



Center for Advancement
of Faculty Excellence



CENTER FOR ADVANCEMENT OF FACULTY EXCELLENCE (CAFE) UPDATE

August 2026

AY 2025-2026 Undertakings and Achievements

- 2025 FCAM
- CAFE Newsletters
 - Faculty Excellence in Action
- CAFE Calendar
- First-Year Faculty (FYF) cohort
- January accessibility sessions
- Campus-wide collaborations
- Website updates
- Social media presence
- and more!



CAFE Newsletters

- Total of **16 newsletters** from August 27th through April 29th
 - Unique remarks and updates for each issue
 - Every other Wednesday at 8:30am
 - Inside Higher-Ed article
 - Spotlighting APSU Award Winners, CAFE Advisory Board members
 - Publicizing all faculty-centric programming across campus
 - Probably the most visible thing we do

In this issue:

- Remarks from Our Director
- Faculty Excellence in Action
- G.R.A.C.E. Meetings
- FSL Autism Awareness Week
- Academic Advising Certificate Info Session
- April 16 Lunch & Learn
- LIZZIE - Theatre and Dance Invitation!
- Zone 3 Writers' Festival
- CoAL Faculty Research Spotlight
- Invisible Wounds Presentation
- Labor Market Data Spring Programming
- Hope Nation Counseling Available
- CAFE Session: Concourse Syllabus Demo
- Building Resilience Workshop Series
- Zoom is leaving!
- Full Spectrum Learning Outreach
- AP Navigate Faculty & Staff Mini Series
- Woodward Library DMP Tool Launch
- Study Buddies
- Distance Ed Accessibility Video Recordings
- Request a Presentation with Health and Counseling
- Inside HigherEd Article
- CAFE Calendar
- Social Media Information
- Donate to CAFE



Faculty Excellence in Action

- **Faculty Excellence in Action**

"A place devoted to celebrating the achievements of our APSU faculty colleagues"

- **68 faculty members featured** from every College
- Blurbs celebrating and distilling their achievements with hyperlinks to their articles, books, conference, etc.
- Pictures of them at presentations, in the field, etc.
- Demonstrating just how active our faculty are in Area 2
- Coordination with College Directors of Communication
- ***E-mail us with your accomplishments!***

Eriksson College of Education

Oliver presented at the Council for Exceptional Children Conference

Dr. Allison Oliver, Assistant Professor in the College of Education, presented three times during the [Council for Exceptional Children Conference](#) last week in Salt Lake City, UT.

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Convention & Expo is the premier annual professional development event for special education professionals, educators, and administrators. It features workshops, sessions, and an expo hall focused on improving educational outcomes for children with disabilities and special needs through research-backed practices and technology.



CAFE Calendar

- **CAFE Calendar**

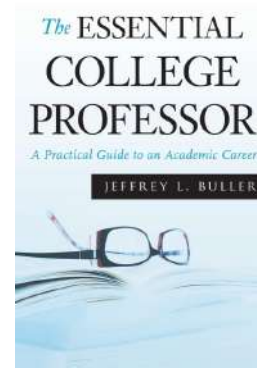
All faculty-centric programming in one place that can be directly imported into your Outlook calendar

- <https://www.apsu.edu/academic-affairs/faculty/cafe/calendar.php>
- Created and going strong since September 2024
- Provided with the knowledge that emails with events/details/information get lost or overlooked



2025-2026 FYF Faculty program

- First-Year Faculty content and curriculum each week in the Library Conference Room, Mondays 3-4:30pm
- All First-Year Faculty received a copy of:
 - ***The Essential College Professor: A Practical Guide to an Academic Career***, by Jeffrey Buller (2009)
 - APSU Leather Executive Portfolio Organizer
- Presentations by a full slate of APSU Offices, Directors, Deans, Specialists, etc.
- April reception with mentors and Department Chairs



