakers:
Abstract: Wrap up your first full day at the conference by joining us in the exhibit hall for our Welcome Reception. Connect with your fellow conference attendees, visit with our sponsors and exhibitors, and enjoy some food and refreshments. This is a great time to work on completing your Totally Rad 80s Human Bingo card for a chance at prizes in the Engagement Hub, or finishing your exhibitor stamp card to enter that prize contest. Don't forget to use your complimentary drink ticket!

Wednesday, November 18, 2026

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 6:00 AM - 7:30 AM | Walt Disney World Swan (causeway entrance)

Glow & Go 5K: Bright Minds in Motion Fun Run/Walk (10566)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Join us as we light up the morning and set our bright minds in motion with a 5K fun run/walk on Wednesday, November 18, 2026, November 18 , during the OLC Accelerate conference. Lace up your sneakers and experience a scenic route through the beautiful EPCOT Resorts area, starting and finishing at the iconic Walt Disney World Swan (causeway entrance). Whether you're a dedicated runner or a casual walker, this is the perfect way to kick off your day with some energizing exercise, fresh air, and a bit of Disney magic!

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Asia 2 - The Sanctuary

The Sanctuary (10553)

Session Type: Other
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Our Sanctuary room is a quiet, reflective space available for all conference attendees to use. This is a quiet space room where disturbances should be kept to a minimum to allow conference attendees to rest and recharge. The Sanctuary room is open during regular conference hours. During the conference, join us for some quiet time to decompress, reconnect mind and body, and practice some self-care as we turn our focus inward for a short while. Mindfulness has been defined as a practice of "bringing one's attention to the internal and external experiences occurring in the present moment" (Baer, 2003). Join us in the Sanctuary today for some special mindfulness sessions (see the engagement schedule), or just to relax and decompress a bit throughout the day.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM | Pacific Hall

OLC Awards Recognition, Breakfast Celebration, and Fellows Panel (10609)

Session Type: Other
Track: N/A
Speakers:
Abstract: Join us for breakfast, where will will recognize our OLC Awards of Excellence winners, OLC Fellows awardees, and our conference volunteers, followed by a panel discussion among our OLC Fellows.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 8:45 AM - 9:30 AM | Pacific Hall (2)

OLC Accelerate 2026 OLC Fellows Awards Panel (10610)

Session Type: Plenary Address
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Garvey Pyke - moderator (University of North Carolina at Charlotte), Anissa Lokey-Vega (Kennesaw State University), Florence Martin (North Carolina State University at Raleigh), Tina Parscal (Colorado Community College System)
Abstract: Immediately following the OLC Awards presentation, please join us for an engaging panel featuring the 2026 OLC Fellows, distinguished leaders who have made significant contributions to the field of online, blended, and digital learning. The incoming Fellows will share insights from their work, reflect on the evolving landscape of digital education, and offer their perspectives on the challenges and opportunities ahead. The panel will be moderated by OLC Vice President of Innovation and Programs, Dr. Dylan Barth. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from some of the field's most innovative thinkers and dedicated practitioners.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

Open Play in the Engagement Hub (10575)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Open Play invites participants to explore creativity, collaboration, and communication through interactive, hands-on activities. Using visual prompts from story cubes to generate spontaneous narratives, experience how simple images can spark imagination, flexible thinking, and creative expression. Through the collaborative challenge of the Mystery Box, discover how taking seemingly unrelated materials to solve a creative task can highlight teamwork, resourcefulness, and the value of diverse perspectives and skills. And maybe even engage in a face-to-face simulation of an online discussion forum, role-playing familiar participant types such as the expert, newbie, skeptic, cheerleader, lurker, and de-railer to examine how different communication styles influence group dialogue and engagement. Through laughter, experimentation, reflection, and discussion, participants will experience firsthand how low-stakes, playful activities can foster community, encourage participation, uncover group dynamics, and support deeper learning.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall - Engagement Hub

The OLC Accelerate 2026 Engagement Hub (10593)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement

Speakers:
Abstract: At OLC Accelerate 2026 we invite attendees to visit the Engagement Hub, a dynamic space designed for connection, creativity, and community building. Attendees will collaborate in activities that foster peer connection, idea exchange, and just have fun!! Come see us in the Engagement Hub where the goal is simple: spark lasting connections, surface new perspectives, and empower everyone—from emerging professionals to senior leadership. Plan to contribute, converse, and create real-time connection. The Engagement Hub is open during regular exhibit hours. Check the schedule for specific session times. Note: Your Bingo cards can be turned in at the Engagement Hub during evening receptions, networking coffee breaks, and lunch time for Skeeball play and a chance to win fun prizes. Don't miss our Lite Brite photo op as well!

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall --- Engagement Hub

AI Exploration Zone - Open Exploration (10606)

Session Type: AI Exploration Zone
Track: N/A
Speakers: Dr. Sean Nufer (TCS Education System), Maikel Right (Florida International University)
Abstract: Stop watching AI from the sidelines. Open Exploration treats you as a lifelong learner with a question worth working on. Bring a teaching or learning challenge and use the space to work on it with support from experienced guides and access to a range of AI tools. There are no canned demos and no expectation that you arrive with AI expertise. Our emphasis is on curiosity and hands-on experimentation that leads you somewhere useful.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Asia 5

AI as Cognitive Scaffolding: Supporting Neurodivergent Learners and Educators (9873)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Sherri Restauri (Online Learning Consortium), Megan Kohler (The Pennsylvania State University)
Abstract: Artificial intelligence can serve as cognitive scaffolding for neurodivergent individuals navigating executive dysfunction, cognitive overload, and information processing challenges. This session explores practical AI-supported strategies for organization, communication, planning, and learning while critically examining ethical considerations, accessibility, and inclusive digital learning design .

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Oceanic 3

The Process Is the Point: Taking Assessment Design From “Did a Student Use AI?” to “Did a Student Learn?” (10049)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Lauren B. Schwartz (Salem Community College)
Abstract: Every AI-in-education session ends with the same conclusion: assessment needs to be redesigned. Few show how. Using a real AI hallucination, a failed attempt to identify a childhood stuffed pig, and the practical framework they inspired, this conversation equips faculty to ask the question that matters: what did students learn?

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 1

A Whole New Workshop: Redesigning Faculty Development for Focused Virtual Learning (9914)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Connie Hahn (Purdue University-Main Campus), Chris Mong (Purdue University-Main Campus), Erica Young (Purdue University-Main Campus)
Abstract: Moving a workshop online takes more than shortening the agenda. Explore how a comprehensive faculty workshop became three focused, one-hour virtual working sessions where instructors applied strategies to a specific online course. Follow-up survey data highlighted course changes, planned behavior shifts, and the value of interaction and collaboration.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 2

AI 2 Xcelerate: Accelerating AI Growth Through Personalized Action Plans (9969)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dorothy Hirata, Ph.D. (University of Hawaii System Office)
Abstract: Introducing the AI 2 Xcelerate program, this session shares how participants drive impactful integration through the implementation of personalized action plans. Explore how a system-wide professional learning community uplifts cross-disciplinary collaboration and empowers a diverse cohort to explore and innovate together on a joyful journey of collective growth.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 3

AI in Action: Turning Faculty Curiosity into Confident Practice (9670)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Julia Hart (Columbia Southern University)
Abstract: This session explores the design and implementation of an AI literacy course for online faculty, focused on practical application, ethical use, and student-centered teaching. Participants will learn strategies for integrating AI into instruction, assessment, and engagement while maintaining academic integrity and meaningful faculty presence in the online classroom.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 4

An Internship to Remember: Setting Learners up for Long-Term Career Success (10141)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Brittany Huffman (Guidepoint Security), Austin Simpson (Guidepoint Security)
Abstract: While working to build a pipeline of future cybersecurity experts, our organization created an engaging, inclusive internship for a fully remote world. Through live virtual training, asynchronous content, and individual mentorship, interns leave ready to tackle pressing industry challenges. Our program has data showing strong retention and lasting mentor relationships.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 5

Beyond Compliance: What Happens After the Course Review? (10219)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Nasiha Lachaud (Texas A&M - Texarkana)
Abstract: Institutional course reviews often surface recurring challenges related to alignment, course structure, and interaction. This session explores how institutions can move from review findings to actionable learning design practices through faculty support, clearer expectations, and scalable approaches to online course improvement.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 6

Beyond the Slide Deck: A Practical Framework for Transforming Static Content into Accessible, Engaging Online Learning (10115)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Mickey Robinson, PhD (Purdue University), Emily Craven (Purdue University)
Abstract: Great online courses are more than content—they are intentionally designed learning experiences. Through a real-world case study, this session examines how PowerPoint presentations were reimagined as an accessible, learner-centered online course. Attendees will gain practical strategies for transforming existing content into engaging learning experiences that enhance accessibility, engagement, and quality.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 7

Consortium Collaboration: Accelerating Scalable Program Development for Market Impact (10183)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. Ayelet Zur-Nayberg (Colorado Community College System), Dr. Tina Parscal (Colorado Community College System), Dr. Rebecca Woulfe (Front Range Community College)
Abstract: The Colorado Community College System shares its innovative approach to developing scalable consortial online programs. By integrating stackable credentials and systemwide enrollment planning across 13 colleges, this collaborative model empowers faculty, accelerates time-to-market, and balances standardized course delivery with institutional expertise to meet workforce needs and ensure financial sustainability.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 8

Creating Engaging Microlearning Opportunities for Faculty Development (9832)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Drew Santorello, MFA, MA (George Washington University), Heidi Schroeder, MS (George Washington University)
Abstract: Struggling with faculty engagement? Join us to explore a one-minute/one-page microlearning framework designed for maximum impact. Discover how our template-driven approach and AI-assisted workflows allow you to "crowdsource" high-quality, short-form resources. Learn to build a scalable professional development library that respects your faculty's time—and your own.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 9

Designing AI Agents to Support Faculty-Student Communications (9658)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Paul Mueller, Ph.D (Chamberlain University-Illinois)
Abstract: Sustaining clear, supportive student–faculty communication online is challenging at scale. This hands-on discovery session guides participants through designing academic AI agents that support faculty outreach by integrating approved resources and policy guidance, while modeling a reusable agent-building process applicable across teaching and faculty-support contexts.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 10

Enrolling in Uncertainty: Online Graduate Trends in a Volatile Economy (9965)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Greg Weaver, PhD (University of Virginia-Main Campus), Tristen Davin (The University of Virginia)
Abstract: When consumer confidence drops, graduate enrollment rises and more students choose full-time study. Our Discovery Session explores eight years of IPEDS data (2016-2024) revealing how economic indicators predict enrollment patterns. Discover what national trends mean for your institution's strategy.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 11

From monologue to dialogue: Transforming lecture videos to engage learners (9695)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Ellen Farr (The College of New Jersey)
Abstract: Transitioning in-person to fully online programs requires rethinking traditional pedagogy. This session shares how lengthy counseling course videos were redesigned into shorter, engaging learning assets using multimedia learning, cognitive load, and inclusive design principles. Participants will explore scalable strategies for chunking content, increasing engagement, improving accessibility, and preserving instructor presence.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 12

From Pilot to Policy: Building Synchronous Learning Systems with Equity in Mind (9928)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Allison Rief, Ed.D. (University of Arizona Global Campus)
Abstract: What happens when live sessions stop being optional? This discovery session invites attendees to explore how one online institution built a required synchronous learning model that cut drop rates, boosted retention, and closed equity gaps for at-risk students. Stop by, see the data, and share your own experience.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 13

Lights Canva Action! Create Engaging Educational Videos in MINUTES! (9614)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Erica Porter (EDV Learning Solutions)
Abstract: Video content offers dynamic and versatile ways to convey information, engage students, and enhance learning experiences. This hands-on workshop will aim to equip educators and instructional designers with the skills and knowledge to create compelling educational videos effortlessly using the Canva design platform

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Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Atlantic B - Position 14

Virtual Reality AI Mimics Real-Life for Practicing Counseling, Presentation, and Healthcare Skills (9654)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Kristin Berg (University of North Florida)
Abstract: This session explores the use of AI-powered virtual reality simulations to strengthen counseling, presentation, and clinical communication skills for future healthcare professional practice. Examples include the integration of Ovation VR across counseling, seminar, and healthcare practice courses.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Southern Hemisphere V

101 Ways to Succeed (Actually Just Three): A Unified Approach to Campus Resources and Adjunct Faculty Development (9602)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Jill Winnington (Goldey-Beacom College), Dr. Susan Fugate Brangers (Goldey-Beacom College)
Abstract: This session presents a three-part model for improving online student and adjunct support. Together, these Canvas-based resource hubs, Student 101 and Faculty 101, and facilitated training, Teaching 101, reduce confusion, increase consistency, strengthen teaching readiness, and create a more connected, supportive, and effective online learning environment for all.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Asia 4

Beyond the Final Answer: AI, Critical Thinking, and Process-Based Assessment (9615)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Judith Littlejohn (Genesee Community College), John Kane (SUNY College at Oswego), Sarah Wessel (Genesee Community College)
Abstract: A practical framework for moving from "AI-resistant" to "AI-ready" course design. Participants will explore five key assessment shifts: process-based assessment, metacognitive reflection, judgment-focused assignments, structured oral components, and clear AI disclosure expectations. Participants will acquire practical tools for creating assignments emphasizing human thinking, reflection, and judgment rather than AI-generated products.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Southern Hemisphere I

Illuminating the Future of Digital Learning in Competency-Based Education: An Interactive Panel Discussion (9656)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Elizabeth A. Gazza PhD RN ANEF (University of North Carolina Wilmington), April D. Matthias PhD, RN, CNE (University of North Carolina Wilmington), Stephanie Turrise PhD RN FAHA (University of North Carolina Wilmington), Zachary G. Morgan (University of North Carolina Wilmington)

Abstract: This panel of faculty and instructional designers examines how instructional design can shape digital learning in competency-based curricula. Panelists will share strategies for accelerated online programs focusing on competency mapping, authentic learning, assessment alignment, and reflective practice. Attendees will engage in interactive activities and leave with practical, transferable design approaches.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Southern Hemisphere IV

Beyond the Slide Deck: Teaching for Access, Engagement, and Inclusion (9702)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Analisa McMillan, PhD (University of Nebraska Medical Center), Tanya Custer, PhD (University of Nebraska Medical Center), Peggy Moore, PhD (University of Nebraska Medical Center)
Abstract: Your slide design may get all the attention, but how you teach from your slides determines who can actually learn. This session explores accessibility gaps when using slide decks in live and recorded classrooms or presentations. Learn strategies to improve clarity, engagement, and inclusion, and to strengthen your presentation practices.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Oceanic 5

“You’ve Got a Friend in Me” — Building Trust Through Human-Centered Online Advising and Mentoring (9717)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Molly A. West (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Ally Lay, MS (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Abstract: Help your students reach for infinity and beyond! Online students thrive when advising and mentoring feel personal and consistent. This session explores human-centered strategies and best practices for building trust in virtual spaces through authentic communication, proactive outreach, and intentional connection. Attendees will learn to foster belonging and student success.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Oceanic 7

Designing for Transfer, Judgment, and Real Learning (9737)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design

Speakers: Heather Tobin, EdD (Southwestern Law School)
Abstract: A practical design response for AI that is grounded in learning science (desirable difficulty, generative learning, situated cognition, etc.), Improvisational AI Learning (IAL) reframes learning as decision-making within human-AI systems. Participants will redesign their own assignments emphasizing non-delegable thinking, leaving with a revised task, checklist, and rubric for immediate use.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Americas Seminar

Bright Minds, Better Futures: Illuminating Work/Life Balance in Higher Ed (9769)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Jacquelyn Cato (Instructional Connections), James McLaughlin (Instructional Connections)
Abstract: Engaging students in online learning while protecting work/life balance remains a major challenge for educators. This interactive session shares practical strategies to reduce burnout, strengthen student engagement, and improve outcomes. Explore how intentional balance and strong faculty support systems can transform both teaching experience and student success.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Oceanic 8

Neurodivergence: We Are All One! Understanding Learning, Recalling, and Thinking (9885)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Manisha Sharan PhD (Baker College)
Abstract: This session explores neuroscience informed instruction by examining how memorization, conceptual understanding, and critical thinking activate distinct neural pathways. Participants will gain strategies to reduce cognitive overload, strengthen long-term retention, and leave with three brain-based instructional strategies, three assessment strategies, and a customizable curriculum-aligned template.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Asia 1

Creating Connection in Online Programs Through Coaching and Community Strategies (9895)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)

Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Lydia Kite OTD, MOT,OTR/L,CAPS (Bowling Green State University)
Abstract: Online learners need more than discussion boards to feel connected. This session explores practical strategies for building belonging through academic coaching, wellness initiatives, virtual gatherings, Canvas community hubs, and intentional engagement practices that humanize online programs, strengthen learner connection, and support student persistence in digital graduate education.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Oceanic 2

Ditching the Deck: Intentional Media Choices for Online Learning (9923)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Marianne Peacock (Washington University in Saint Louis), Shawn Bell (Washington University in Saint Louis)
Abstract: Faculty often default to standard lecture videos, overlooking media better suited to specific instructional goals. This session introduces a framework that shifts media planning from format-first thinking to purposeful instructional design, helping teams make intentional media choices that humanize instruction, spark inquiry, clarify concepts, model processes, and connect ideas.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Northern Hemisphere E3/E4

Scaling AI Literacy: Student Perceptions After a High-Enrollment AI Learning Module (10029)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Charlotte Jones-Roberts (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: What happens when AI literacy instruction reaches students at scale? This session examines student perception shifts following completion of a high-enrollment AI learning module. Using pre- and post-survey data, the study explores changes in confidence, ethical awareness, and attitudes toward AI while offering practical strategies for scalable, student-centered AI literacy.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Northern Hemisphere C

