

**Director's Report to the Task Force on Teaching Excellence**  
**University of North Carolina, Pembroke**  
**Sept. 17, 2019**

Our Mission: Through mentoring, sharing best practices, and connecting with the community, the Teaching & Learning Center develops and sustains the ideas, activities, enthusiasm, and culture that foster and recognize quality teaching and learning at the University of North Carolina, Pembroke.

Our Vision: The Teaching & Learning Center will aspire to achieve quality in instruction by identifying, cultivating, and putting into practice effective and innovative pedagogies. Increasing faculty participation in all efforts and utilizing technology to our advantage, the TLC will enhance support for and unite faculty, students, and staff in enriching teaching and learning.

Our Core Values:

- We believe in supporting all faculty as they develop themselves into highly effective instructors and mentors, able to foster the success of all students as lifelong learners.
- We believe in fostering collaboration, communication, and community.
- We believe in assuring confidentiality in individualized consultations.
- We believe in prioritizing on-campus expertise and resources while connecting with external expertise and resources as needed.
- We believe in utilizing effective technology for the betterment of teaching and learning.

Our Goals:

- The TLC will aspire to achieve quality in instruction through effective and innovative pedagogies.
- The TLC will enhance support for faculty, students, and staff in enriching teaching and learning.
- The TLC will unite faculty, students, and staff in enriching teaching and learning.

Administrative:

- The TLC submitted its academic support unit assessment report to Associate Vice Chancellor Elizabeth Normandy on June 27; the report is posted to the TLC website (<https://www.uncp.edu/sites/default/files/2019-09/SupportUnitAssessmentRept063019.pdf>)
- HAWK Assistant Wanya Ward resigned Aug. 16 in order to prioritize existing commitments to Housing & Residence Life and Campus Engagement & Leadership, offices in which he serves in leadership positions. During his tenure in the TLC, Ward was instrumental in the success of midsemester class check-ins and the TLC's partnership with faculty in Biology. He plans to apply for graduate school to study higher education administration.
- The Office of Sustainability will continue to fund the work of Olivia Sadler, Student Assistant for Teaching and Learning for Sustainability. Sadler has completed surveys of the environmental attitudes and beliefs of approximately 200 students. She currently is revising a literature review and conducting a survey of faculty. She also will assist the efforts of the TLC's Engaged Faculty Scholars cohort.

- The TLC welcomes Jazniqueka Rodgers, a Biology major (with biomedical emphasis) who plans to become a nurse, as its new HAWK Assistant. Rodgers will facilitate programming and assessment, conduct midsemester class check-ins, and assist in the running of the TLC office.
- The POD Network accepted Ward's and Sadler's proposals for presentations at the organization's 2019 international conference in Pittsburgh. Ward's poster is titled "Co-Teaching in Higher Education: A Student's Perspective," and Sadler's is titled "Environmental Attitudes of University Students and Faculty Development in Sustainability"; the TLC will support the students' travel and attendance at this conference.
- The TLC submitted grants to N.C. Campus Compact and POD Network to fund professional development in teaching and learning for sustainability. The proposal to Campus Compact was successful and results in \$1,500 for professional development and \$500 for travel, in partnership with Laura Gonzalez of UNC Greensboro and Cheraton Love of WSSU. These funds will support the development and offering of service learning-designated classes in American Indian Studies (Jane Haladay and Mary Ann Jacobs), Biology (Maria Pereira and Bryan Sales), English, Theatre & Foreign Languages (myself), Nursing (Kathy Locklear), and Social Work (Tamara Savage); these individuals will present their work at N.C. Campus Compact's February conference at Elon University. The TLC's application to POD Network was not funded.

#### Outreach:

- Facebook (facebook.com/uncptlc): 145 page followers and 135 page likes
- Twitter (@uncptlc): 576 tweets, 90 followers, 289 likes
- Website (<https://www.uncp.edu/academics/academic-resources/teaching-and-learning-center>)

#### Programming:

- The following faculty and staff have completed certification in Accessibility and Inclusion in Teaching and Learning:
  - Emilia Bak (Mass Communication), Inclusive and Accessible Teaching and Learning for Students with Hearing Impairments
  - James Crouch Jr. (Nursing), Accommodations in Practice
  - Michele Fazio (English, Theatre & Foreign Languages), Inclusive and Accessible Teaching and Learning for Students with Hearing Impairments
  - Kimilla Floyd (Center for Student Success), Accommodations in Practice
  - Karen Granger (Teacher Education), Accommodations in Practice
  - Matthew Hassett (Sociology & Criminal Justice), Universal Design for Inclusive and Accessible Teaching and Learning
  - Cynthia Miecznikowski (English, Theatre & Foreign Languages), Accommodations in Practice and Universal Design for Inclusive and Accessible Teaching and Learning
  - Rosemarie Pilarczyk (Nursing), Accommodations in Practice
  - Jesse Rouse (Geology & Geography), Universal Design for Inclusive and Accessible Teaching and Learning
  - Brandon Sanderson (Art), Accommodations in Practice

- Robin Snead (English, Theatre & Foreign Languages), Accommodations in Practice
- Summer Woodside (Social Work), Accommodations in Practice, Inclusive and Accessible Teaching and Learning for Students with Hearing Impairments, and Universal Design for Inclusive and Accessible Teaching
- Nineteen faculty currently are pursuing Accessibility & Inclusion certification.
- The Shared Interest Group in Culturally Responsive Teaching hosted scholar Paul Gorski in May and is finalizing a manuscript for editorial review and will offer professional development during AY2019-2020.
- The SIG in Biology piloted a student success boot camp in partnership with the Office of the Chancellor, the University College, and the Center for Student Success, with participants positively evaluating the program for preparing them for BIO 1000 and confirming their satisfaction with Biology as a major.
- Michele Fazio (English, Theatre & Foreign Languages) has launched a shared interest group focused on working-class identity in the academy and welcomes participants; Jamie Myers Mize (History) and Zachary Laminack (English, Theatre & Foreign Languages) have launched an American Indian Studies discussion circle in partnership with the Native American Student Organization; Cathy Lee Arcuino has launched a SIG to foster the globalization of curricula across the University; and Joe West (Political Science & Public Administration) has launched a SIG to study plagiarism and recommend best practices.
- Twenty-six faculty and staff, representing the College of Arts & Sciences, the College of Health Sciences, the Esther G. Maynor Honors College, the School of Education, and the University College, will take part in one or more Third Fridays Book of the Month Club meetings.
- With the Office of Global Engagement, the TLC will offer a lecture by Timothy Altman (Music) and workshops introducing faculty to study abroad on Sept. 25 and 26.
- In alignment with her proposal for a Grant for Excellence in Teaching & Learning, Michele Fazio will facilitate a lecture and workshop on supporting working-class students, featuring Colby King of the University of South Carolina, Upstate, on Sept. 26 and 27.

## Planning

- In order to support high-quality online teaching and learning and active learning in classrooms equipped with enhanced technologies, the TLC, in consultation with the Office of Online Learning and the Academic Information Technology Committee is developing additional professional development certificate series.