January 2026 sessions

*The Center for Advancement of Faculty Excellence
presents:*

From Barriers to Bridges: Accessibility in Practice

*A day of professional development
for faculty focusing on
Accessibility*

**Wednesday,
January 14,
2026
SSC E106A/B**



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of Faculty Excellence

January Pre-Semester Calendar for Faculty

January 2026

Faculty Schedule January 12-16, 2026

Facilitated by: Dr. Jeffrey Williams, CAFE Director

Monday, January 12		
11:00a.m. – 1:00p.m.	Program Review Leads & Assessment Coordinators meeting (lunch provided)	MUC Ballroom
Tuesday, January 13		
10:00 – 11:30a.m.	College of Behavioral & Health Sciences Faculty meeting	HPB 104/106
12:00 – 2:00p.m.	College of Behavioral & Health Sciences Faculty & Staff Appreciation Lunch	HPB Lobby
2:00 – 3:30p.m.	College of Arts & Letters Faculty meeting	TR Theatre
2:30 – 4:30p.m.	Showcasing Impact: Faculty Innovations in Career-Ready Course Design	MUC 307
Wednesday, January 14		
9:00a.m.	Continental breakfast provided by CAFE	SSC lobby
9:30 – 10:30a.m.	Accessibility in Action: Practical Skills for Everyday Content (Webb)	SSC E106 A/B
10:45 – 11:45a.m.	Keynote Speech – Mike Hess, Art of Blindness: Seeing Talent Clearly	SSC E106 A/B
12:00 – 1:00p.m.	Lunch on own (Food trucks available at Jackson Alley)	Varies
1:15 – 2:15p.m.	Mike Hess, Art of Blindness continuation and workshop	SSC E106 A/B
2:30 – 3:30p.m.	From Compliance to Commitment: Rethinking Accessibility (Dunn/Hoyt)	SSC E106 A/B
3:30 – 4:30p.m.	AP Navigate in Action: Tools, Insights, and AI for Student Success (Griffy)	SSC E106 A/B
Thursday, January 15		
9:00 – 10:30a.m.	College of STEM Faculty meeting (bring your computer)	SSC E106 A/B
9:00 – 11:00a.m.	Erikson College of Education Faculty meeting	CX 103
10:00 – 11:30a.m.	College of Business Faculty meeting (with lunch provided afterwards)	KB 119
Friday, January 16		
	Reserved for faculty worktime	
This concludes the January pre-semester calendar for Spring 2026		

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of Faculty Excellence

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CAFE Social Media Presence

Instagram – @apsucae_fac

Facebook - @APSU Center for Advancement of Faculty Excellence

Continued increase in content and engagement across our social media platforms

Follow us *today!*



SAVE THE DATE

PEAY
symposium

SYMPOSIUM
on Academic Writing

STUDENT DATE: Thursday, December 4th

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

The Office of the QEP, in partnership with the Woodward Library, the Writing Center, and OWES, is excited to announce the upcoming **1st Annual PEAY Composed Symposium on Academic Writing on December 4th, 2025, at the MUC Ballroom from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM.**

This event is open to all faculty and academic staff who teach or support students in their academic writing development. You do not have to have been included into PEAY Composed previously to attend.

What to Expect

This event will feature hands-on, interactive workshops with our invited speaker, Dr. Dan Meizer, a distinguished professor in the University of California, Davis Writing Program and co-author of *Engaging Ideas: The Professor's Guide to Integrating Writing, Critical Thinking, and Active Learning in the Classroom*.



AP® Asian/Pacific Studies
Navigate Faculty
 Mini-Series

Small Steps, Big Impact

AP Asian/Pacific Studies is a new AP course and exam that will be administered for the first time in May 2019. This mini-series of sessions will provide you with the information you need to prepare for the new course and exam. The sessions will be held on a variety of dates and times to accommodate your schedule. Please contact your AP coordinator for more information.

Series Schedule & Topics

Date	Time	Topic
March, January 29	10:30-12:00	Overview of the course and exam
March, February 5	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, February 12	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, February 19	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, February 26	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, March 5	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, March 12	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, March 19	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, March 26	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, April 2	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, April 9	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, April 16	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, April 23	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, April 30	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, May 7	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, May 14	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, May 21	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, May 28	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, June 4	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, June 11	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, June 18	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, June 25	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, July 2	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, July 9	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, July 16	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, July 23	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, July 30	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, August 6	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, August 13	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, August 20	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, August 27	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, September 3	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, September 10	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, September 17	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, September 24	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, October 1	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, October 8	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, October 15	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, October 22	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, October 29	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, November 5	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, November 12	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, November 19	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, November 26	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, December 3	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, December 10	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, December 17	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, December 24	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content
March, December 31	10:30-12:00	AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam format and AP Asian/Pacific Studies exam content

AP Asian/Pacific Studies is a new AP course and exam that will be administered for the first time in May 2019. This mini-series of sessions will provide you with the information you need to prepare for the new course and exam. The sessions will be held on a variety of dates and times to accommodate your schedule. Please contact your AP coordinator for more information.