Design for Success in the Skilled Trades: An AI-Augmented Approach (10067)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Ami Bhandari (Universal Technical Institute), Robert Jordan (Universal Technical Institute), Kate Parker (Academian)
Abstract: Students in the skilled trades must master concepts and practice in a safe environment as they prepare for intensive certification exams. This session shares practical frameworks behind one institution's AI-augmented approach to curriculum design for consistent learner success across campuses.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Southern Hemisphere II

Managing the Work Behind Online Learning: Coordinating Teams, Timelines, and Quality at Scale (10088)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Christine Paige (SUNY Empire State University), Alena Rodick (SUNY Empire State University)
Abstract: Online learning depends on more than course design. This session shares practical approaches for coordinating people, projects, timelines, quality expectations, faculty needs, accessibility work, DLE support, multimedia production, and evolving priorities across a large online education support unit, with a focus on making complex work visible and manageable.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Asia 3

A Tale of Two IDs: Two Approaches to Vibe Coding in Online Course Development (10262)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Joy Oettel (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Tracey Aranzazu (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Abstract: Explore how two instructional designers successfully integrate AI "vibe coding" across different course development contexts. From LMS embeds to complex SCORM-packaged interactives, discover complementary workflows for building engaging activities. Attendees will gain practical strategies to integrate AI-supported workflows into their own course development process

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Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Northern Hemisphere A3/A4

Beyond the Workshop: A Blueprint for a Faculty Learning Community Built Around Quality, AI Productivity, and Innovation (10308)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr Hilary R. Johnson-Lutz (Florida A&M University), Dr Kelley Bolden-Bailey (Florida A&M University), Beverly Gavin (Florida A&M University)
Abstract: This proposed Faculty Online Learning Community (FOLC) advances digital learning through a blended model combining in-person sessions, synchronous meetings, and asynchronous modules. By integrating a Human + AI framework, FOLC improves course quality and builds faculty confidence empowering educators to lead an inclusive, technology-forward future.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Oceanic 6

From Subject Matter Expert to Online Educator: The Role of AI and Instructional Design in STEM Faculty Development (10310)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Tina Calandrino, M.Ed. (University of Central Florida), Dr. Joseph Lloyd (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: STEM faculty are brilliant researchers, yet often lack online instruction skills. This session explores how instructional designers leverage AI tools to coach subject matter experts through online course development, transforming deep content knowledge into engaging, pedagogically sound learning experiences that empower students and build lasting faculty teaching confidence.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Northern Hemisphere D

Beyond Onboarding: A Case Study in Building Community, Quality, and Culture Among Online Adjunct Faculty (10316)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Jennie Harrop, PhD, DMin, MFA (George Fox University), Dr. Rae Casey (George Fox University)
Abstract: As online programs scale, adjunct faculty need more than orientation. This case study examines how George Fox Digital redesigned faculty development to foster community, strengthen instructional quality, reinforce institutional culture, and create a sustainable framework for engaging and supporting a geographically distributed adjunct workforce.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Oceanic 4

Beyond Course Builders: Instructional Designers as Catalysts for Institutional Innovation (10319)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Ashley Bondurant,PT, DPT, M.Ed (Medical University of South Carolina)
Abstract: Instructional designers are increasingly leading innovation initiatives that extend beyond course development. This session explores how instructional designers can drive strategic change through faculty development, educational technology implementation, AI initiatives, quality improvement efforts, and cross-campus partnerships.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Northern Hemisphere E1/E2

The Future of Digital Learning Quality: Building the Digital Learning Accreditation Agency (DLAA) (10491)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Madeline Shellgren (Online Learning Consortium), Zeren Eder (Online Learning Consortium)
Abstract: Digital learning continues to transform education, workforce development, and professional training. Join the team building the Digital Learning Accreditation Agency (DLAA) to explore the future of quality assurance, learn about opportunities to contribute, and help shape a national framework for recognizing excellence in digital learning.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Northern Hemisphere A1/A2

Doing It All: Exploring Roles and Responsibilities of and Support for Online Program Coordinators (10497)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Yvonne Earnshaw, Ph.D. (Kennesaw State University)
Abstract: Academic program coordination represents one of the most common faculty administrative appointments in higher education. However, there is a lack of research, particularly in online programs. This session presents findings from a research study which explores the roles and responsibilities of online program coordinators and the support that they need.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Europe 4

Rethinking an Assignment for the Age of AI (10655)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: N/A
Speakers: Jaime Moquin (Nectir)
Abstract: Faculty don't have to choose between banning AI and giving up. In this hands-on session, participants will redesign one of their own assignments to use AI intentionally and equitably, then see how Azusa Pacific University Global configured Socratic AI Assistants campuswide and what its research found about student performance.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Asia 2 -- The Sanctuary

Color, Create, Connect! (9788)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Shanda Hood (University of Arkansas)
Abstract: This session uses a collaborative coloring challenge to help participants connect. Working in groups, participants engage in a hands-on task that encourages conversation and problem-solving, providing an opportunity to build relationships, and connect.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Oceanic 1

Escape the Innovation Trap: A Gamified Challenge for Solving Educational Problems (10187)

Session Type: Gamified Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Debby Marindin, EdD, PMP (MUSC and College of Charleston)
Abstract: Innovation does not require expensive technology. In this interactive gamified session, participants collaborate to solve educational challenges through play, creativity, and AI-supported problem solving while exploring free and low-cost strategies they can immediately adapt for teaching, faculty development, instructional design, and organizational innovation.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Southern Hemisphere III

Cyborg Leadership: Guiding Your Team When AI Assimilates (10291)

Session Type: Gamified Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Jason Johnston, PhD (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville)

Abstract: Higher education is already full of cyborgs: faculty and staff integrating AI into daily work and extending beyond human limits. But are they following human leaders or chasing the next prompt? Join this gamified session exploring Cyborg Leadership and the Care-First Change Framework (Nash & Johnston, in press).

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Europe 3

From Live Responses to Teaching Decisions (10622)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Joe Probert (Wooclap)
Abstract: Live sessions produce data about what learners understood, and most of it evaporates when the session ends. This session will give you practices for using it in the moment and to design what comes next.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Europe 2

Beyond the Lab: Bringing Health Science Skills Home (10623)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Brandy Fleming (Carolina Distance Learning)
Abstract: Explore how Carolina Distance Learning helps nursing and phlebotomy programs expand skills training beyond the traditional lab. Attendees will learn how comprehensive at-home nursing and phlebotomy kits, digital resources, and faculty support create authentic hands-on experiences that improve flexibility, increase practice opportunities, and support student success.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Europe 5

How to Execute LMS-Wide Updates Once (And Prove Nothing Was Missed) (10657)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Chris Johnson (Atomic Jolt)
Abstract: Learn to search across every course in Canvas or Brightspace, identify each instance needing an update, and execute changes in one controlled pass instead of course-by-course fixes. Walk away with a verification process that lets you confidently answer leadership's toughest question: 'Are you sure nothing was missed?'

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | Europe 1

Streamline, Analyze, Secure: Transforming the Integrity Review Process (10616)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A
Speakers: Jordan Adair (Honorlock), Ben Mayfield (Honorlock)
Abstract: Explore how modern workflow enhancements and data insights simplify the review process and empower faculty. Join Honorlock experts as they discuss strategies for navigating sensitive student conversations with confidence, building a culture of integrity, and driving long-term institutional success.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

You’re on Mute: Creative Problem-Solving in Collaborative Learning Environments (10207)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Dr. Amy Johnson (University of Arizona Global Campus), Dr. Allison Rief (University of Arizona Global Campus), Jenn Zaur (University of Arizona Global Campus)
Abstract: Can your team solve the “you’re on mute” epidemic, protect break-room snacks, or invent the world’s worst product? In this challenge, small groups tackle absurd workplace and conference dilemmas. Expect creativity, laughter, collaboration, and surprising lessons about innovation, communication, and teamwork.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM | Asia 3

IELOL Meet-and-Greet (10542)

Session Type: Other
Track: N/A
Speakers: Sherri Restauri (Online Learning Consortium)
Abstract: Calling all IELOL 2026 faculty and participants, as well as IELOL graduates and faculty from previous cohorts! Let's get together for some quick photos, to catch up and share out how our projects have gone, and make plans to keep in touch after this year. Thinking about joining a future IELOL cohort? Come join the fun! Grab a quick snack & beverage from the snack station in the Atlantic Exhibit Hall, then come join us for some fun networking in Asia 3. Can't wait to catch up with everyone! Questions? Email us at: ielol@onlinelearning-c.org

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Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall

Networking Coffee Break (10581)

Session Type: Other
Track: N/A
Speakers:
Abstract: Join us in the Exhibit Hall for our final networking coffee break of the conference. Not only is this an opportunity to recharge with a fresh cup of coffee or tea, but you will also have the opportunity to network with other attendees. Check out the activities in the Engagement Hub and AI Exploration Zone, or use this time to meet with our conference exhibitors and work on your exhibitor stamp card for a chance at some awesome prizes! Don't forget to complete your Totally Rad OLC 80's Human Bingo card by chatting with other attendees. You can stop by the Engagement Hub during this break to redeem your Bingo card to play Skeeball and win prizes, or just participate in our Lite Bright photo op!

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Americas Seminar

AI Does Not Guarantee Quality: A Quality Assurance Model for Instructional Design (10598)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Paulina Carrasco (WeLearn)
Abstract: Artificial intelligence has accelerated online course development but also created new quality challenges. This presentation introduces Welearn's Quality Assurance Model, integrating international standards, expert review, preventive QA, and AI to strengthen instructional design. Real-world implementation demonstrates how institutions can scale course development while maintaining pedagogical quality.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Asia 1

Teaching in the Age of AI: Redefining Trust, Authority, and Control in Learning (9756)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Wendy Wallberg, JD, LL.M (Lynn University)
Abstract: This session examines how increasing student reliance on AI is reshaping perceptions of authority in the classroom. Through familiar scenarios and guided discussion, participants explore shifts in trust, expertise, and control, and gain practical strategies for designing learning experiences that promote critical thinking and reduce uncritical dependence on AI.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Asia 3

A Large Leaky Bucket of Learners: A Conversation About Sustainable Enrollment and Participation (9990)

Session Type: Featured Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Matthew Vick, Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater), Nicole Weber, Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater), Lucas Peterson (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater)
Abstract: Whether your priority is growing enrollment or sustaining participation, are you chasing new prospects or relying too heavily on existing relationships? Bring your experience to this conversation as we explore how credit and non-credit programs balance new audiences, repeat learners, one-time participants, and partners.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Asia 4

Adding Online Sections to In-Person Programs: A Dual Development Design Framework (DDF) for Online Section Expansion (10239)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Kiran Budhrani (University of North Carolina at Charlotte), Dr. Jennifer Reed (University of North Carolina at Charlotte), Aubrey Harrison (University of North Carolina at Charlotte)
Abstract: "Design Once. Develop Strategically. Deliver Everywhere." This session introduces the Dual Development Design Framework, a collaborative, team-based model for simultaneously designing in-person and online course sections from a shared process and pedagogical architecture. Participants will leave with a practical, replicable approach for expanding online access, curricular alignment, and faculty ownership.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Asia 5

The Mindful Meeting Makeover: Designing Meetings That Foster Presence, Participation, and Purpose (10326)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Maxine Frendel, MA (Western Governors University)

Abstract: Too many meetings leave participants distracted, disengaged, and wondering why they were there. This interactive session explores how mindfulness principles can transform meetings into more purposeful, engaging, and productive experiences. Participants will evaluate common meeting challenges, redesign a meeting, and leave with practical strategies they can immediately apply.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 1

AI, Technology, & the Online Community College Faculty (10228)

Session Type: Graduate Student Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Alex Suchon, Ph.D. (Lone Star College System)
Abstract: For full-time online community college faculty, technology is simultaneously what makes effective teaching possible and one of its most persistent barriers. This session presents interpreted findings from a dissertation study examining how AI and technology shape the online teaching experience and how institutions can better support the faculty navigating it.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 2

Back to the Future: Designing Authentic Assessment Through Analog Learning in the Age of AI (10336)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Renee Ford, Ph.D. (The Pennsylvania State University), Nancy McClure (The Pennsylvania State University)
Abstract: Generative AI is reshaping assessment in online and hybrid learning environments. This session explores how intentionally designed analog learning activities, including handwritten reflections, visual thinking exercises, annotation tasks, and metacognitive journals, can provide authentic evidence of learning, promote deeper cognitive engagement, and complement AI-enabled instruction while remaining scalable for instructors.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 3

Building Belonging Online: A Virtual Peer Mentorship Program for Graduate Nursing Students (9892)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Jenna Blumenauer (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor)

Abstract: Discover how an online graduate peer mentorship program transformed connection, resilience, and professional growth across six nursing specialties. This session explores the development and evolution of a sustainable virtual mentorship model that empowers mentors and mentees. Attendees will gain practical strategies to create inclusive, student-driven mentorship programs within their institutions.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 4

Designing Online Courses with Care: Trauma-Informed and UDL-Aligned LMS Design in Practice (10146)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Heather Horowitz, EdD (SUNY Empire State University), Alyssa Garnich, MEd, MSS, LSW (Temple University)
Abstract: Design online courses with care. This interactive session shares research on how trauma-informed and UDL-aligned LMS design fosters belonging, reduces cognitive load, and amplifies student voice. Participants will explore practical LMS strategies and leave with actionable approaches for creating inclusive, supportive, human-centered online learning environments.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 5

Empowering Military-Connected Communities:Advancing DEI,Global Learning Continuity and AI-Enabled Wellness in Higher Ed. (10321)

Session Type: Graduate Student Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Michael Ellison Ph.D (Can) (National University), Dr. Samira Galvao (National University), Dr. Nina Russell (National University)
Abstract: This presentation examines military-connected learners in higher education using intersectionality and trauma-informed perspectives. It explores how situations in military affiliation shape academic outcomes. Key challenges include structural barriers, cultural mismatches, caregiving demands, inequitable support. The presentation advocates for inclusive DEI frameworks and targeted support systems for online and hybrid learning.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 6

Enhancing Trust in Telehealth for Mental Services in Rural Areas: The Role of Online Learning (9854)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. Amir Khalighi, DHA (National University), Stacey E. Brown (National University), Carline Romela Herisse (National University)
Abstract: Telehealth can assist mental health in rural populations. COVID-19 pandemia accelerated the adoption of virtual healthcare services via online learning. However, disparities in technology, digital literacy, confidentiality, and interpersonal connections are still challenges. While online learning cannot replace face-to-face interactions, it remains valuable for improving healthcare equity and access.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 7

From Rubric to Agent: AI-Supported Dissertation Development in a Doctoral Clinical Nutrition Program (9894)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jen Ross, DCN, RD, LD/N, FAND (University of North Florida), Kevin Hulen, M.S., M.Ed. (University of North Florida)
Abstract: We transformed a dissertation proposal rubric into a structured, phase-based AI evaluation system within a Doctor of Clinical Nutrition program. Learn how we engineered a controlled, agent-like tool within a WORD document that scaffolds proposal development, strengthens alignment, and supports iterative revision while preserving faculty rigor, transparency, and academic integrity.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 8

Reflect to Refine: A Practical Reflection Tool for Adjunct Online Teaching Excellence (10089)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Jill Winnington (Goldey-Beacom College), Dr. Susan Fugate Brangers (Goldey-Beacom College)
Abstract: This interactive session presents a practical self-assessment survey for adjunct online instructors that reflects on course design, engagement, and improvement. Participants will explore how the tool can enhance the quality of online teaching.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 9

Supporting Online Graduate Students with Literature Review Synthesis: Illuminating Scholarly Thinking in Digital Spaces (10054)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Lisa St. Louis, PhD, MEd (National University), Edward Kim, PhD (National University), Maggie Broderick, PhD (National University), Deborah Nelson, PhD (National University), Brianna Parsons, EdD (National University)
Abstract: Let's shine a light on practices for guiding online graduate students through the often-daunting process of writing a solid literature review! Participants will share feedback on their experiences teaching literature review at the graduate level and will leave with fresh insight on how online students can master this essential skill.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 10

Teaching Through Tales: The Power of Storytelling with Multimedia (9593)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Kate Bowersox (Washington University in Saint Louis), Darrick Hays (Washington University in Saint Louis)
Abstract: Learn to create engaging digital stories for your courses. This session covers planning, design, and integration, offering a logical workflow to maximize impact. We'll address challenges like time and alignment with learning objectives. Leave with new ideas and a reusable framework to enhance your teaching through multimedia storytelling.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 11

The Future of Faculty Infrastructure: Centralization as a Strategic Lever (9773)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. Bryan Aylward (University of Arizona)
Abstract: This session examines how the University of Arizona Global Campus redesigned faculty operations through a centralized lifecycle model. By integrating scheduling, contracts, payroll, compliance, and performance systems into a unified platform, the initiative reduced administrative complexity, improved data integrity, strengthened compliance, and enabled scalable, data-informed decision-making aligned with institutional strategy.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 12

What's the Point? Rethinking the Goal of Digital Tool Use in A&P (9825)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Kerrie McDaniel (Western Kentucky University)
Abstract: A wide range of digital tools are now embedded in Anatomy & Physiology (A&P) courses. While these tools were historically adopted to enhance student learning, the rise of AI-enabled content retrieval raises an important question: Are digital assignments still promoting learning, or are they simply helping students accumulate points?

