



2020-21 Annual Report at-a-glance

The Teaching and Creativity Center strives to model our value of reflective practice. This report reflects our philosophy that excellent teaching and successful student learning are the result of consistent work over time. As there are no “quick fixes” in teaching or learning, so there are no “quick fixes” in faculty development. We seek to be pragmatic—to identify our goals, analyze our attempts to meet the goals, and make changes based on evidence. This report strives to document a slice of that iterative process.

This year was different from usual process all around. Not only were we entirely remote, which meant that the TCC functioned as one full committee this year (instead of the Downtown and Brighton committees operating separately); Gena Merliss was on Professional Leave for the Benefit of the College. Amy Burtner stepped in for Gena as acting coordinator, while Erin Nelson and Jason Szymanski assisted as co-chairs. Nancy Soregi also continued as part-time secretary.

Despite the challenges of COVID-19 and being remote, the TCC maintained our expected programming—with a few modifications as necessary:

- Monthly **conversations** around this year’s theme: *Committing to Equity-Minded Pedagogy*
- Monthly **cohort** groups including Reflective Practice Groups (RPGs), Reading Groups, and the First- and Second-Year Faculty Series (FYFS/SYFS)
 - Two **conferences**: the Winter Teaching Institute and the June Teaching & Learning Conference
 - Monthly workshops for **adjunct faculty** including semester Kick-offs and Suppers for Success
 - **Kudos for Excellence**, a simple way for faculty and students to publicly recognize notable teaching
 - **Cross-campus collaborations** with Pathways, Global Education, and the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and more

HIGHLIGHTS:

Number of TCC events:
109

Number of hours of programming: **168**

Number of facilitators:
84

Number of individual attendees: **387**

Total attendance: **1378**

These numbers come from the TCC database, maintained by Nancy Soregi. The final reports were run and downloaded on June 23, 2021.

We also held Open Classrooms Week in March, calling it **Virtual Open Classrooms Week** to match the circumstances.

As the COVID-19 pandemic grew during the fall and persisted throughout the spring, the TCC’s role changed from last year’s emergency-oriented approach in helping faculty make a very sudden switch to a remote reality. We planned the entire year as remote, and were able to provide faculty with a reliable, steady source of professional learning. Based on some of the attendance numbers (in comparison to previous years), flexible, remote programming was much welcomed.

Programming by TCC Strategic Goals

Below are the number of hours for each of the TCC's goals. We use this information to inform our planning.

TCC Strategic Aims	Hours of programming/goal
Goal 1: Create a supportive environment that meets individuals where they are, helps them improve and recognizes teaching excellence	171
Goal 2: Create a culture of critical reflection, continual growth, and faculty collaboration	166
Goal 3: Support the scholarship of teaching & learning for all	90.5
Goal 4: Promote evidence-based, high-impact, innovative teaching strategies to faculty and professional staff and support them in course design and implementation to improve student retention and learning.	140.5
Goal 5: Value diversity and promote inclusivity.	162.5
Goal 6: Contribute to institutional initiatives involving teaching & learning	117.5