AP Asian/Pacific Studies
Navigate Faculty
 Mini-Series

Center for Advancement of Faculty Excellence (CAFE) CAREER SERIES with the Career Success Center

FLP 2025-2026

CONGRATULATIONS
to our *Faculty Leadership Program*
Class of 2025-2026

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of Faculty Excellence


Dr. Donna Short
Assistant Professor,
College of Education


Dr. Danielle Donelson
Assistant Professor,
Languages & Literature


Dr. Simon Rotzer
Assistant Professor,
Institute for National Security
and Military Studies


Dr. Michael Bednarczuk
Assistant Professor,
Political Science


**Facilitator
Prof. Nancy Gibson**
Professor, Library


Dr. Alex Adams
Assistant Professor,
Health and Human
Performance


Dr. Ramanjit Sahi
Professor,
Mathematics & Statistics

FLP at a Glance

Leadership development through learning, relationships, and institutional problem-solving

PURPOSE

- Develop faculty leaders
- Build cross-campus relationships
- Explore how the university works
- Strengthen APSU through collaborative ideas

THE EXPERIENCE

- Whole-group learning with campus leaders
- Extended small-group conversations
- Flexible 1:1 coaching
- Collaborative cohort proposal

A Tradition of Faculty Leadership



Every cohort builds on the work of those before it.

The 2025–2026 Experience

1

LEARN

University operations
Leadership perspectives

2

CONNECT

Campus leaders
Cross-disciplinary cohort

3

COACH

Individual goals
Professional growth

4

CREATE

Collaborative proposal
Presented to leadership

Expanded speaker series • Extended leader conversations • Flexible 1:1 coaching

What We Heard

FUNDING

Finding grant support for student conference travel

REQUIREMENTS

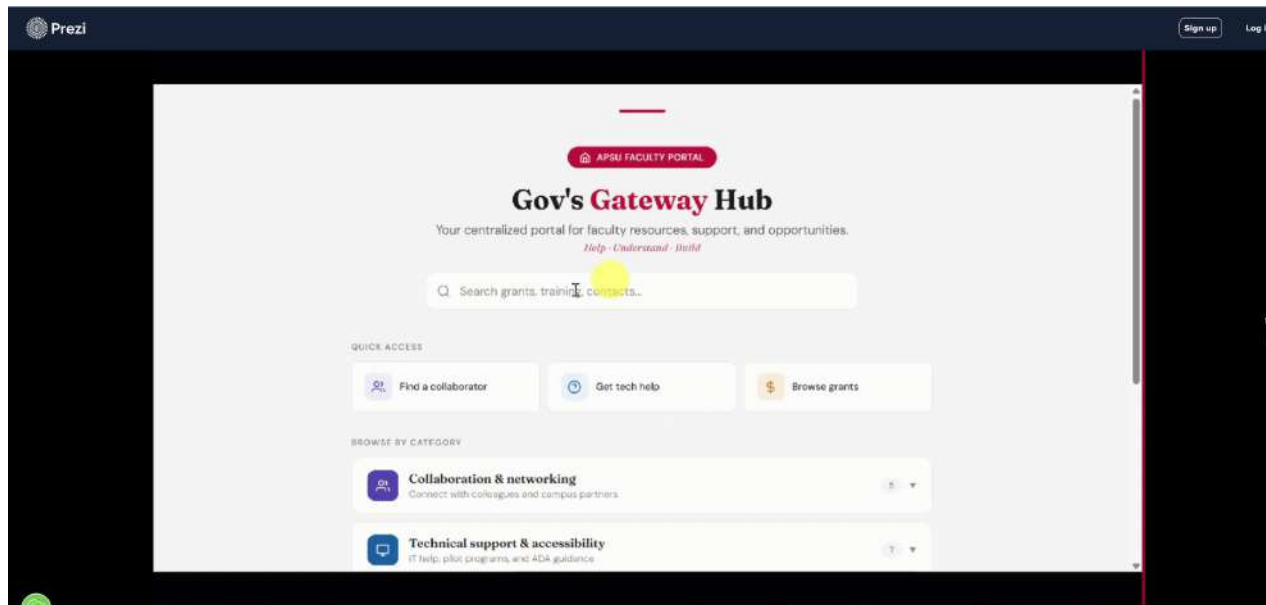
Locating reporting requirements, deadlines, and RTP information