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic B - Position 13

You Built it and They Didn't Come: Devising Strategies to Drive Faculty Engagement in Professional Development (10205)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Eric Simon (Florida International University, Center for the Advancement of Teaching), Gáramis Campusano (Florida International University, Center for the Advancement of Teaching)
Abstract: You spent many hours designing an exciting new workshop for faculty, but a disappointing number signed up and only a small percentage showed up. If this is a familiar scenario, join us to brainstorm solutions for increasing participation in training and other professional development opportunities for faculty.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall - AI Exploration Zone

AI Exploration Zone - Open Exploration (10607)

Session Type: AI Exploration Zone
Track: N/A
Speakers: Dr. Sean Nufer (TCS Education System), Maikel Right (Florida International University)
Abstract: Stop watching AI from the sidelines. Open Exploration treats you as a lifelong learner with a question worth working on. Bring a teaching or learning challenge and use the space to work on it with support from experienced guides and access to a range of AI tools. There are no canned demos and no expectation that you arrive with AI expertise. Our emphasis is on curiosity and hands-on experimentation that leads you somewhere useful.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

Open Play in the Engagement Hub (10576)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Open Play invites participants to explore creativity, collaboration, and communication through interactive, hands-on activities. Using visual prompts from story cubes to generate spontaneous narratives, experience how simple images can spark imagination, flexible thinking, and creative expression. Through the collaborative challenge of the Mystery Box, discover how taking seemingly unrelated materials to solve a creative task can highlight teamwork, resourcefulness, and the value of diverse perspectives and skills. And maybe even engage in a face-to-face simulation of an online discussion forum, role-playing familiar participant types such as the expert, newbie, skeptic, cheerleader, lurker, and de-railer to examine how different communication styles influence group dialogue and engagement. Through laughter, experimentation, reflection, and discussion, participants will experience firsthand how low-stakes, playful activities can foster community, encourage participation, uncover group dynamics, and support deeper learning.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Europe 1

How Virtual Communities Drive Online Student Retention (10647)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A
Speakers: Katy Kappler (InScribe)
Abstract: Drawing on insights from institutions such as Maryland Global Campus, Alamo Colleges Online, and the evolution of online learning, Katy will examine how institutions can intentionally create environments where students develop a sense of belonging, connection, and social capital—the relationships and networks that help students navigate challenges, access resources, find support, and ultimately feel that they have a place within their institution.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Europe 2

Your Students Deserve More Than a Chatbot: How to Improve Learning Outcomes with AI-Powered Instruction (10649)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Erin Riklin (Kyron Learning), Jessica Smagler (Kyron Learning)
Abstract: This session explores how AI-powered instruction can support the full learning process through guided explanation, practice, feedback, and reinforcement. See how faculty-controlled, interactive learning experiences can personalize support for students while strengthening engagement, understanding, confidence, and measurable learning outcomes.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Europe 3

The return of oral assessment and why it's different this time. (10650)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A
Speakers: Bas Hintemann (FeedbackFruits)
Abstract: As AI makes it harder to verify what students genuinely understand, oral assessment offers a powerful way to see students think, reason, and explain. This session by FeedbackFruits explores how institutions can bring oral practice, assessment, and reflection into the learning journey at scale without adding significant workload for instructors.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Europe 4

Trust by Design: Learner Readiness and Proctoring Centered on the Student Experience in the AI Era (10659)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A
Speakers: Chris Bergeron (SmarterServices, LLC), Sean Doty (SmarterServices), Tara McLaughlin (SmarterServices)
Abstract: As AI reshapes what's possible in learning and assessment, this session reframes proctoring around the student experience: consistent on campus or at a distance, with accommodations built in, and paired with proactive support that helps students succeed honestly.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Europe 5

The True Crime Classroom: Rebuilding a Gateway Course Around Investigation (10658)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Presentation
Track: N/A
Speakers: Roni Jackson (Red Flag Mania)
Abstract: A required course at Western Governors University, the one students used to dread before they'd even logged in, was rebuilt around a true crime investigation, and completion rates rose more than 50% in six months as a result. This session breaks down how that shift built real problem solving skills, not just higher completion numbers.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Northern Hemisphere A1/A2

Anticipating Student Needs: A Holistic, Coaching-Informed Approach to Supporting Online Learners (9966)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Tricia Filer (Penn State University - World Campus), Mandy Biddle (Penn State University - World Campus)
Abstract: Online learners face predictable moments of doubt and disconnection yet support often remains reactive. This session introduces the W-curve and Focus Wheel as complementary frameworks to anticipate challenges and provide holistic, proactive care. Participants will explore strategies to better align services and leave with practical tools to strengthen student engagement.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Northern Hemisphere A3/A4

From Compliance Gap to Quality Tool: Building an AI-Inspired Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI) Review Process (10086)

Session Type: Gamified Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Rachel Dellis, M.A.Ed (Clarkson University), Erin Blauvelt, MEd (Clarkson University)
Abstract: Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI) is a federal requirement for distance education - and a compliance risk for many institutions. Join our gamified session to discover our full RSI audit process, including gap identification, AI-accelerated Quality Matters-aligned RSI rubric development, internal review, and translating findings into faculty guidance and institutional recommendations.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Northern Hemisphere C

From Siloed AI Efforts to Shared Strategy: Coordinating AI Literacy Across Roles (10256)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Sarah Hazelton (Tennessee Board of Regents), Dr. Jamie Nelson (Tennessee Board of Regents), Pari Bhatt (Tennessee Board of Regents), Dr. Erin Hugus (Tennessee Board of Regents)
Abstract: Explore how an integrated AI literacy framework can help institutions move from fragmented AI activity to coordinated digital learning strategy. Participants will discuss shared

domains, role-specific competencies, implementation challenges, and practical next steps for aligning governance, professional learning, and support across campus roles.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Northern Hemisphere D

Beyond Attendance: Encouraging Instructional Application in Digital Learning Support (10048)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Sara Kacin, Ph.D. (Wayne State University)
Abstract: This session explores practical strategies for moving beyond attendance-focused evaluation in faculty development by incorporating instructional application, reflection, and light weight follow-up practices in digital learning support efforts. Participants will engage with an emerging “Participation to Practice to Impact” approach designed to encourage faculty application and reflective practice.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Northern Hemisphere E1/E2

Guiding Light: Embedding Accessibility into Online Learning from Day One (9750)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Raul Pineda (University of Texas at Austin), Jason Baughman (University of Texas at Austin), Jennifer Porter (University of Texas at Austin)
Abstract: Accessible learning starts at ideation. This session helps educators, instructional designers, and leaders build from the beginning with the mindset, strategies, and processes to embed accessibility from day one, align with WCAG 2.1 Level AA requirements, and make informed design decisions using real-world examples so students light up with learning.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Northern Hemisphere E3/E4

Designing Online Spaces Where Multilingual Learners Thrive (10110)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Shannon Stephens Sandau, M.Ed. (Weber State University), Gisela Martiz Wheeler, PhD. (Weber State University)

Abstract: Enhance student success online by incorporating research-supported multilingual frameworks centered on asset-based pedagogy to remove learning barriers. You will leave equipped with a multilingual online course design matrix and a checklist to review course activities, identify language-related barriers, and adapt strategies across disciplines. We do this by integrating three complementary frameworks: Translanguaging, Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL), and Universal Design for Learning (UDL).

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Oceanic 1

Beyond the Prompt: Lessons from a Multi-Campus Initiative Designing AI-Infused Learning Experiences Across Disciplines (9725)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Audeliz Matias (SUNY Empire State University), David Wolf (Schenectady County Community College), Matt Farron (Schenectady County Community College)
Abstract: What happens when faculty intentionally design learning experiences with AI? Explore examples, lessons learned, and emerging findings from a year-long, multi-campus initiative involving educators from diverse disciplines and institutional contexts. Discover practical approaches for creating AI-infused learning experiences that support student engagement, meaningful learning, and course outcomes.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Oceanic 2

Did They Learn It, or Did They Paste It? A Playbook for AI-Aware Asynchronous Assessment (9898)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Paul Dagnall (University of Dayton)
Abstract: Async serves the students who need flexibility most: athletes, working professionals, caregivers, but it also creates a verification gap AI has widened. Get a practical playbook of AI-aware assessment approaches, a decision matrix for choosing among them, and strategies for designing async courses that produce eager learners rather than box-checkers.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Oceanic 3

Emotional Grading and AI: Designing for Consistency Without Losing Humanity (9919)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)

Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Lisa Clark (Blackboard), Alexandra Fiscus (University of South Carolina-Columbia), Chase Lucas (Marshall University)
Abstract: What happens when the final output is no longer reliable evidence of learning? As AI reshapes how work is produced, grading becomes more complex and more human. Join this interactive session to explore emotional grading, rethink consistency, and design assessment practices that better reflect how learning actually happens.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Oceanic 4

From Skill-Collector to Value Architect: Designing Your Professional Story (9784)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Ed Buchanan (Independent Consultant)
Abstract: Stop listing skills—start demonstrating value. This interactive session shows how to transform your experience into compelling professional stories that drive connection, trust, and opportunity. Learn a simple framework to clearly communicate your impact and add value in any learning environment.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Oceanic 5

Blind Connections: Collaboration Unfiltered (10003)

Session Type: Gamified Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Treya Lynch (University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Lauren Morton (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Kendra Rains (University of Tennessee- Knoxville)
Abstract: This fast-paced, interactive Love Is Blind-inspired session takes participants from the pods to the match, wedding, and reunion. Through guided conversations, activities, and reflection, participants will explore how assumptions, roles, communication styles, and perspectives shape workplace relationships while gaining practical strategies to strengthen collaboration across departments and build connections.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Oceanic 6

Balancing Experimentation and Enterprise Alignment: Evaluating Technologies that Shape the Student Experience (9711)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)

Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Kaitlin Dumont (Huron), Melissa Allen (University of Florida), Adam Croom (University of Oklahoma)
Abstract: Colleges face a fast-growing edtech market, including AI tools promising gains across the student lifecycle. Many adopt faster than they can evaluate, creating fragmentation. Drawing on Huron's RISE 40 research and client insights, this session explores how to balance innovation with enterprise alignment and make more coordinated, cross-functional technology decisions.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Oceanic 7

Artificial Intelligence in Governance: Ethical Considerations for Effective Policy (9690)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Prof. Christian Moriarty JD MA (St Petersburg College)
Abstract: Higher education leaders are shaping the future of AI governance right now. The decisions they make will define how their institutions serve students, faculty, and communities for years to come. This session offers a principled, practical framework for building institutional AI governance that is transparent, accountable, and built to last.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Oceanic 8

Restoring Trust in Assessment: Evidence from AI-Enabled Oral Exams Across Higher Ed and K–12 (10100)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Bivin Sadler, Ph.D. (Southern Methodist University), Brant Himes, Ph.D. (Los Angeles Pacific University), Andrew Shean, Ed.D. (Azusa Pacific University)
Abstract: As generative AI challenges traditional assessment, oral exams offer a path toward authentic evaluation but are difficult to scale. This session presents early mixed-methods evidence from AI-supported oral exams across higher education and K-12 settings, including student and instructor perceptions, pre/post learning outcomes, and implementation lessons.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Southern Hemisphere I

Exploring Student Interactions with Multi-Agentic Generative AI: Individual Pathways for Developing Expertise (10253)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)

Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Andrew Wiss, PhD, EdM, FNAP (George Washington University)
Abstract: Presentation examines a multi-agent generative AI platform used as prework for a complex case-study experience. Students engaged with AI agents representing distinct professions to support self-directed learning about roles, responsibilities, and emerging professional identities. Result of a study focused on student/agent interactions and observed learning strategies will be shared.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Southern Hemisphere II

From Blank Canvas to Blueprint: Scaling Course Design with Structured Documents and a Comprehensive Toolkit (9910)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Kristin Hall, PhD (Stony Brook University), Jessica Packer (Stony Brook University)
Abstract: Redesigning online courses can be overwhelming. Discover how our instructional design team streamlines online course creation using backward-design documents and a self-paced Toolkit. We will explore our scalable workflow, embedding accessibility and AI. Attendees will receive adaptable resources to implement at their institutions to empower faculty and enhance student learning.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Southern Hemisphere III

Piloting AI at Scale: Lessons in Change Management, Capacity Building, and Knowing What You Don't Know (10254)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Keegan Long-Wheeler (OU Education Services), Adam Croom (OU Education Services)
Abstract: OU Education Services manages large-scale course production across dozens of University of Oklahoma programs. This session documents what happened when they piloted AI across real EdTech workflows: Canvas automation, course QA tools, PowerPoint migrations, and learning app development. Practical lessons for institutions trying to move from experimentation to intentional practice.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Southern Hemisphere IV

Not Another AI Training: Building AI Capacity Through Confidence, Use Cases, and Shared Practice (10018)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Nathan Pritts, Ph.D. (University of Arizona Global Campus)
Abstract: AI readiness requires more than workshops, tool demos, or prompt-writing sessions. This session explores how institutions can build capacity through confidence, practical use cases, shared practice, and continuous improvement. Participants will consider strategies for supporting experimentation, reducing burnout, aligning AI with goals, and scaling impact across teams.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM | Southern Hemisphere V

Mind the Gap: Designing for Student Thinking in an AI-Driven World (10156)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dylan Barth, Ph.D. (Online Learning Consortium), Gina Pazzaglia (The Pennsylvania State University), Tim Walker (Loyola University Chicago)
Abstract: AI can support learning, but overreliance may weaken critical thinking and intellectual agency. This session draws upon three diverse roles to explore how intentional design can ensure AI serves as a scaffold, not a substitute, while offering practical strategies to preserve higher-order thinking across diverse higher education contexts.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall

Lunch On Your Own (10584)

Session Type: Other
Track: N/A
Speakers:
Abstract: The exhibit hall will be open from 12:00pm- 1:00pm today. Lunch is on your own, but the exhibit hall will be open during this time for a final opportunity to work on your exhibitor stamp card, 80's bingo card, or visit the Engagement Hub to redeem your bingo card and play Skeeball for prizes!

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall - AI Exploration Zone

AI Exploration Zone - Final Open Exploration (10608)

Session Type: AI Exploration Zone
Track: N/A
Speakers: Dr. Sean Nufer (TCS Education System), Maikel Right (Florida International University)

Abstract: Join us in the AI Exploration Zone for our final Open Exploration session. Stop watching AI from the sidelines. Open Exploration treats you as a lifelong learner with a question worth working on. Bring a teaching or learning challenge and use the space to work on it with support from experienced guides and access to a range of AI tools. There are no canned demos and no expectation that you arrive with AI expertise. Our emphasis is on curiosity and hands-on experimentation that leads you somewhere useful.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere A1/A2

From Inner Critic to Inner Coach: Using AI to Scale Growth Mindset and Learner Success (10120)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Sue McKenzie (Southern New Hampshire University)
Abstract: Struggling students don't always ask for help, especially online. This session shows how AI can support students in real time, shifting self-doubt into productive learning. Explore a simple "AI Inner Coach Model," see it in action, and leave with ready-to-use strategies to boost engagement without adding to your workload.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere III

The Continuity Imperative: Preparing for Disruption (10298)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Kim Arnold (EDUCAUSE), Tom Cavanagh (University of Central Florida), Tina Parscal , Ph.D. (Colorado Community College System)
Abstract: Recent outages and security incidents have exposed vulnerabilities in digital learning ecosystems. Grounded in emerging research and peer dialog, this interactive conversation explores instructional continuity as a shared institutional responsibility, as we consider moving from reactive responses to proactive planning while addressing the complex challenge of sustaining teaching during disruption.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 1

A Whole New World of Learner Engagement: Using DesignPlus to Create Engagement in Canvas (10485)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design

Speakers: Rebecca Stooks (Virginia Commonwealth University), Sydney Wilk (Virginia Commonwealth University), Cairo Jones (Virginia Commonwealth University)
Abstract: Now more than ever, keeping learners engaged in online learning content is incredibly important for their success. In this presentation we'll explore some of the ways we've leveraged the application DesignPlus to create a whole new world of engaging knowledge checks and activities.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 2

AI Course Design: Improving Efficiency and Engagement at Scale (9780)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Fatimah Wirth, Ph.D. (Georgia Institute of Technology), Min Yuan, Ph.D. (Georgia Institute of Technology)
Abstract: Learn how AI can enhance online course design by improving efficiency and engagement. This session shares practical, research-informed strategies aligned with Quality Matters standards to help educators and instructional designers integrate AI effectively and responsibly into their workflows.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 3

Beyond the Contract: Leadership Strategies for Engaging Adjunct Faculty (10230)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Stacy Cognetti (Lackawanna College)
Abstract: Online adjunct faculty often experience isolation and limited institutional connection. This interactive session explores strategies to build engagement, belonging, and support for adjunct instructors. Participants will assess current practices, discuss shared challenges, and identify practical steps to create a more connected and sustainable faculty community.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 4

Building Early Momentum: Systems That Support Students in the First 48 Hours (9736)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment

Speakers: Dr. Nazish Siddiqi MD, MPH, MS (Chamberlain University), Puja Shahi PhD (Chamberlain University-Illinois), Dr. Paul Mueller PhD (Chamberlain University-Illinois), Dr. Jill McMillin PhD (Chamberlain University-Administrative Office)
Abstract: This presentation explores the impact of faculty outreach within the first 48 hours of online courses. Early communication conveying care and support, before grades or assignments are submitted, builds trust, encourages belonging, and establishes a partnership rather than punitive interactions between faculty and students during the early phase of learning.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 5

Design Over Detection: Rethinking Academic Integrity in the Age of AI (9636)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Michael Webb (Capella University), Dr. Maja Zelihic (Capella University), Dr. Sara Drake (Capella University), Daniel McCarthy (Strategic Education, Inc.)
Abstract: Generative AI has exposed the limits of detection-based academic integrity. This session introduces Design Over Detection, a practical, field tested framework for embedding accountability into assessment design. Participants will explore strategies that make student thinking visible, reduce reliance on surveillance and produce defensible evidence of learning in AI enabled environments.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 6

Detection to documentation: Using a 'Revision History' extension to support authentic student writing in the age of AI (9887)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Brianna M. Pack, MPH, MBA (Azusa Pacific University), Sharon Titus, PhD, MSN, RN (Azusa Pacific University)
Abstract: Discover how the 'Revision History' extension transforms Google Docs/Slides into writing process documentation tools. Move beyond AI detection and plagiarism tools by examining drafting patterns, revisions, and engagement. This presentation equips educators with adaptable techniques to foster student growth, originality, and transparency by valuing authentic writing process over products.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 7

Empowering Educators at Scale: LMS-Based Professional Development and Faculty Support at UCF (9591)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Nafije K. Prishtina M.S IDS (University of Central Florida), Karen Tinsley-Kim (UCF)
Abstract: Learn how UCF uses LMS-based special programs to support over 6,000 courses for faculty and staff development. Explore practical approaches to course creation, enrollment, and instructional support that extend the LMS beyond traditional academic courses to support non-academic learning needs.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 8

Gen Ed, Transformed: WGU's Skills-First, Career-Connected, Project-Based Approach for Today's Learners (10165)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Kristy Conlin (Western Governors University), Stefani Jones (Western Governors University), Angie Napper Walker (Western Governors University)
Abstract: WGU is transforming General Education from a checklist of requirements into a skills-focused, career-connected, project-based learning experience. This session shares practical design principles and implementation lessons for building interdisciplinary courses that integrate transferable skills, career exploration, digital literacy, and responsible AI use.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 9

How are we doing? Investigating Undergraduate Student AI Competency and Workforce Readiness (10071)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Bethany Schultz, Ph.D. (Northwest Nazarene University), Christa Sandidge, Ph.D. (Northwest Nazarene University)
Abstract: Students will graduate into AI-saturated workplaces, but how ready are they, and do their professors agree? This action research study compares undergraduate and faculty perceptions of AI competency and workforce readiness at a liberal arts university, revealing the gaps and alignments shaping our campus's next move.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 10

Next Chapter: A Asynchronous Online College and Career Readiness Initiative (10138)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Chris Eck (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Abstract: This session will present the development and pilot implementation of Next Chapter, an asynchronous online college and career readiness initiative designed to create a scalable and student-centered pathway for youth preparation and postsecondary success.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 11

Refreshing Assignments for AI with Peer Insight Design Sprints (10032)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Patrick Horton (University of Illinois Chicago)
Abstract: Redesigning assessments for the AI era requires careful planning and creative problem-solving. Discover a collaborative faculty development design sprint framework for revising assessments that leverages cross-disciplinary insights and brainstorming. Attendees will leave with practical resources and a complete toolkit to replicate this sprint at their own institution.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 12

The Future of Connection: AI, Play, and Meaningful Online Engagement (10104)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Leslie Johnson (Purdue University Global)
Abstract: Experience an interactive exploration of AI-powered engagement strategies designed to strengthen human connection in digital learning spaces. Through collaborative Padlet activities (visually engaging games and creative icebreakers), participants will discover practical, transferable ideas for using generative AI to foster engagement, build inclusive learning communities, and create meaningful student connections.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 13

Using GenAI to Support Online Education Doctoral Student Dissertation Work (10289)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Catherine A. Manly, Ph.D. (Fairleigh Dickinson University-Metropolitan Campus)
Abstract: How can GenAI assist doctoral students with their dissertations? Example use cases will be presented illustrating results from a pilot program that gave online education doctoral students in leadership (Ed.D.) access to an institutional instance of a GenAI agent. Ethical and practical guidance students need will be discussed.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere IV

OSU Ecampus Student and Faculty Perceptions of Generative AI Use: "I hope it dies. Vain hope, I know." (9709)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Josh Jorgensen, PhD, MPH (Oregon State University)
Abstract: We surveyed approximately 700 OSU Ecampus students in Fall 2023 and Fall 2024 and 195 Ecampus faculty in Fall 2025 regarding their perceptions of generative AI in online learning. Student and faculty perspectives were remarkably similar and were tied to their emotions about AI. Where do we go from here?

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere II

From Content to Connection: Designing Digital Courses That Engage and Retain Learners (9749)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jason Baughman (University of Texas at Austin), Raul Pineda (University of Texas at Austin), Dr. Jennifer Porter (University of Texas at Austin)
Abstract: Course design significantly influences student persistence in higher education. This session highlights how instructional designers use UDL-aligned course architecture to scaffold students from high school into authentic college learning. Participants explore practical strategies and learning supports that improve engagement, retention, and college readiness.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Oceanic 1

Illuminating the Path: Using QA Frameworks to Guide Online Course Design (9845)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Jon Hughes (University of Pittsburgh)
Abstract: Quality assurance in online course design is a growing priority — but how do you choose a model that scales? This session explores the OLC Course Review Scorecard as a practical framework, leaving attendees with a revised syllabus template and streamlined QA checklist they can immediately apply at their institution.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Asia 4

Intentional AI: Designing for Impact, Not Hype Lessons from Bots, Avatars, and Accessibility at Scale (9906)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: John Bellotti III, MS (University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh)
Abstract: After two years of building AI-supported bots, avatars, and accessibility workflows, this session explores how intentional design can turn experimentation into impact in online learning. Participants will consider ways to set boundaries, evaluate quality, and support accessible, authentic assessment while scaling AI use without losing trust or the human experience.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere V

Iterate with Intention: Designing a Continuous Improvement Framework (9918)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Connie Hahn (Purdue University-Main Campus), Larissa Cremeens (Purdue University-Main Campus)
Abstract: Have you collected course data but struggled to turn it into action? This session shares an Iterative Course Design Workshop model that helps faculty, instructors, and instructional designers gather, interpret, categorize, and prioritize evidence using reflection, feedback strategies, and AI support. Attendees leave with adaptable resources for continuous course improvement.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Oceanic 2

Improving Retention in Digital Learning: A Proactive At-Risk Engagement Framework for Student Success (9925)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Brigitte Powell, Ph.D., Ed.D. (Chamberlain University-Illinois)
Abstract: Improve student retention and learning outcomes by identifying disengaged learners early and delivering timely, personalized, holistic support across teams. This proactive framework guides faculty in recognizing academic and engagement risks, coordinating communication, and implementing targeted outreach and individualized plans that prevent course failure, strengthen persistence, and promote measurable student success.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere A3/A4

Fostering Belongingness in Online Learning: Strategies for Supporting Student Success, Engagement, and Well-being (9927)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Laura Sliwinski, PhD, MHA (Westcliff University), Tami Beaty, EdD, MACI, BSOM-CL (St. Thomas University)
Abstract: Feelings of isolation in online education can negatively impact student retention and mental well-being. This session highlights strategies for advising, mentoring, community-building, and engagement that support student success and well-being. Participants will learn practical approaches to foster belonging, persistence, and meaningful connections in online programs.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Oceanic 5

Beyond Transactions: The Art of Strategic Partnership (9930)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Brittany Logue, M.Ed. (Colorado State University-Fort Collins), Alysha Tarantino, M.Ed. (Colorado State University-Fort Collins)
Abstract: Challenge the dynamic that online units that wait for direction get treated like vendors. Through a real case study and a practical repositioning framework, participants will explore how to shift from service provider to strategic partner, building the trust, language, and credibility needed to shape institutional decisions from within.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere I

Pause, Pilot, or Pass? A Framework for Evaluating AI and EdTech Tools Responsibly (9941)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Lissa Fresquez (Arizona State University-Skysong), Michael Arseneault (Arizona State University-Skysong)
Abstract: A promising tool. A stalled security review. Faculty waiting. Sound familiar? This session introduces a five-step EdTech pilot framework built from real institutional experience, designed to keep evaluations moving, surface accessibility and AI concerns early, and give teams the structure to make confident adoption decisions.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Oceanic 3

The Imagineering of Change: Building Communities That Accelerate AI and Digital Innovation. (10108)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Sherri Castanzo, Sc.D. (Bowdoin College), Juli Haugen (Bowdoin College)
Abstract: Successful AI adoption requires more than technology—it requires community. Learn how Bowdoin College leveraged communities of practice, storytelling, and AI fellowships to build institutional capacity, foster cross-campus collaboration, and create sustainable pathways for innovation, professional learning, and digital transformation.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Asia 1

Belonging by Design: Fostering Student Connectedness Through Virtual Lab Immersion (10117)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Jana Hickman (Baylor University)
Abstract: Discover how intentional instructional design can promote belonging and connectedness in online learning. This presentation examines a three-day virtual lab immersion in a hybrid occupational therapy program and shares transferable strategies, grounded in Moore's Triangle of Interaction, for enhancing engagement, faculty presence, and community among geographically dispersed learners.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Oceanic 4

From Isolation to Innovation: How to Build High Impact Virtual PLCs that Work (10152)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Jennifer Reed (University of North Carolina at Charlotte)
Abstract: Online faculty don't have to teach alone. Learn how Virtual Professional Learning Communities (VPLCs) can create meaningful collaboration, strengthen teaching practice, and build lasting professional connections across distances. Based on a successful implementation study, you'll leave with actionable strategies, proven insights, and a practical plan for launching your own VPLC.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Asia 3

Beyond the Textbook: Designing Business Courses That Launch Careers (10333)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Renee Ford, Ph.D. (The Pennsylvania State University), Shelley Curling, Ph.D. (The Pennsylvania State University)
Abstract: In an era when AI can generate information instantly, career success depends on human competencies. Learn how instructional designers and faculty at Penn State's Smeal College of Business embed career-ready skills into courses through authentic assessments, active learning, and evidence-based design that connects classroom learning to workplace success.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Atlantic Exhibit Hall -- Engagement Hub

Open Play in the Engagement Hub (10577)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Open Play invites participants to explore creativity, collaboration, and communication through interactive, hands-on activities. Using visual prompts from story cubes to generate spontaneous narratives, experience how simple images can spark imagination, flexible thinking, and creative expression. Through the collaborative challenge of the Mystery Box, discover how taking seemingly unrelated materials to solve a creative task can highlight teamwork, resourcefulness, and the value of diverse perspectives and skills. And maybe even engage in a face-to-face simulation of an online discussion forum, role-playing familiar participant types such as the expert, newbie, skeptic, cheerleader, lurker, and de-railer to examine how different communication styles influence

group dialogue and engagement. Join us for our final Open Play session for this conference and experience firsthand how low-stakes, playful activities can foster community, encourage participation, uncover group dynamics, and support deeper learning.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Europe 1

Course Ready, AI Supported: A Connected Framework (10618)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Matthew Compton-Clark (Simple Higher Ed)
Abstract: Discover a practical framework for preparing stronger courses and supporting students with trustworthy AI. Attendees will examine automated and human review, AI grounded in approved course content, institutional data governance, and feedback loops that use student questions to guide ongoing improvement.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Europe 2

Before the Stakes Are Real: Scaling Career-Ready Communication Practice with Ovation (10620)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Jeff Marshall (VRSpeaking LLC)
Abstract: See how colleges and universities can give every student realistic, repeatable practice for interviews, presentations, and difficult conversations. This live Ovation demonstration features responsive AI avatars, customizable scenarios, personalized feedback, expanded access, and clearer insights into learner participation and progress.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Europe 3

Reimagine Learning with Interactive Course Design (10621)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Pamela Molero (Genially)
Abstract: Discover how Genially transforms online learning through interactive, multimodal experiences—perfect for kinesthetic, visual, and auditory learners. This session features dynamic examples, quick polls, and take-home ideas for creating accessible, no-code content. Walk away with scalable strategies grounded in UDL and digital pedagogy that truly make learning click.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Europe 4

Persistence Requires a Complete Picture: Data for Online, CE & Virtual Programs (10660)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Justin Vondra (Doowii)
Abstract: Online, CE, and K-12 virtual programs run on six-week blocks and self-paced tracks. Most data integrations break under that structure. Doowii's managed data foundation is built for it, giving teams persistence data early enough to act.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | Europe 5

Rethinking Assessment for the AI Era: A Flexible, Modular Approach with TimelyGrader (10661)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Robert Peregoodoff (TimelyGrader), Chris Du (TimelyGrader)
Abstract: Experience how TimelyGrader helps institutions and instructors rethink and redesign assessment for the AI era. Everyone is saying "We must redesign Assessment" but few are bold enough to share a vision. This demonstration connects instructor-guided, rubric-based grading and feedback with modular learning activities, including drafts, reflection, and oral assessments.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Asia 5

From Course Artifacts to AI-Powered Faculty Development: Design Your Own Instructional Insight Tool (9754)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Suzanne Healy, EdD (Case Western Reserve University)
Abstract: What if your syllabi, evaluations, and class data could talk back? In this hands-on workshop, explore PROF—an AI-powered faculty development tool—and then design your own. Reverse-engineer real outputs, build custom prompts, and leave with a practical blueprint to turn course artifacts into actionable teaching intelligence.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Oceanic 7

Baking in Storytelling and Accessibility: Efficient story construction with built-in accessibility workflow (9837)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Molly Caldera Arroyo, M.A. (Baylor University), Carolyn Scott, MEd, CPACC (Baylor University)
Abstract: In this session, participants will learn a practical AI-supported workflow for turning raw course materials into accessible, story-based learning experiences. Participants will practice prompting AI for story arcs, storyboards, characters, assets, and accessibility checkpoints, leaving with a reusable process for developing inclusive, production-ready narratives without treating accessibility as an afterthought.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere E1/E2

Before Burnout: Building Emotional Awareness in Online Educators (9901)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Anita Samuel (Uniformed Services University)
Abstract: Higher education faculty are navigating an era of compounding disruption. An overlooked dimension in professional development is the emotional conditions of learning. This workshop introduces the Emotional Readiness Inventory for Educators self-reflection tool. Participants complete the ERIE, interpret their profile, and apply a practical recovery tool to identify sustainable actions.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Americas Seminar

Strategic Rapid-Prototyping for the Next Era of Online Programming (10129)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Greg Weaver, PhD (University of Virginia-Main Campus), Paige McDonald, EdD (George Washington University), Gordon Louie (University of Iowa & Kwantlen Polytechnic University)
Abstract: This interactive workshop focuses on applying forward-thinking methodologies for online program development. We invite participants from diverse perspectives to engage with frameworks to drive data-informed decision-making. Through rapid prototyping activities grounded in design-thinking methodology, participants will work in cross-functional design sprints tackling real challenges in online program development.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Oceanic 8

From Ideation to Implementation: A Dual-Framework Studio for Innovative Collaborative Online Program Design (10142)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Amy Murzyn, EdD (College of St. Scholastica)
Abstract: This interactive workshop explores how Design Thinking and Project Management can work together to support collaborative, innovative online program design. Participants will engage in hands-on activities using learner personas, stakeholder mapping, prototyping, and project planning tools to create more inclusive, agile, and learner-centered digital learning experiences.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere D

The Value of Difference: Exploring the Valued Minds Model to Support Neurodiverse Learners (10195)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Megan Kohler (The Pennsylvania State University)
Abstract: As our understanding of neurodiversity has increased, we find ourselves in need of a holistic model that extends beyond condition-specific support. Join us for an engaging and transformational workshop as we explore The Valued Minds Model and illuminate the future of our classrooms with neurodiversity in mind.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere E3/E4

The Johari Window of GenAI in Teaching: Diagnostic Workshop for Academic Leaders on Awareness Gaps Shaping Institutions (10221)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Tawnya Means (Bowling Green State University)
Abstract: Institutional AI policy is being written on a thin, fast-moving evidence base. This workshop equips academic leaders with a diagnostic framework, the Johari Window of GenAI in Teaching, to identify where awareness gaps are widening and make concrete, evidence-grounded decisions about AI integration at the course, program, and institutional levels.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Oceanic 6

No Code, No Subscriptions, No Problem: Vibe-Coding Learning Activities for IDs (10286)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jason Johnston, PhD (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Cris Emberton (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Jian Su, PhD (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Tracey Aranzazu (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Abstract: Vibe-code your way from idea to learning object. No code background, no subscriptions, no LMS plug-ins. In this hands-on workshop, instructional designers will build timers, flashcards, scenarios, and small games using free AI chatbots, then leave with free tools, prompts, code, and a team integration playbook.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere C

Don’t Panic! The GOAT Toolkit to Help You Redesign Assessments for Visible Thinking in the GenAI Galaxy (10313)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Xiaoyan Ma Ph.D. (Virginia Tech), Daron Williams Ph.D. (Virginia Tech)
Abstract: Our traditional assessments grade the essay, the report, and the final project. Now AI generates those effortlessly. This workshop hands you the GenAI Online Assessment Toolkit (GOAT): practical tools for redesigning online assessments so human thinking is built in. Bring your assignments and see how these tools make them AI-resilient.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Oceanic 4

The Conversation Continues: Creating Student-Centered Online Courses for All Learners (10287)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Tina Calandrino, M.Ed. (University of Central Florida), Dr. Dominique Bailey (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: Online learning communities thrive when educators lead with empathy, consistency, and purposeful care. This conversation session explores how deliberate, quiet actions can build trust and belonging across all learner experiences. Together, we examine how small, human acts sustain connection when the world makes connection hard.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 1

A Protocol that Sparks Possibility: Navigating Common Challenges in the Online Space (9956)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Wendy Kubasko (Shippensburg University)
Abstract: Want to leverage the brilliance of peers navigating similar challenges? Through structured dialogue, participants will explore transforming problems of practice into professional strategies for alternative pathways and thinking. No prep needed-come with your wonderings and ideas. This session creates meaningful collaboration, offering participants new lenses for problem-solving and practical application.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 2