INFORMAL NETWORKS

Answers often arrive through colleagues rather than a clear starting point

**The challenge isn't necessarily a lack of resources.
It's finding them when they're needed.**

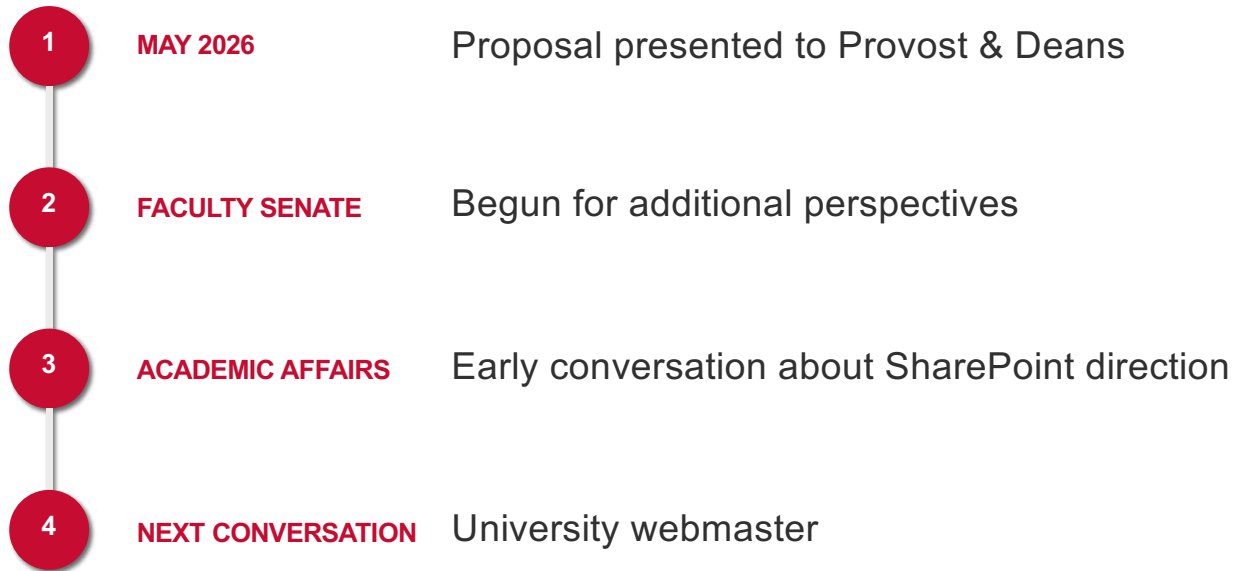
Gov's Gateway Hub



DESIGNED TO

- Search first
- Center faculty workflows
- Organize existing resources
- Create one starting point

Looking Ahead



The goal isn't another website. It's a better starting point for faculty.

CAFE Advisory Board Roster

- Alex Adams, CoBHS Rep – returning
- Susan Cockrell, CoB Rep – returning
- Lindsey Gilmore, Student Affairs Rep – returning
- Charles Gonzalez, CoE Rep – returning
- Mickey Hepner, Ex-Officio Dean of CoB Rep – returning
- Christi Maldonado, CoE & Associate Dean Rep – ***new this year***
- Mike Olson, Distance Ed – returning
- Amanda Patrick, CoBHS Rep - returning
- Amy Thompson, Chair Rep – returning
- Niranga Wickramaratne, CoSTEM Rep – returning
- Paula White, CoAL Rep – ***new this year***
- LaNeeça Williams, Ex-Officio Chief of Institutional Culture – returning
- Kekebe Wordofa, Library Rep – returning

Grad Assistant: Sarah Barry, MM Voice candidate – returning

CAFE Advisory Board



Alex Adams | College of Behavioral and Health Sciences
Assistant Professor, Health & Human Performance
[Learn More about Alex Adams](#)



Susan Cockrell | College of Business
Professor, Accounting, Finance, & Economics
[Learn more about Susan Cockrell](#)