Asynchronous Faculty Development with Social Annotation (10033)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Patrick Horton (University of Illinois Chicago)
Abstract: Traditional faculty development models either do not align with busy instructor schedules or fail to build community. Discover an asynchronous book discussion model that leverages social annotation to support instructors while modeling high-impact online teaching practices. Attendees leave with a digital toolkit for adapting this program at their home institution.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 3

Beyond Captions: Exploring Advanced Approaches to tackle Math Accessibility in Lecture Capture Video (10153)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Christine Roach (Texas A&M University-College Station)
Abstract: Math-heavy instructional videos often present accessibility challenges that captions alone cannot address. Handwritten notation, visual problem-solving steps, equations that are never spoken aloud, and the relationship between narration and on-screen work can remain inaccessible. This session explores a resourceful approach to making that missing mathematical content more accessible.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 4

Bots with Purpose: Instructional Design Principles for AI-Powered Course Assistants (9863)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Cheryl Horten (The Pennsylvania State University), Dana Friedman (Pennsylvania State University-World Campus)
Abstract: This session presents a purposeful approach to building AI-powered course assistants that go beyond FAQ automation to become genuine instructional tools. Drawing on instructional design principles, presenters share how LMS-integrated course bots can reduce student anxiety and support instructor goals, with a practical, student-centered design framework attendees can apply immediately.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 5

Coaching for Connection: Supporting Online Students at Scale (9993)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Janessa Guzman (Florida International University), Jackie Coello (Florida International University)
Abstract: Online student success depends on intentional, relationship-centered support. This session highlights the Student Success Team at Florida International University (FIU Online) and its coaching model using proactive, multi-channel outreach and individualized conversations to foster belonging, persistence, and momentum through scalable, human-centered strategies.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 6

Feedback as Connection: A Self-Study of Instructor Feedback in Asynchronous Online Courses (9746)

Session Type: Graduate Student Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Victoria Buckley (University of Cincinnati)
Abstract: This work-in-progress explores instructor feedback as a relational practice in online asynchronous courses. Using artifacts from archived and current courses, this research examines responses to student work through a Relational-Cultural Theory lens. Participants will reflect on how their own practices foster or constrain connection, responsiveness, and power in online learning.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 7

From Compliance to Magic: Reframing Digital Accessibility Through Faculty Workshops (9822)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Christopher Mong, Ph.D. (Purdue University-Main Campus), Ben Holmes (Purdue University-Main Campus)
Abstract: As institutions prepare for Title II compliance, faculty need practical support rather than fear-based messaging. This session explores how online accessibility workshops can build awareness, foster engagement, and connect faculty with resources. Attendees will discuss communication strategies, support models, and tools that promote sustainable accessibility efforts.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 8

How Do We Design for Motivation? Exploring Self-Determination Theory (10267)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Julie Mendez (Purdue University-Main Campus)
Abstract: This Discovery Session explores how self-determination theory can enhance student motivation. Through brief examples and interactive discussion, participants will examine strategies to support autonomy, competence, and relatedness, and generate actionable ideas to improve engagement and effectiveness in their own digital or blended course designs.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 9

Igniting the Uninspired: A Gamified Strategy to Engage Reluctant Faculty in Professional Development (9940)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Jana Gerard (Northwest Missouri state University), Jackie Gomel (Northwest Missouri State University)
Abstract: Tired of sending generic emails to reluctant faculty, only to get radio silence? Change the game. Literally. In this fast-paced session, we turn faculty engagement into a puzzle. Team up with peers to dismantle barriers, swap success stories, and walk away with a gamified strategy that gets faculty excited.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 10

Oh, Hack No! Preparing for the Worst, so an LMS Breach Doesn't Become a Campus Crisis for Small Colleges. (9976)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Jill Winnington (Goldey-Beacom College), Dr. Susan Fugate Brangers (Goldey-Beacom College)
Abstract: This interactive session helps leaders across campus of small private colleges use the Spring 2026 LMS cyber incident to strengthen online campus resilience. Attendees will explore practical strategies for data protection, crisis communication, and academic continuity while engaging in discussion and reflection activities that support immediate, institution-specific action planning.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 11

Postdoctoral Fellowship for Emerging Scholars (9981)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Deepa Shriram, MA (Walden University), Savitri Dixon-Saxon, PhD (Walden University), Lyda Downs, PhD (Walden University)
Abstract: Walden University's Postdoctoral Fellowship program provides emerging scholars with professional development opportunities that direct them towards a path to become emerging scholars. Mentors, coaches, and staff guide Fellows using a structured annual plan with measurable quarterly activities and reflections that strengthen teaching skills, professional development, and community impact.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 12

The Multi-Threaded Studio: Principles for Success with Instructional Content Design, Production and Innovation (10332)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Chris Blakesley (University of Illinois Chicago)
Abstract: How can digital learning leaders build an agile media and instructional design studio that transcends reactive workflows? This session shares a project-centric framework through a three-year studio evolution. Attendees will explore a transferable 4-thread operational matrix designed to concurrently scale. Discover core administrative principles and innovation facilitation strategies.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Atlantic B - Position 13

With A Little Help From AI Friends: AI Usage and Expectations Among Online Computing Students and Instructional Staff (10126)

Session Type: Discovery Session
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Alex S. Duncan (Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus)
Abstract: Online students are using AI far more than instructors, but not in the ways you might expect. This session reveals surprising alignment between student AI practices and faculty expectations, alongside a critical trust gap, and offers actionable strategies for designing policies and learning experiences in the age of generative AI.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Oceanic 2

Measuring What Matters: Using Learning Time Data to Understand and Enhance Student Engagement (9628)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Parker Story (University of Pittsburgh)
Abstract: Struggling to meet RSI engagement requirements in your online or hybrid courses? This session introduces the Learning Time Estimator — a practical, customizable tool that calculates and categorizes student engagement hours. Attendees observe a live demonstration, complete a hands-on activity using the tool, and discuss practical applications for their institutions.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere III

AI-Powered Pathways: Aligning Learning, Faculty Practice, and Workforce Readiness Across Institutions (9638)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. Michael Webb (Capella University), Dr. Maja Zelihic (Capella University), Daniel McCarthy (Strategic Education, Inc.), Ashir Gruder (Strategic Education, Inc.)
Abstract: How can institutions move from AI experimentation to meaningful implementation? This session explores how universities are aligning learning design, faculty practice and workforce readiness through AI. Participants will examine practical models, contribute examples and apply strategies to integrate AI into learning, assessment and student skill development.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Asia 1

Cultivating Joy and Belonging in Gen Z Learning Communities (9732)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Heather Olson, Ph.D. (Florida SouthWestern State College), Vera Sullivan, Ph.D. (Florida SouthWestern State College), Dr. Camille Drake-Brassfield (Florida SouthWestern State College)
Abstract: Gen Z learners seek connection, relevance, and meaning in their learning experiences. This session introduces a research-informed framework grounded in self-determination theory to cultivate joy and belonging in online courses. Participants will redesign a learning activity using peer interaction and video discussion to foster authentic engagement.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Asia 4

Multimedia Mastery: Engaging Gen Z (and almost Alpha) in Higher Education (9751)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Erica Porter (EDV Learning Solutions)
Abstract: This presentation is designed to provide higher education faculty members with the tools and knowledge to integrate multimedia effectively into their course design, specifically tailored for Gen Z learners, and Gen Alpha on its way. Incorporating multimedia elements is crucial to keeping them engaged in their educational journey.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Oceanic 5

Closing the AI Competency Gap: Employer Research, Curriculum Design, and the Human Work of Change (9816)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. Jenifer Norton (Moravian University), Robyn Hammontree (D2L Corporation)
Abstract: Higher education is under pressure to produce AI-ready graduates, but lacks precise, practitioner-level data on what that actually means. This session presents a mixed-methods employer and alumni research model alongside a human-centered implementation framework to help institutions close the competency gap with both rigor and intention.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere A3/A4

Ditching Emotional Friction: The Power of Intentional Design (9884)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Heather Medley (Community Portal Self Registration Account), Tyler Stike (Honorlock)
Abstract: Student confidence, engagement, and academic integrity are deeply connected to emotional well-being. Explore how intentional course design can reduce anxiety, confusion, and disengagement through practical strategies, including human-centered assessment, clearer pathways, and emotionally supportive learning experiences that increase confidence, persistence, and stronger academic performance in online environments.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere IV

Test Day Anywhere: Implementing Remote State Summatives (A Practical Statewide Model from Utah) (9900)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Ms. DelRae L. Mullins, M.A. (Utah Connections Academy), Ms. Merilee Gandy, M.Ed. (Utah Connections Academy)
Abstract: Transitioning to remote statewide summative assessments requires careful planning and stakeholder cooperation to maintain test integrity and reduce costs. The Utah case study demonstrates a successful two-year initiative of securely administering remote tests, covering strategic planning, live proctoring, and post-test reflections for future policy recommendations.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere II

Scaffolding at Scale: Leveraging GenAI to Support Engagement and Learning in Online Environments (10001)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Hong Wang, Ph.D. (Northern Virginia Community College), Jean Mandernach, Ph.D. (Grand Canyon University)
Abstract: As online learning continues grow, providing timely, personalized, and meaningful instructional support remains a persistent challenge for educators. This session frames GenAI as a pedagogical partner to scaffold online learners at scale through various ways. Participants will leave with practical ideas and strategies to apply in their own online courses.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Europe 2

Assessing in the Age of AI: Challenges, Opportunities, and New Design Thinking (10006)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Min Yuan (Georgia Tech), Fatimah Wirth (Georgia Tech)
Abstract: AI is transforming how we design and experience assessments in higher education. This interactive session explores AI's impact across the assessment spectrum, from quizzes and exams to authentic tasks, examines practical strategies for more effective and future-ready assessments, and invites attendees to apply these strategies through real-world scenarios.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Oceanic 3

Teaching with Intention: A 5-Lens PAUSE Framework for Flexible Online Learning Design (10008)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Fanny Tsai, UC Irvine (University of California, Irvine)
Abstract: Online courses can quietly become too complicated for both students and faculty. This session introduces the 5-Lens PAUSE Framework- P edagogical Fit, A ccess, U sability, S ustainability, and E quity to help educators pause, simplify online learning decisions, use flexible strategies, and design a more supportive student learning experience.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Asia 3

Leading with Critical Curiosity: Building Capacity for Instructional Change (10095)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Nicole Weber (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater), Dylan Barth (Online Learning Consortium)
Abstract: Instructional change is no longer episodic. It's constant, overlapping, and often under-supported. This interactive session invites academic leaders to adopt critical curiosity, prioritize strategically, fund professional learning, clarify expectations, and build capacity for sustainable change. Participants will leave with key questions to drive action-planning when they return to their campus.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere V

The Messy Middle: Our Journey to Streamlining Course Development Processes (10166)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Jennifer Zaur (University of Arizona Global Campus), Dr. Ana Redstone (University of Arizona Global Campus), Dr. Amy Johnson (University of Arizona Global Campus), Dr. Allison Rief (University of Arizona Global Campus)
Abstract: When course development processes become barriers rather than supports, redesign is essential. This session shares lessons learned from evaluating and improving workflows, stakeholder communication, and faculty support. Participants will leave with actionable strategies for identifying friction points, managing change, and creating more effective development processes.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere A1/A2

Designing Online Graduate Student Programs to Enhance Student Engagement (10174)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Stephanie M. Foote (Gardner Institute)
Abstract: Online graduate students need more than content delivery; they need connection, community, and opportunities for authentic learning. Drawing on the Online Engagement Framework and High-Impact Practices, this session presents evidence-based strategies for designing online graduate courses that intentionally foster social, cognitive, collaborative, behavioral, and emotional engagement among adult learners.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere I

Practice Makes Perfect: Using Virtual Audiences and AI Feedback to Strengthen Student Communication (10189)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Georgette Kluiters (University of Florida), Ms. Ally Fleischer (University of Florida)
Abstract: Imagine students rehearsing presentations, defenses, and interviews, answering audience questions, and receiving immediate feedback before a high-stakes academic or professional presentation. This session explores how AI-generated audiences, real-time questioning, and automated communication feedback create scalable practice opportunities for learners. Participants will experience the technology firsthand and gain practical implementation strategies.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Oceanic 1

From Vision to Launch: Building an Online Faculty Institute that Cultivates Teaching Excellence and Belonging (10272)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Chris Zakrzewski, Ed.D. (Baylor University)
Abstract: In a time of rapid change and growing online learning, faculty need support that develops both competence and connection. Explore Baylor University's Online Faculty Institute (OFI), a year-long model that cultivates instructional excellence, professional belonging, and sustained engagement among online educators.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Asia 2 -- The Sanctuary

Illuminating Balance: Practical Wellness Strategies (9824)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Dr. Jacquelyn Cato (Instructional Connections)
Abstract: Join this interactive engagement session to explore practical wellness strategies designed to support balance and overall well-being. While reflecting on their own habits, attendees will examine actionable tools for managing workload, stress, and fatigue. The session will equip attendees with strategies to enhance personal well-being and promote balance in life.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | Europe 1

Authenticity in the AI Era: Reading the Signals of a Student's Own Work (10665)

Session Type: Solution Showcase Session - Demonstration
Track: N/A
Speakers: Tal Havivi (Superhuman)
Abstract: When a student's work comes into question, what should an institution actually look at? Superhuman shares what it's learned about authentic work in the AI era, and why reading several signals together gives instructors and students a clearer, fairer picture than any single score.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Asia 4

From Mandate to Momentum: Scaling Asynchronous Professional Learning Through Strategic Pivoting (9558)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Samantha Reynolds (South Carolina ETV and Public Radio), Sharonda Johnson (South Carolina ETV and Public Radio)
Abstract: When legislative changes shifted educator recertification responsibilities back to school districts, a statewide public media network rapidly developed an asynchronous professional learning initiative. Discover how educator-created content, strategic partnerships, and flexible online learning supported statewide implementation and what other organizations can learn from this approach to navigating change.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Oceanic 1

Expanding Interdisciplinary Education Through Project-Based Collaboration (9606)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Kaitlyn Cremer, OTD, SCLV (Baylor University)
Abstract: Looking to expand interdisciplinary education within your institution? Explore how a primarily virtual collaboration between occupational therapy and engineering students improved teamwork and communication outcomes. This session shares pilot findings and design strategies for implementing scalable, project-based collaboration in hybrid and distributed learning environments.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Europe 5

Do Interactive, Ungraded Activities Actually Improve Online Student Outcomes? A Meta-Analysis (9651)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Jess Kahlow (University of Texas at Arlington)
Abstract: Do the interactive, ungraded activities we build into online courses actually help students succeed? The literature says both yes and no, depending on which study you read. This session cuts through that contradiction with a preliminary random-effects meta-analysis of 10+ quantitative studies and delivers an evidence-based answer.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Europe 1

From Prompt to Canvas: One Professor's AI Workflow (9723)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Wayne Yeatman (Central Oregon Community College)
Abstract: What does it actually look like when a community college professor uses AI as a daily teaching tool — not as a gimmick, but as a genuine workflow partner?

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Asia 5

Illuminate Your Team: Building Sustainable, High-Impact Remote Instructional Design Teams Through Intentional Leadership (9794)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Sydney Wilk (Virginia Commonwealth University), Cairo Jones (Virginia Commonwealth University), Nicki Nasrin (Virginia Commonwealth University)
Abstract: Remote instructional design teams face burnout in high-demand digital learning environments. This session explores how leaders can build resilient, high-performing teams through intentional check-ins, clear systems, and meaningful recognition in a remote environment. Attendees will gain practical strategies to reduce cognitive load, support well-being, and foster sustainable, engaged team cultures.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Oceanic 5

AI-Assisted, Human-Guided: Turning an Everyday Problem into a Working Solution (9834)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Addie Sweet (Purdue University-Main Campus), Tori Hart (Purdue University-Main Campus)
Abstract: What happens when you understand the problem but don’t know how to build the solution? Follow one educational technology consultant’s journey from recurring operational frustration to a working automated solution, using generative AI to learn, troubleshoot, and iterate while keeping human expertise at the center of every decision.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Europe 4

Designers Comic: Using AI to Turn Course Content into Graphic Narratives (9859)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Ricardo Lopez (The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)
Abstract: As AI reshapes digital learning, educators have new opportunities to become storytellers. This session demonstrates how AI-generated graphic narratives can transform traditional course content into immersive learning experiences that provide context, spark curiosity, and help students connect with complex concepts.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Asia 3

Time by Design: Architecting Student Time Management in Asynchronous Online STEM Courses (10042)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Arunava Roy (University of Oklahoma)
Abstract: Time management is the hidden curriculum of asynchronous online learning and most courses leave students to figure it out alone. Drawing on an ongoingstudy, this session presents one central argument: time management is a design responsibility. Attendees will walk away with one question that reshapes how they design their courses.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Asia 1

Beyond Lurking: Attitudinal Communities and Engagement Trajectories in Online Courses (10078)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: David Joyner (Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus)
Abstract: We routinely label students who don't post in online discussions as "lurkers"—but what does that label tell us? Drawing on forum logs, social presence surveys, and network-based community detection, this session challenges the deficit framing of passive participation and reveals the diverse experiential worlds hiding behind this behavioral category.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Oceanic 4

Accelerating Student and Faculty Success with Pacing Guides (10107)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment

Speakers: Dr. Heather Rivera, DNP, RN (Chamberlain University-Administrative Office), Dr. Justin Wiethop, D.C., MTAA (Chamberlain University-Administrative Office), Dr. Paul Mueller, PhD (Chamberlain University-Illinois)
Abstract: Online students often struggle with time management despite flexible course designs. This session explores how assignment pacing guides can reduce overwhelm, support consistent engagement, and improve outcomes for both students and faculty. Participants will learn practical strategies for designing and implementing pacing guides in online courses.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Oceanic 3

AI literacy as a key driver of user experience in AI- powered assessment: insights from Socratic mind (10118)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jeonghyun Lee (Georgia Tech - Center for 21st Century Universities)
Abstract: As AI-powered learning tools proliferate in higher education, a critical question emerges: do students actually know how to use them well? Drawing on data from 309 undergraduates using an AI-based oral assessment tool, this session reveals that AI literacy—not prior AI exposure—is what determines whether students benefit.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Oceanic 2

Then and Now: The Evolution of Wearable Technologies from COVID-19 Disruption to AI-Enabled Faculty Performance (10215)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Suzanne Ensmann (The University of Tampa), Dr. Aimee Whiteside (The University of Tampa)
Abstract: Are faculty wearables becoming ambient AI partners? This cross-sectional follow-up study examines how university faculty's use of wearable technology has shifted from COVID-19 health monitoring to AI-enabled performance, productivity, and social presence. Using a five-category taxonomy, researchers reveal trends and implications for instructional design, faculty development, and social presence theory.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Europe 2

From AI Use to AI Fluency: Advancing Ethical, Critical, and Responsible AI Integration in Higher Education (10285)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Douglene Jackson, PhD, OTR/L (Southern California University of Health Sciences)
Abstract: As artificial intelligence becomes embedded across professions, higher education must move beyond teaching students how to use AI and focus on developing AI fluency. This session introduces the AI with EASE Framework and practical applications of AI tools to support learning, professionalism, critical thinking, ethical decision-making, and workforce readiness.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Europe 3

Stay HONEST: How Ethical AI Can Illuminate the Future of Nursing Research (10334)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Tanya L. W. Morris (Monroe University)
Abstract: Artificial intelligence is reshaping nursing research education, yet its speed can quietly weaken scholarly judgment. This session introduces the HONEST framework, helping educators detect bias, protect academic integrity, safeguard patient data, and preserve critical thinking. Discover how ethical AI becomes a thinking partner advancing rigorous, responsible nursing research.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere I

AI-Aware Teaching (10667)

Session Type: Featured Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Marc Watkins (University of Mississippi)
Abstract: AI is the subject of provocative pedagogy. It is contested, consequential, ethically tangled, and changing weekly. How can we help students develop discernment when they approach this new technology? This session will explore responses to AI gathered from the Norton Guide to AI-Aware Teaching.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 5

Opening the Door, but not Entering: Strategies to Support Adult Students to Apply AND Enroll (9582)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment

Speakers: Dr. Juliette Punchello (Thomas Edison State University)
Abstract: Adult students apply to college but many not enroll due to financial pressures, debt aversion, and professional responsibilities. Institutions can help by communicating the value of a degree, and provide affordable options.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 3

Down with Discussions - Using Open Ended Community Input Style Topics Instead of Traditional Discussions (9730)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Justin Wiethop, D.C., MTAA (Chamberlain University-Administrative Office), Nazish Siddiqi, MD,MPH,MS-HAPI (Chamberlain University-Administrative Office), Faye Bradbury, M.S., PhD (Chamberlain University-Administrative Office)
Abstract: With the growing use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the classroom, it is important to create assignments where the input of AI can be limited. In this session, we will demonstrate the construction of open-ended questions for an online course that requires more human input to answer.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Europe 2

From Guidance to Growth: The Evolving Power of Mentorship (9774)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Bryan Aylward (University of Arizona)
Abstract: Exploring four essential mentorship models, traditional one-on-one, peer-to-peer, reverse, and group mentorship, and their impact on careers. Participants examine how mentorship drives development not only for mentees, but also for mentors, reframing mentorship as a dynamic, reciprocal process that fosters learning, adaptability, and leadership in a rapidly evolving professional landscape.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Europe 5

Do you know how your course looks on a smartphone? Your students do. (9843)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment

Speakers: Mindy Colin, PhD (University of California-Santa Barbara), Samantha Eastman (University of California-Riverside), Margaret Merrill (University of California-Davis), Alex Rockey (Bakersfield College)
Abstract: Traditional course design that assumes students sit at computers to study can create barriers for students with complex life circumstances. Using survey data from 1,500+ students, researchers share data-driven insights into students' use of smartphones for learning, how mobile-friendly course design advances educational access, and actionable course redesign resources.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 2

Mentoring Future Instructional Designers: An ID Internship Initiative (9911)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Sara Ombres (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Worldwide)
Abstract: Our Instructional Design Internship Program has provided multiple current students and recent graduates with meaningful, real-world ID experience while also creating a valuable hiring pathway for our Instructional Design team. In this session, we'll discuss the program and lessons learned while sharing the successes seen in the data.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 6

AI in Action: How My Marketing Students Build Smarter, Stronger Brands (9932)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Shanika Wright Turner (Georgia Highlands College)
Abstract: Discover how marketing students use artificial intelligence to build smarter, stronger brands. This session highlights assignments where students use AI to conduct market research, create customer personas, develop content, and design marketing strategies. Attendees will leave with practical ideas for integrating AI to enhance creativity, critical thinking, and learning outcomes.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Asia 4

From Zero to Online: An 8-Month Institutional Transformation (9962)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy

Speakers: Corynn Carnio (Maine College of Art & Design), Rachel Somerville (Maine College of Art & Design)
Abstract: How do you launch online programs in less than eight months with limited staff, legacy systems, and no prior online infrastructure? Maine College of Art & Design shares its transformation from a campus-based institution to an emerging provider of online graduate education through cross-functional collaboration.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Asia 1

Care and Rigor: Emotionally Intelligent Conversations About AI in the Classroom (9985)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Amy Martin (Colorado Technical University)
Abstract: Care is an intentional practice, a skill that can be learned, and something that educators need to continually commit to delivering. Grounded in emotional intelligence, humanizing the online classroom through genuine care for students and faculty helps everyone navigate the complexities from AI's emergence with empathy, trust, and shared purpose.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Europe 1

From procedure to prediction: a design framework for courses where students interpret evidence (10043)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Arunava Roy (University of Oklahoma)
Abstract: Too many course assignments are designed to confirm, not to challenge. This session presents a concrete framework for redesigning any evidence-based task around prediction, inquiry, and reflection. Examples come from astronomy lab redesigns, but the core move; predict before you know, return to that prediction after transfers to any discipline.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 4

From Passive Content to Active Investigation: Designing for Student Engagement (10050)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Katie S. Lamb, M.Ed. (Medical University of South Carolina)

Abstract: Static assignments often position students as passive consumers of content rather than active participants in real-world problem solving. This session explores how scenario-based investigations designed within the LMS—and enhanced through branching experiences—can create more engaging, applied learning experiences that support richer student-content interaction, authentic decision-making, and deeper student engagement.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Europe 4

Creating Community on the Digital Campus: AI, Ethics, and Empathy in Student Services (10056)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Samantha Adamczewski (University of Notre Dame)
Abstract: As AI reshapes student services, how do we ensure students feel seen in the online classroom and remain connected after graduation? This session will tackle the intersection of AI, ethics, accessibility, and empathy, providing practical strategies and resources to champion student belonging in the digital classroom.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Asia 3

The Dual Role of AI in Online Project-Based Learning at Scale (10075)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: David Joyner (Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus)
Abstract: When students in an online graduate course reach for AI, what are they actually doing—and what are they building? Drawing on surveys and project data from 467 students across six semesters, this session presents a framework for understanding AI's dual role in project-based learning: as tool and as medium.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Europe 3

Immersive Virtual Simulation in Graduate Nursing: The Impact of Online Engagement on Learning Success (10109)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Christi Doherty, DNP, RN, CNE (Kaplan North America)

Abstract: Research that evaluated an immersive, case-based virtual simulation resource among 1,331 graduate nursing students examined how online engagement impacts clinical learning. Regression modeling revealed that active participation significantly drove learning enhancement, whereas traditional study habits paradoxically decreased success odds. These data-driven findings help faculty optimize future immersive digital pedagogies.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Asia 5

Beyond Shared Drives: Capturing and Sharing Knowledge in Instructional Design Teams (10127)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Kileigh Munso, MS (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Abstract: Instructional design teams generate enormous amounts of knowledge, but where does it live, how is it shared, and how does it evolve? This session explores practical strategies for organizing knowledge, capturing team expertise, and maintaining sustainable knowledge-sharing practices that reduce duplicated effort, improve collaboration, and create space for creativity & innovation.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | Oceanic 1

Does Claude AI dream of Higher Education? Possible AI futures for Instructional Designers and Faculty (10240)

Session Type: Express Session (15 Min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Mark A. Lewis (SUNY Empire State University)
Abstract: This presentation explores what Claude AI predicts for the future of higher education instructional designers and faculty. Using Joseph Davis's four megatrends: artificial intelligence, globalization, demographics, and government debt, as a question framework, it presents seven AI-generated scenarios spanning 5-year and 10-year horizons to inform institutional strategic planning amid uncertainty.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Asia 1

Building a Successful Team Online: Faculty and Administration Partnership and Collaboration in Digital Higher Education (9548)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy

Speakers: Maggie Broderick, PhD (National University), Lisa St. Louis, PhD, MEd (National University), Edward Kim, PhD (National University), Deborah Nelson, PhD (National University), Brianna Parsons, EdD (National University), Jen Aniano (National University)
Abstract: This conversation will be led by faculty and administrators at an online HEI. We believe in building strong partnerships and collaboration behind the scenes. Let's discuss what works for other online teams and how you navigate difficulties toward positive outcomes. Bring your ideas, experiences, and reflections to this important conversation!

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere V

Reclaiming Faculty Time: Using AI to Reduce Busywork and Protect Time for Teaching (9637)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Michael Webb (Capella University), Dr. Maja Zelihic (Capella University), Daniel McCarthy (Strategic Education, Inc.), Dr. Sara Drake (Capella University)
Abstract: How much teaching time is spent answering the same questions? This session explores how AI integrated into course design and communication workflows can reduce faculty busywork and protect time for meaningful teaching. Participants will identify inefficiencies and apply strategies to redesign workflows for improved efficiency and engagement.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere E1/E2

From Course Design to Course Facilitation: Supporting Effective Online Teaching (9644)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Scott Nolt, Ed.D. (Medical University of South Carolina)
Abstract: Great course design is not enough; online teaching makes the difference. This session explores practical strategies using communication, feedback, and presence to enhance the online learning experience for students and instructors. Discuss how to apply these practices through formal training, coaching, or informal faculty support to increase engagement and satisfaction.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Oceanic 7

Hesitancy isn't resistance: Rethinking faculty innovation adoption in the post-pandemic and AI era (9647)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. Ariel Fleurimond, Ed.D (Columbia University, School of Professional Studies)
Abstract: This session presents findings from a mixed-methods study examining faculty hesitancy toward innovation in higher education. Participants will use the Diffusion of Innovations (DOI) framework to explore practical strategies for supporting sustainable innovation adoption in the post-pandemic and AI era.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Oceanic 5

Breaking the Board: Redesigning Discussion Boards for Authentic Engagement (9742)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Wendy Kubasko (Shippensburg University)
Abstract: Tired of discussion boards that feel compliance-driven rather than meaningful? This interactive session will explore practical strategies to transform discussion boards to authentic, collaborative spaces. Participants will have opportunities to share their own experiences, exchange ideas, and leave with next steps for immediate application into their courses.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Oceanic 3

Syncing Success: HyFlex by Design — Integrating Synchronous and Asynchronous Delivery for Deeper Learning (9770)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Roseanna J. Wright (Holy Family University), Dr. Maria Agnew (Holy Family University)
Abstract: This longitudinal study examines whether intentionally integrating synchronous and asynchronous HyFlex delivery, rather than treating modalities as alternatives, produces measurable improvements in student outcomes. Tracking special education teacher candidates through Praxis certification, supervisor evaluations, and alumni self-reports, it also explores how design enables cross-cultural identity formation through a U.S.-German partnership

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Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Asia 3

To Infinity and Beyond: What's Next for AI in the Online Classroom, Grading with AI, and AI Beyond (9778)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)

Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Kersten Schroeder (University of Central Florida), Jessica Tojo-Raible (University of Central Florida), Corey Peterson (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: Like Toy Story, this session is about growth, adaptation, and reimagining what's possible. Rather than focusing on one AI tool, we present a journey of experimentation and evolution grounded in real practice & multiple perspectives. Through storytelling, humor, & critical reflection, we guide participants from skepticism to confidence in using AI effectively.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Oceanic 2

The Sequence Is the Strategy: Why Instructional Design, Not AI, Determines Online Learning Outcomes (9803)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Desiree Bowlby (University of Colorado Colorado Springs)
Abstract: Post-secondary online learning often fails not because of technological gaps, but because of sequencing gaps. This session demonstrates how reordering the instructional arc: placing conceptual foundation before content, practice before application, dramatically improves learner outcomes in asynchronous environments, regardless of the AI tools deployed.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Europe 1

Humor, Flexibility, and Good Timing: Building System-Wide AI Professional Development (9813)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Graceful Beam (Georgia Northwestern Technical College)
Abstract: What happens when AI professional development is built close to the news cycle instead of a curriculum plan? More than 500 educators, 20+ colleges, 37 sessions, and a repeat attendance pattern that reflects genuine engagement. This session presents the structural decisions behind a model that works without a budget line.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Oceanic 8

Proactive AI Support: Scaling Student Care Without Losing the Human Touch (9848)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment

Speakers: Rena Barbosa (West Coast University), Heather Pelkie, M.A. (West Coast University)
Abstract: Learn how proactive AI support can help institutions meet students at their moment of need. This session explores an AI-powered student support pilot designed to provide 24/7 assistance, identify risk earlier, connect students to resources, and strengthen learner success while preserving human care, oversight, and trust.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Europe 2

Building Feedback-Rich Environments: Strategies for Self and Peer Review in Instructional Design (9881)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Nicole Messier (University of Illinois Chicago)
Abstract: Want to create online courses that deepen learning and build student confidence? In this presentation, we will explore how self-review, peer feedback, and metacognitive strategies can transform your course design. These techniques not only enhance student performance; they also foster ownership, reflection, and meaningful engagement.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere I

Strategic Course Renewal: Balancing Learner Success, Academic Quality, and ROI in Online Programs (9934)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Bryan Aylward (University of Arizona Global Campus), Jennifer Zaur (University of Arizona Global Campus), Dr. Allison Rief (University of Arizona Global Campus), Annie Phalen (Online Education Services, Inc (OES)), Daniel Kalef (Online Education Services, Inc (OES))
Abstract: Exploring strategic approaches to online course renewal that balance learner success, academic quality, operational efficiency, and long-term sustainability. Presenters from UAGC and OES will share practical frameworks for evaluating refresh, revision, and redevelopment decisions using learner feedback, retention data, faculty input, governance considerations, and institutional priorities across online program portfolios.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere E3/E4

From Compliance to Capability: AI-Assisted Digital Accessibility for Complex Biomedical Content in Graduate Education (9959)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)

Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Katherine C. Aquino, Ph.D. (Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey), Patricio Mujica, Ph.D. (Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey)
Abstract: This session explores how institutions can move beyond Title II compliance to build sustainable digital accessibility practices for complex biomedical content. Using a graduate biomedical sciences case study, participants will examine scalable strategies for accessible scientific visuals, AI-assisted alternative text development, faculty engagement, and systems-level implementation adaptable across STEM disciplines.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere II

Taking the BIG out of AmBIGuity: Strategies for Multi-Modality Course Design (9963)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Larissa Cremeens (Purdue University-Main Campus), Liz Benson (Purdue University-Main Campus)
Abstract: What happens when one course becomes five? This case study explores how instructional designers and a video producer navigated evolving challenges across multiple course modalities. This session highlights lessons learned, collaborative workflows, and emerging technology strategies developed through real-time course design and delivery.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Oceanic 1

Tiered, Sustained, Connected: A Faculty Mentoring Model That Meets Instructors Where They Are (9972)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Alexandria Deaton (University of the Cumberlands)
Abstract: Faculty development works best when it's relational and differentiated. Explore how the University of the Cumberlands built a tiered mentoring model that supports faculty from course setup through every week of the term. Walk away with real examples and a clear sense of what to bring back to your institution.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Europe 5

eLearning Authoring Tool vs. LMS: Student Performance and Preference in Online Graduate Education (10037)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Lama Bergstrand Othman, Ph.D. (university of Wisconsin-Whitewater)
Abstract: This session presents findings from a three-phase study comparing instruction delivered through an eLearning authoring tool versus a Learning Management System in an online graduate course. Using a crossover design with 45 students, the study examines quiz performance, student preference, and engagement through multilevel modeling and survey data.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere A3/A4

Who Are Online Student Parents? Voices, Data, and What Institutions Must Do Differently (10038)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Lei Luo, MBA, MASS (Western Governors University), Lauren Santoro, PhD (Western Governors University)
Abstract: Student parents are enrolled in online higher education in significant numbers, yet institutions rarely see them. Drawing on a large-scale mixed-methods study of online undergraduate student parents, this session presents new data on who they are, what they face, and what institutions can do right now.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Oceanic 6

Rhetorical Choices & Voice: Building Student Agency Using Generative-AI (10047)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Guy J. Krueger (University of Mississippi)
Abstract: This session will include audience participation in examining how generative-AI can be used to help students make complex rhetorical choices and consider their unique voices as writers. The presenter will also share writing assignment ideas and students' reflective thoughts on their work.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Asia 5