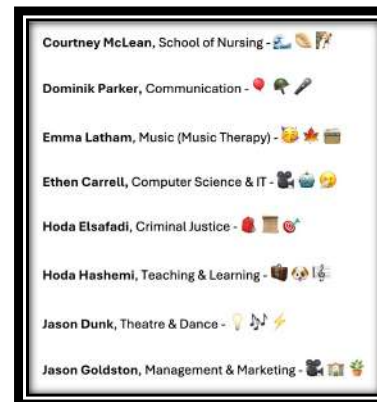


Lindsey Gilmore | Student Affairs
Associate Vice President for Campus Engagement
[Learn More about Lindsey Gilmore](#)

The last two weeks – so great! :)

- **Trainings and sessions for New Faculty**

- two Part-Time Instructor trainings (on Zoom and in-person)
- First-Year Faculty trainings – Distance Ed, HR, Green Zone training, OIC, Library, IT, etc.
- Teaching prep and resources with Kristen Butler
- Luncheon with Academic Affairs
- Get-to-Know Clarksville Fair & Food Trucks
- Cohort bonding time

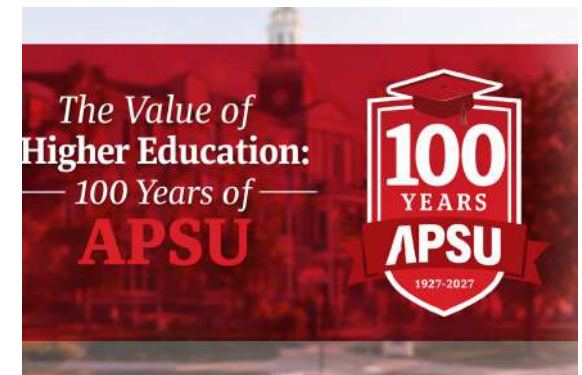


Faculty Conference and Annual Meeting Schedule

Faculty Conference tomorrow! MUC 303/305

The Value of Higher Education: 100 Years of APSU

- *“Rebuilding Trust and Legitimacy in Higher Education through Public Interest Communication”* – Dagher
- *“The Hidden Curriculum Across a Century: Making College Legible for First-Generation Students”* – Pace
- *“Teacher-as-Anthropos: The Role of Faculty in an AI-Moderated Academy”* – Olson
- *“Faces of APSU Through the Century: Storytelling, Identity, and the Enduring Value of a University Education”* – Wilson
- *“The State of Student Affairs in Higher Ed”* – Gilmore
- *“Farewell and Hail: The Enduring Legacy of Learning at Austin Peay”* – Shumate, LiaBraaten, and Chester-Fangman



****Breakfast provided by CAFE and Healing Room provided by OIC in MUC 308****

Further Pre-Semester programming

• Thursday, August 13th

- *Career Success and Student Affairs Updates*
- *Academic Affairs Updates*
- *Office of Institutional Culture Updates*
- *College of Graduate Studies & ORSP Updates (Lunch provided)*
- *Distance Education Updates*
- *Office of Legal Affairs Updates*
- *Student Success Updates*

• Monday, August 17th

- *Convocation & University Luncheon*
- *RTP Updates*

• Have breakfast with us on Thursday, August 13th provided by *Career Success Center* – thank you! 😊



Honorlock **AP** Distance Education

USING HONORLOCK: BEST PRACTICES & NEW FEATURES

This training will focus on enabling Honorlock proctoring for exams, implementing new features, and sharing best practices for remote exams.

Who Should Attend?
Faculty teaching online or hybrid courses who use or are considering online proctoring.