From 0% to 100%: Creating and Implementing an Online Design Checklist and Course Review Process (10057)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Kade Parry (Snow College), Melanie Jenkins, Ed.D (Snow College)
Abstract: Ensuring quality in online course design is an essential, yet difficult, process for institutions of higher education. By sharing our experience of establishing institutional design standards, this presentation reveals the streamlined process that helped our institution reduce achievement gaps by ensuring 100% of our online courses met design checklist standards.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere D

The Power of a Nudge: Scalable Targeted Interventions to Influence Online Learner Persistence and Success (10068)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Mary Berkery, PhD (Excelsior University), Melissa Forrest (Excelsior University)
Abstract: This session highlights the impact of a multi-year, cross-university "Strong Start Project", focusing on two effective interventions: registration nudges and Continual Persistence and Retention (CPR). Participants will examine data-informed outreach strategies for at-risk online learners and discuss adapting these scalable practices for their own environments.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Europe 3

Course Building With Limited Resources: Creating Firm but Flexible Systems (10092)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Susan Leigh Brooks, Ph.D. (Faith+Lead Academy at Luther Seminary), Jhenna Becker, M.A. (Luther Seminary)
Abstract: Join us for a conversational session to share course-building challenges and solutions in settings with limited resources and staff. We will provide examples from our experience as a two-member team integrating curated tools, empowered contributors, and replicable workflows into a firm but flexible system for course building

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Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Americas Seminar

When AI Literacy Isn't What We Think It Is: What Happens When We Measure Knowledge Instead of Confidence? (10130)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Christine D. DeStefano, PhD (University of Central Florida), Patsy Moskal, Ph.D. (University of Central Florida), Abigail Carden (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: Using a factual AI literacy instrument developed to assess knowledge rather than self-perceived competence, this session draws on multi-semester data from over 4,000 higher education students examining the relationship between academic generative AI (GenAI) use and AI literacy, challenging common assumptions about AI readiness and informing institutional AI literacy efforts.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere III

Designing for the Designers: A Culture-First Approach to Thriving Instructional Design Teams (10160)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Stephanie Tammen, Ph.D. (University of Arizona), Adam Davi, M.A., M.S. (University of Arizona), Cathy Russell, M.S. (University of Arizona)
Abstract: Somewhere between “do more with less” and “can you also learn AI by next Tuesday, November 17, 2026?” lies the challenge of sustaining the humans behind digital learning. Introducing: culture-by-design! Our approach to community-building for IDs.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Asia 4

Vibe Coding for Accessibility: From Brightspace Export to Actionable Fix List (10178)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Pamela Doran, EdD Candidate (SUNY Empire State University), Michael Fortune (SUNY Empire State University), Jennifer Sutcliffe (Empire State University), Mark Lewis (SUNY Empire State University)
Abstract: What happens when a non-technical accessibility practitioner uses “vibe coding” to solve a real course review problem? This session shares the development of Online A11y, a local desktop tool that scans Brightspace course exports and turns WCAG-aligned accessibility issues into an actionable checklist for remediation teams.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere A1/A2

What a Test Can't See: AI That Resists Students to Reveal How They Actually Think (10264)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Michael Kentz (AI Friction Labs)
Abstract: Most classroom AI is built to help—which often means doing the thinking for students. This session presents the opposite: AI built to resist. Across three classrooms, students taught, explained, and defended ideas to bots that refused easy answers. The conversation transcripts revealed what tests cannot: who actually understands.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Oceanic 4

Building AI-Enabled Academic Operations Without New Staff: A Practitioner Model for Lean Institutions (10265)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Sean Owen, Ph.D. (Mississippi State University)
Abstract: How does a small academic unit design and launch 40 courses in two years without adding personnel? This session presents a model for building AI-enabled academic operations that extend institutional capacity without expanding headcount. Attendees will leave with a starter template for designing AI-assisted processes suited to lean academic environments.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Northern Hemisphere C

Uncharted Waters: Implementing an Asynchronous VR Simulation in Social Work Education (10274)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Cris Emberton (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Mayank Saxena (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Dani Powers (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Abstract: This session explores how a fully asynchronous online social work program implemented virtual reality learning experiences for distance learners. Participants will learn how this immersive experience was designed, developed, scaled, and supported, including cross-functional collaboration, LMS integration, headset deployment, and student support strategies for experiential learning, contextual understanding, and more.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Europe 4

From Innovation to Infrastructure: Building Scalable Digital Learning Ecosystems Through Operational Intelligence (10294)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. Karina Hernandez (Austin Community College District)
Abstract: As institutions expand online learning, workforce education, and credential pathways, innovation often outpaces operational infrastructure. This session explores how Austin Community College is building a scalable digital learning ecosystem through operational intelligence, governance, and strategic alignment. Attendees will gain practical frameworks for sustaining innovation and organizational growth.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere IV

Designing Joyful Assessment with AI Agents Where Integrity and Engagement Meet (10318)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Xiaoyan Ma Ph.D. (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), Wei Li Ph.D. (Stevens Institute of Technology)
Abstract: What if assessment felt joyful instead of stressful? This session shows you how to design assessments where AI agents are built in on purpose. Watch a live walkthrough where an AI agent plays stakeholder personas and dialogue becomes the evidence of learning, then sketch a redesign for your course.

Thursday, November 19, 2026

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM | Asia 2 - The Sanctuary

3-Minute Resets: Seated Yoga for Everyday Ease (10568)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Charlotte Jones-Roberts (University of Central Florida)
Abstract: Discover simple, effective ways to reset your body and mind without leaving your chair. In this 45-minute seated yoga session, participants will learn a collection of accessible three-minute practices to relieve tension, improve circulation, support posture, and create moments of calm throughout the day. Through gentle chair-based movement, mindful breathing, and grounding pauses, you will build a practical toolkit for use at a desk, while traveling, between meetings, or whenever you need a quick reset. Open to all levels; no prior yoga experience required.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Asia 2 -- The Sanctuary

The Sanctuary (10554)

Session Type: Other
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Our Sanctuary room is a quiet, reflective space available for all conference attendees to use. This is a quiet space room where disturbances should be kept to a minimum to allow conference attendees to rest and recharge. The Sanctuary room is open during regular conference hours. During the conference, join us for some quiet time to decompress, reconnect mind and body, and practice some self-care as we turn our focus inward for a short while. Mindfulness has been defined as a practice of “bringing one’s attention to the internal and external experiences occurring in the present moment” (Baer, 2003). Join us in the Sanctuary today for some special mindfulness sessions (see the engagement schedule), or just to relax and decompress a bit throughout the day.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 8:15 AM - 9:45 AM | Pacific Hall (2)

Attendee Breakfast (10668)

Session Type: Other
Track: N/A
Speakers:
Abstract: Join us for continental breakfast and specialty coffee service, followed by our plenary panel.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM | Pacific Hall

Educating for Human Agency: What Learning Must Become in an AI-Transformed World (10652)

Session Type: Plenary Address
Track: N/A
Speakers: Tawnya Means - moderator (Bowling Green State University), B. Jean Mandernach (Grand Canyon University), Jenifer Norton (Moravian University), Ayisha Irfan (Augmented Intelligence Advisory)
Abstract: Artificial intelligence is changing not only how people learn and work, but also what it means to be capable, credible, and prepared. Yet much of higher education's response remains focused on tools, policies, and the quality of AI-generated answers. The more consequential question is what learners must still be able to understand, discern, create, communicate, and defend for themselves.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Northern Hemisphere A3/A4

Where Is Your Online University? Mapping Place in Digital Learning (9781)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Catherine Esposito (The Pennsylvania State University)
Abstract: What does an online university look like as a place? In this interactive session, participants create visual maps of online learning environments informed by student research. Together, we explore how tools, physical and digital spaces, and relationships shape engagement, belonging, and identity in digital education.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Oceanic 6

Building Relationships and Rapport Between Online Faculty and Graduate Students: Illuminating the Path in Digital Spaces (10052)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Cary Gillenwater, PhD (National University), Maggie Broderick, PhD (National University)
Abstract: We will present scenarios crafted from both research and personal experiences to stimulate discussion on ideas for relationship-building and rapport between online faculty and graduate students. Please join us for an important discussion about how to build and maintain positive relationships and rapport in digital spaces!

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Oceanic 7

Beyond the Awareness Trap: Designing the Path from AI Literacy to True Fluency (10328)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Thomas Mathews Horne (Fort Hays State University)
Abstract: Most campuses chase AI "literacy" and mistake awareness for ability. This session reframes the goal as genuine fluency, the practiced capacity to collaborate with AI effectively, ethically, and safely. We share a whole-institution design pathway, grounded in two established frameworks, which moves faculty and students from knowing to doing.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Northern Hemisphere E3/E4

The Deadline Dilemma: Rethinking Late Work Policies in Online Courses (9604)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Taylor Hibel (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Worldwide)
Abstract: Late work policies shape more than deadlines; they signal instructor care, equity, and belonging. This session presents a mixed-methods study exploring how different policy structures influence student motivation, engagement, and perceptions of rigor in online courses. Participants will leave with research-informed strategies to design policies that balance accountability with empathy.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere II

Would You Launch This Doctorate? Using Learner Intent Data to Design Online Programs (9633)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Joe Lyons, Ph.D. (Saint Louis University), Steve Winton, Ph.D. (Saint Louis University)
Abstract: Using survey data from online master's students, this session examines doctoral intent and its role in program design. Participants engage in a decision-making exercise to determine whether to launch an online doctorate, followed by a real-world case translating research into a newly developed professional doctoral program

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Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Asia 1

Intercultural Instructional Design: Creating Culturally Responsive Learning Experiences for International Learners (9664)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Michaela Dengg (Boston University)
Abstract: Many online learners are international students. Design choices that work for one may confuse another. This session presents Intercultural Instructional Design (IID), blending UDL and intercultural competence to craft equitable, accessible, culturally responsive courses. Explore six actionable design areas and leave with practical strategies to improve online design and teaching.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere III

From Principles to Practice: A Four-Step AI Governance Workflow for Higher Education (9698)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Dr. JéVaughn Lancaster (Lynn University), Joe Ingles (Lynn University)
Abstract: Higher education institutions are adopting AI without the leadership readiness or governance infrastructure to do it responsibly. This session introduces a four-step governance workflow - Diagnose, Map, Assess, Monitor - that bridges readiness measurement, ethics-to-standards translation, evaluation, and continuous audit into a single framework aligned to NIST AI RMF and ISO 42001.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Oceanic 8

Accessibility Natives: Digital Accessibility Literacy as Pedagogical Strategy (9817)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jennifer Wagner, M.Ed. (Pennsylvania State University)
Abstract: Compliance ensures access today; literacy ensures it tomorrow. This session shares an openly licensed digital accessibility literacy curriculum that helps students create accessible digital work within existing assignments. We then use a four-part culture framework to explore what institutions build, practice, surface, and reframe when literacy leads.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Asia 4

Conversational Grading with Your AI Companion: Feedback that Builds Student Trust and Sustains Instructor Energy (9818)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Matthew Phillips (Wake Forest University)
Abstract: Grading subjective assignments is where instructors build trust with students, but the work is exhausting. This session reframes AI as a conversation partner that sustains instructor engagement and helps deliver more targeted, individualized feedback. Participants will learn about research support for the approach and take away practical approaches and tools.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Oceanic 1

Honesty Over Harmony: A Student-Centered Framework for High-Impact ID-SME Collaboration (9858)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Yesi Vega (Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi)
Abstract: The classic ID-SME tension, jargon versus “watering it down”, can hinder course creation. This interactive session transforms this potential conflict when you put honesty over harmony. Discover how a student-centered framework builds true partnerships, aligns teams on what matters, and creates high-impact learning experiences that foster learner success and access.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Oceanic 5

Finding Nemo (and Other Faculty): Strategies for How to Reach Missing Faculty (9947)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Cherie Dodd (Indiana University-Kokomo), Julia Sanders (Indiana University System)
Abstract: How do you move faculty from "missing" to "actively engaging"? Join our presentation to diagnose common participation challenges and explore the anatomy of successful faculty events. Through real-world examples and interactive crowdsourcing, attendees will develop actionable strategies to revitalize their faculty development initiatives and find Professor Nemo.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Asia 5

90 hours of In-Person: A Transformational Residency Model that Combats Virtual Isolation (9948)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Mike de Vera, M.A. (Northeastern University)
Abstract: Online graduate programs struggle to replicate the connection, engagement, and empowerment of on-ground cohorts. This session unpacks a three residency model — nine days in-person across a learner's first year — that drives community, learner success, and confidence. Takeaways transfer to any online graduate program, regardless of budget.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Oceanic 3

AI Meets Access: Transforming the Online Lab Experience (10022)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Susan McKenzie (Southern New Hampshire University), Anna Amici (Carolina Distance Learning)
Abstract: Discover how AI and accessibility reshape online science labs through Carolina Online Gateway. Experience TESS, an AI assista nt delivering real-time, Socratic guidance as students conduct experiments and interpretdata. Explore virtual lab simulations that build confidence, persistence, and rigor, empowering diverse learners to succeed in STEM anytime, anywhere.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere I

When GenAI Can Do the Work: Rethinking Online Course Design and Delivery (10091)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Alena Rodick (Empire State University), Christine Paige (Empire State University)
Abstract: GenAI is challenging how online courses use written work, discussions, projects, and assessments as evidence of learning. Drawing on participation in the Institute on AI, Pedagogy, and the Curriculum and collaborative faculty projects, this session maps unresolved design and delivery questions and invites attendees to compare what they are seeing.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Oceanic 4

Designing AI-Enhanced Student Engagement and Active Learning for the Future Classroom (10245)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jakia Salam (North Carolina State University at Raleigh)
Abstract: Generative AI is changing how students engage, collaborate, and learn. This session explores practical strategies to integrate AI in active learning, discussions, peer feedback, and assignments. Participants will explore strategies that encourage meaningful student engagement, build AI literacy, and support responsible and ethical AI use in online and blended courses.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere V

AI Literacy in Action: Role-Based Exploration for Digital Learning (10258)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Dr. Jamie Nelson (Tennessee Board of Regents), Sarah Hazelton (Tennessee Board of Regents), Pari Bhatt (Tennessee Board of Regents), Dr. Erin Hugus (Tennessee Board of Regents)
Abstract: Explore how role-based AI literacy competencies can guide practical professional learning and support strategies for digital education. Presenters will share a framework approach, examples across institutional roles, and engagement prompts that help participants consider how to adapt AI literacy planning for their own context.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Oceanic 2

Centering Students in LMS Faculty Development: The Brightspace Summer Institute Experience at the University of Arizona (10279)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Amy Hamman Hader (University of Arizona), Lara Tarantini (University of Arizona), Chelsea Timlin (University of Arizona)
Abstract: What happens when student feedback shapes faculty development? Learn how a Student Experience Survey informed the development of the Brighspace Summer Institute at the University of Arizona. Gain concrete strategies, practical examples, and actionable frameworks you can implement at your institutions to create student-centered, inclusive, and scalable faculty development programs.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Asia 2 - The Sanctuary

Focus for the future: A reflection session to connect with each other and what matters most (10263)

Session Type: Engagement Activity
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers: Mary Johannesen-Schmidt, Ph.D. (Oakton College)
Abstract: Are you energized (or overwhelmed?) by all the ideas and creative thoughts you have at a conference but struggle to implement change once you return to your campus? Come reflect on what you've learned so far, connect with colleagues doing the same, and distill your ideas into actionable next steps!

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Asia 3

Learning To Partner With GenAI By Critiquing Its Output In The Context Of A Written Assignment (10530)

Session Type: Featured Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jonathan Zaccarini (Columbia Mailman School of Public Health)
Abstract: This session will explore ChatGPT integration in an online graduate public health course. I will explain the design of one written assignment and how students were instructed to prompt and critique ChatGPT. Participants will leave with a rubric, ChatGPT activity outline, and practical integration strategies.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Northern Hemisphere D

The Vocal Advantage: Elevating E-Learning Through Human Centered Voice Narration, AI Strategy, and Audio Engagement (9752)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Erica Porter (EDV Learning Solutions)
Abstract: This interactive workshop will explore how intentional voice narration can transform e-learning from passive content into engaging, human-centered instruction. Participants will learn foundational voice-over techniques, evaluate the role of AI-generated narration versus human voice for learner engagement, and explore how podcasting can be integrated into modern course design.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Americas Seminar

Illuminate Connections: How Leaders Build, Bridge, and Mobilize for Digital Learning Success (9819)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Maureen Kinney (SUNY-System Office), Danyelle O'Brien (SUNY College of Technology at Alfred)
Abstract: Explore how distance learning leaders illuminate their impact by building trust, bridging silos, and mobilizing relationships across faculty, staff, administration, and teams. Using our “Build, Bridge, Mobilize” framework, participants identify priorities and leave with clear, actionable steps to strengthen collaboration, alignment, and leadership effectiveness in today’s evolving digital learning environment.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Northern Hemisphere C

Designing for Human Learning: A D&D-Inspired Gamified Workshop on AI and Assessment (10150)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. Hannah Ruehl (University of Tennessee - Knoxville), Brianna Stines (University of Notre Dame), Tara Smith (University of Tennessee - Knoxville), Tracey Aranzazu (University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Abstract: This D&D-inspired gamified workshop explores how educators can redesign assessments for meaningful learning in the age of generative AI. Working in collaborative “design guilds,” participants identify where AI bypasses cognition, redesign common assignments to preserve learning, and then test their solutions through an interactive AI “boss battle.”

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Northern Hemisphere E1/E2

The Innovation Toolkit: Using Creative Problem Solving, Design Thinking, and AI to Lead Educational Change (10188)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Debby Marindin, EdD, PMP (MUSC and College of Charleston)
Abstract: Educational leaders face growing pressure to innovate amid rapid technological change, limited resources, and evolving learner needs. This interactive workshop introduces Creative Problem Solving, Design Thinking, and AI-supported innovation strategies that help participants lead change, foster collaboration, and build sustainable cultures of innovation within their organizations.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Northern Hemisphere A1/A2

From Fixed to Future-Focused: Applying Growth Mindset and ADKAR to Lead Through Change (10315)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Maxine Frendel, MA (Western Governors University)
Abstract: Leading change isn't only about implementing new processes or technologies; it is about helping people navigate uncertainty, overcome resistance, and build confidence. This interactive session combines principles of Growth Mindset and the ADKAR Change Management Model to help leaders effectively support teams during periods of transformation.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Oceanic 4

Building AI Policy Together: A Community Conversation on Ethics and Practice (9689)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Prof. Christian Moriarty JD MA (St Petersburg College)
Abstract: Faculty are making consequential AI policy decisions every day, and those decisions deserve to be made in the community. This session creates a structured space to think through course and assignment-level AI policy together, grounded in ethics, whether that means embracing AI, using it selectively, or keeping it out entirely.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Oceanic 1

Building an AI-Responsive Assignment Template for Every Classroom (9796)

Session Type: Conversation, Not Presentation (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Maddy Kadish (George Washington University), Katie Black, PhD (George Washington University)
Abstract: Address AI challenges through collaboration. This interactive session introduces a transparent, peer-tested template for designing AI-responsive assignments. Explore our community of practice model and actively customize the template to suit your unique disciplinary, course, and faculty needs.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Northern Hemisphere A3/A4

Cultivating Belonging in Online Graduate Education: Applying Research to Practice (9574)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Diane Perillo-Morabito EdD (Stony Brook University)
Abstract: An interactive session that will further strengthen the Community of Inquiry, Sense of Belonging, and Social Identity Theory among online learners. This session will discuss the correlation between these theories and share survey results that answer the question: " Do graduate professional online learners have a sense of belonging?"

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere III

Where Design and Pedagogy Meet: Folding Instructional Designers into Learning + Teaching Centers (9597)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Ruth Benander (University of Cincinnati), Emily Lopez (University of Cincinnati)
Abstract: Digital learning blurs the lines between design and delivery where design choices imply pedagogical approaches. Through a case study of instructional designers, professional developers, and organizational structures, we explore the cultural and structural issues that surround creating strategic partnerships that better support teaching in a digital world.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere IV

Online Classroom Engagement Will NEVER Be The Same Again: Leveraging AI Tools for Online Learner Interaction (9600)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Dr. Ryan Barnhart, DHSc (National University), Dr. Bruce Barnhart, EdD (National University)
Abstract: In this session, we'll talk about how AI tools can be leveraged to change the landscape of online learner engagement and student success outcomes in the online classroom.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Oceanic 3

"I Fight for the Users!": Deploying T.R.O.N. to De-Rez the Dirty Work of the Grid (9762)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Robert B. McKenzie MEd, MFA (BYU-Idaho), Corey Moore, MET (BYU-Idaho)
Abstract: Trapped on the digital Grid fixing bad HTML and CSS? Learn to build a custom AI assistant to automate tedious Canvas formatting, enforce WCAG standards, and utilize existing code snippets. We'll de-rez the digital dirty work so you can free up your bandwidth and focus on actually mentoring students.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere II

Transforming and Scaling a Learning and Coaching System: Best Practices for Leveraging AI and Driving Adoption (9811)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Karen Milheim, Ed.D. (Covista/Center for Digital Excellence, Chamberlain University, Walden University), Alisha Jackelen (Walden University), McCaeyla Murphey (Walden University), Rachel Davis (Walden University)
Abstract: Scaling learning and coaching effectively requires speed and strong employee adoption. This session explores how AI-powered learning technologies can accelerate learning, with a focus on designing and delivering realistic AI-driven roleplay scenarios. Participants will learn strategies for building AI agents, collaborating with SMEs, and fostering buy-in to successfully scale.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Oceanic 2

Cheat-Resistant by Design: Stop Grading Bots (9814)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Graceful Beam (Georgia Northwestern Technical College)
Abstract: The question isn't how to catch AI use. It's how to design assignments where AI assistance doesn't help. When work requires a student's specific context, voice, and judgment, no tool can authentically complete it. Participants apply five design principles and a four-question audit to their own courses.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Asia 3

Building Higher-Order Thinking Through Progressive Simulation Design (9907)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Lydia Kite OTD, MOT, OTR/L, CA (Bowling Green State University)
Abstract: This session presents a transferable framework for using progressive simulation experiences to scaffold higher-order reasoning, communication, collaboration, and decision-making across a curriculum. Using healthcare education examples, attendees will explore how simulation can intentionally progress learners from foundational knowledge application toward complex professional judgment and interdisciplinary problem-solving.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere V

From Foundations to Innovation: A Scalable Three-Tier Model for Online Faculty Development (9939)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Angela Solic, Ph.D. (Rush University)
Abstract: Discover a scalable three-tier approach to preparing faculty for engaging, high-quality online and hybrid teaching. Explore how institutions can move instructors from foundational course design to interactive, AI-enhanced, and immersive learning strategies through project-based professional development that builds confidence, innovation, and student-centered teaching practices.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Oceanic 5

Embedding Career Readiness Across the Curriculum: A Collaborative Model for Hybrid Allied Health Education (10010)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Jana Hickman (Baylor University), Kaitlyn Cremer (Baylor University), Emily Whiddon (Baylor University)
Abstract: This session presents a collaborative model developed within a hybrid occupational therapy program that embeds career readiness throughout the curriculum through partnership with career services. Participants will explore curriculum-mapping strategies that integrate professional identity development, communication skills, and workforce preparation to apply this adaptable framework across allied health programs.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Asia 1

Leading and Operationalizing a Fully Remote Instructional Design Team (10046)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Sky Zhang (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Jian Su (The University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Abstract: How do you lead a scaled, fully remote instructional design team? This session shares operational frameworks from a remote unit of seventeen professionals. Learn replicable strategies for managing cohort-based course production, structured faculty consultations, and peer-led quality assurance to build a sustainable, collaborative remote ecosystem in higher education.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Oceanic 6

A New Direction: Learning Design for Student Agency and Success (10096)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Miranda Hawk (Madison College)
Abstract: The challenge isn't making online courses more fun. It is designing learning so students see a reason to care, engage, and push forward. Borrowing from how a director guides an actor to bring a role to life, this interactive session offers a transferable design for student agency and success.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Southern Hemisphere I

What Happens When Faculty Stop Legacy Grading? Lessons from Specifications Grading in Online Graduate Education (10143)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Chery Lucarelli, PhD (The College of Saint Scholastica), Amy Murzyn, EdD (The College of Saint Scholastica)
Abstract: What happens when graduate programs rethink grades altogether? This session explores how one institution implemented specifications grading across online graduate programs to advance equity, care, proficiency, transparency, and authentic learning. Participants will examine practical examples, implementation lessons, and strategies for redesigning assessment beyond compliance and point accumulation

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Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Asia 4

The Dialogue Shift: Scaling Engagement and Career Simulations with Blackboard AI Conversations (10161)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Mr. Chase Lucas, M.S. (Marshall University)
Abstract: <span style="color: rgba(0, 0, 0, 1); display: inline !important; float: none; font-family: "Times New Roman"; font-size: medium; font-style: normal; font-variant-caps: normal; font-variant-ligatures: normal; font-weight: 400; letter-spacing: normal; orphans: 2; text-decoration-color: initial; text-decoration-style: initial; text-indent: 0; text-transform: none; white-space: normal; widows: 2; word-spacing: 0">As digital learning enters its next era, Marshall Online uses Blackboard Ultra AI Conversations to turn AI from shortcut into scaffolded rehearsal. Grounded in cognitive apprenticeship, we simulate authentic career scenarios and foster online belonging. Join us to see the design, the early results, and the principles to adapt it.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | Northern Hemisphere E3/E4

Small Learners, Big Impact: Reimagining Early childhood teacher education preparation programs with UDL principles (9619)

Session Type: Gamified Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Bweikia Foster Steen (George Mason University)
Abstract: This interactive session will explore the role of technology within the early childhood education (ECE) field. Using the tool: https://www.playfactile.com/, participants will explore technology tools that promote engagement and empowerment for teacher educators. The session will also model practical strategies that can be implemented in ECE classrooms.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 12:45 PM | Oceanic 8

Leveraging AI As a Partner for Developing Effective, Accessible, (AWESOME) Pages using HTML in Your LMS (10025)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Guillermo Rodriguez (Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation at Arizona State University), Aaron Kraft (Arizona State University-Downtown Phoenix)
Abstract: This interactive workshop introduces participants to using AI tools to design accessible, visually effective pages in their LMS Rich Content Editor. Attendees will explore AI-assisted HTML

generation, accessibility best practices, and WCAG 2.1 AA compliance while learning how to refine and customize AI-generated content through hands-on activities.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 12:45 PM | Oceanic 7

Instructional Design for Accessibility: Building Skills Through Microcredentials (10059)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Vivian Seki, MS.Ed.IT, CPACC (University of North Texas Health Science Center), Cynthia Edwards, Ed.D. (University of North Texas Health Science Cener)
Abstract: Bridging the gap between accessibility awareness and applied practice, this interactive session introduces a scalable microcredential model grounded in WCAG POUR and UDL principles. Participants will evaluate and remediate digital content using industry tools, leaving with competency-based frameworks and scaffolded strategies to embed accessibility into course design and development workflows.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM - 12:45 PM | Asia 5

Micro-Strategies for Macro Impact: Streamlining Daily Workflows (10084)

Session Type: Workshop (105 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Josephine Coco (SUNY Empire State University), Nichole Jakaub (SUNY Empire State University), Maree Michaud-Sacks (SUNY Empire State University), Raenlyn Loomis (SUNY Empire State University), Jennifer Nettleton (SUNY Empire State University)
Abstract: Whether you are new to digital workflows or looking to refine your approach, this interactive workshop offers practical strategies for all attendees. Participants will use everyday tools to improve organization, communication, and efficiency, leaving with personalized, adaptable techniques that can be applied immediately in any educational settings.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere V

From Frameworks to Infrastructure: Scaling Ethical AI and UDL Through Faculty Development Systems (9537)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Paul Miller, EdD (Montgomery College)

Abstract: Move beyond isolated AI adoption to institutional design. This session introduces the PRIMED framework to align ethical AI, UDL, and faculty development systems. Participants will explore how to scale inclusive, AI-enabled teaching through coordinated professional learning, instructional design support, and policy alignment across complex higher education environments.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Oceanic 2

Modern Mayer's: Using and Adapting Mayer's Principles for Modern Educational Multimedia (9538)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Benjamin Bohlin (Purdue University-Main Campus)
Abstract: Multimedia in education is extremely valuable, especially in today's learning environment. Mayer's Principles of Multimedia provide guidelines of how to create educational content, but how do these principles hold up twenty-five years later? Join us for an event with first-hand experience, learning activities and mildly chaotic discussion of principle progress!

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere IV

From Gaps to Gains: Scaling Connection to Drive Online Student Success (9539)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Learner Success, Engagement, and Empowerment
Speakers: Julia Braun, M.Ed., M.S. (SUNY-University at Buffalo)
Abstract: Online students often disengage without visible signals for timely intervention.This session invites student-facing professionals to examine how lifecycle touchpoints shape the online learner experience.Using a gap analysis framework, participants will identify disconnects and explore scalable strategies to strengthen communication, connection, and support for online student engagement and success.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere II

Fixing the Grading Problem: Using Video and Technology to Improve Consistency Across Instructors (9678)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Kaitlyn Cremer, OTD, OTR (Baylor University)

Abstract: Inconsistent grading across instructors is a persistent challenge in skills-based learning. This session introduces an adaptable, technology-enhanced model using video, faculty calibration, and structured feedback to improve inter-rater reliability, instructional alignment, and learner outcomes in distributed teaching environments.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Asia 3

AI with Intent: How We Built IDA to Empower Instructional Designers Without Replacing Them (9777)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dr. John Boekenoogen (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University), Dr. Robert Saum (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Worldwide)
Abstract: AI tools built for everyone serve no one. ERAU used AI to design IDA — an Instructional Design Assistant built specifically for faculty — then let the design do the work. Come see how AI-informed (not AI-dependent) tools can transform your instructional support ecosystem.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere III

Relationship Management at Scale: Supporting Dozens (or hundreds) of Programs (9931)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Brittany Logue, M.Ed. (Colorado State University-Fort Collins), Alysha Tarantino, M.Ed. (Colorado State University-Fort Collins)
Abstract: Personalized support is the standard we set for ourselves, but it does not scale on its own. This session offers a practical model for managing relationships across dozens, or even hundreds of programs, including service structures, segmentation and communication strategies, with tools that protect quality and the people delivering it.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Oceanic 6

From Best Practices to Title II: Lessons from the Evolution of an Accessibility Checklist (10031)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Kelsey Keefe (University of Connecticut), Eileen Stuyniski (University of Connecticut)

Abstract: Learn how an online course development unit built, implemented, and refined an accessibility checklist to support faculty, guide course review processes, and prepare for ADA Title II requirements. Through an action-planning activity, you'll explore practical strategies for strengthening accessibility practices and addressing challenges within your own institutional context.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Oceanic 1

Beyond Migration: A Pedagogical, Collaborative Approach to LMS Transition through Cross-Campus Collaboration (10202)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Hetal Thaker (Villanova University)
Abstract: LMS transitions are critical opportunities for transformation in teaching and learning. This session shares a pedagogy-first model for LMS transition led by a teaching and learning center in partnership with university IT. Participants will leave with an adaptable framework for leading LMS transitions that integrate pedagogical vision with institutional strategy.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Oceanic 5

Building a Faculty Development Framework: Scaling Professional Development for Online Instructors (10213)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Professional Development, Quality Assurance, and Support
Speakers: Angela Sparkman (Ivy Tech Community College)
Abstract: How do you build a professional development program that faculty genuinely want to attend? Learn how a statewide community college system transformed a small collection of professional development sessions into a thriving, scalable faculty development framework. Discover practical strategies, lessons learned, and ready-to-use ideas for engaging online instructors at scale.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Oceanic 3

Plant Murder Mysteries: Narrative Storytelling and Digital Case Files for the Student Detective! (10248)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Jakia Salam (North Carolina State University at Raleigh)

Abstract: “Plant Murder Mysteries" is an immersive digital learning experience that transforms traditionally dry botanical content into an engaging detective-style adventure. Through interactive 360-degree environments and narrative storytelling, students investigate plant-related mysteries, encouraging active reasoning. This approach shifts learning from passive memorization to meaningful exploration, enhancing student engagement and knowledge retention.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Asia 4

Illuminating Career Readiness: Connecting Learning to Real-World Application (10288)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Dawn Adolfson, Ph.D. (University of South Florida-Main Campus)
Abstract: Graduating students often struggle to articulate their knowledge and skills to employers. This session shares a practical capstone redesign using the NACE framework to bridge that gap. Walk away with a ready-to-use approach for aligning assignments, activities, and ePortfolio artifacts to real-world competencies.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Southern Hemisphere I

Trust, but Verify: A Framework for Evaluating AI-Generated Assessment Criteria (10290)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Parul Khurana, Ph.D. (SUNY Empire State University)
Abstract: Generative AI can draft assessment criteria in seconds, but using it well means knowing when its output fails. Moving beyond basic AI use, this session offers a field-tested, five-phase framework for evaluating and correcting AI-generated rubrics, with decision rules that help online and STEM faculty pair efficiency with disciplinary judgment.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Oceanic 4

Reducing Cognitive Load Through Consistent Course Design: Lessons from a Standardized LMS Template (10317)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Innovative and Effective Digital Learning Design
Speakers: Ashley Bondurant,PT, DPT, M.Ed (Medical University of South Carolina)

Abstract: Inconsistent course design can increase cognitive load and hinder student success. This session shares lessons learned from implementing a standardized LMS course template, including student feedback, faculty adoption strategies, and practical approaches for creating consistent, learner-centered online experiences across academic programs.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Asia 1

Silos to Structure: A Three-Part Framework to Centralize COIL (10320)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Brianna Stines (University of Notre Dame)
Abstract: Traditional study abroad is exclusive, but Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) can help us democratize global learning. Sharing our mission-aligned nascent story and pilot learnings, we'll outline a lean, three-part architecture to scale COIL through static resources, asynchronous onboarding, and sustainable consultation with minimal administrative staff.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | Americas Seminar

From Optional to Required: Early Outcomes from a Campus-Wide Accessibility Training Initiative (10322)

Session Type: Education Session (45 min)
Track: Leadership, Partnerships, and Organizational Strategy
Speakers: Melanie Eley (University of North Carolina at Greensboro)
Abstract: Many institutions recognize accessibility training must become required but struggle to implement it at scale. This session presents a case study of launching required faculty training through cross-campus collaboration, aligned teaching expectations, and platform-supported delivery, while achieving a 78% completion rate in the first year.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 12:45 PM - 1:30 PM | Southern Hemisphere Foyer

OLC Accelerate 2026 Closing Celebration (10565)

Session Type: Other
Track: Community Engagement
Speakers:
Abstract: Close out your OLC Acclerate experience with light food, fun beverages, and good company and music. Join us in celebrating another great OLC conference and in our excitement for what's next! Help keep the momentum going into 2027!