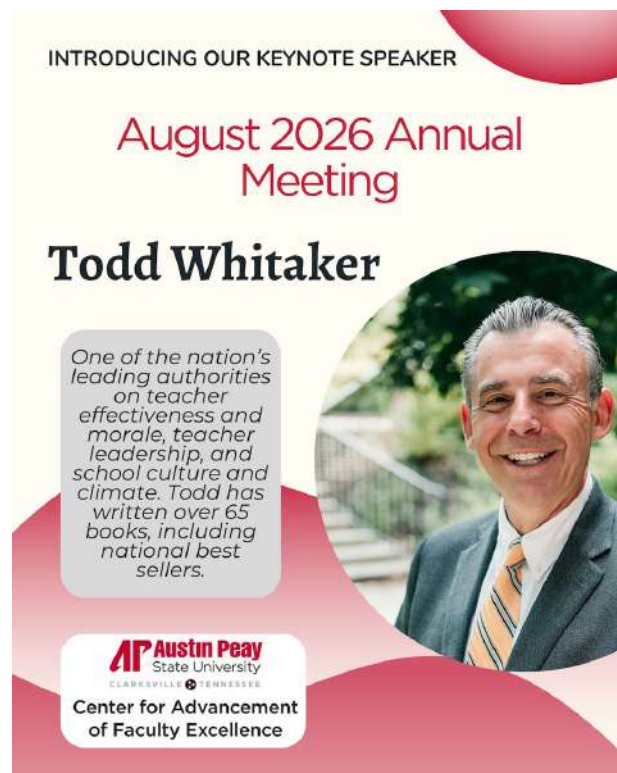
- ✓ Review the proctoring settings, focusing on new toggles for Workspace Scan Photo and Enhanced Desktop Security.
- ✓ Uncover the new session viewer and understand how to review your recorded sessions

August 20, 2026
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm CT

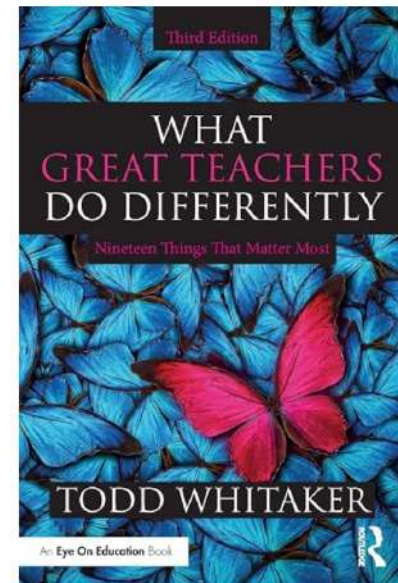
To join, visit our TechBytes page.



2026 Keynote Speaker



Dr. Todd Whitaker

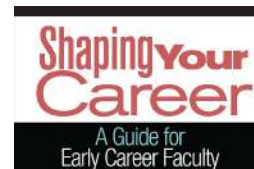


50 books purchased and given to faculty



2026-2027 FYF Faculty program

- First-Year Faculty content and curriculum each week in the Library Conference Room, Mondays 3-4:30pm
- All First-Year Faculty will receive a copy of:
 - ***Shaping Your Career: A Guide for Early Career Faculty***, by Haviland, Ortiz, and Henriques (2017)
 - APSU Leather Executive Portfolio Organizer
 - CAFE squid adapter and CAFE pen
- Presentations by a full slate of APSU Offices, Directors, Deans, Specialists, etc.



Don Haviland, Anna M. Ortiz, and Laura Henriques



Fall 2026 - Active Learning Book Group

- This semester, we will read ***One Classroom at a Time: How Better Teaching Can Make College More Equitable*** by David Gooblar, published in 2025 by Harvard University Press.
- "***One Classroom at a Time*** provides practical, research-based recommendations for teachers and administrators who want to narrow such academic gaps. David Gooblar explains the psychological hardships facing many marginalized students—including stereotype threat and belonging uncertainty—and provides detailed remedies. This wide-ranging guide also offers advice for mitigating burdens of financial insecurity and designing classes that work for all students regardless of disabilities. The emphasis throughout is on helping instructors and administrators understand not just the principles of equitable pedagogy but also the reasoning; not just what works, but why it works."
- *Book provided to each participant*



September 15, 3:30 - 5:00pm
October 20, 3:30 - 5:00pm
November 17, 3:30 - 5:00pm
December: Virtual session with author

Genio Play Session: Lunch and Learn

Genio Notes

Tuesday, September 8
11:30am - 12:30pm
MUC 307

Led by: Jordan Johnson and Ashley Billington



Boxed lunches provided by OIC

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International Faculty Affinity Group

We're excited to introduce a new **International Faculty Affinity Group**, designed to create a welcoming space for faculty from around the world to connect, share experiences, and build community at APSU. The group will provide opportunities for conversation, professional connection, and mutual support around the unique experiences and perspectives of international faculty.

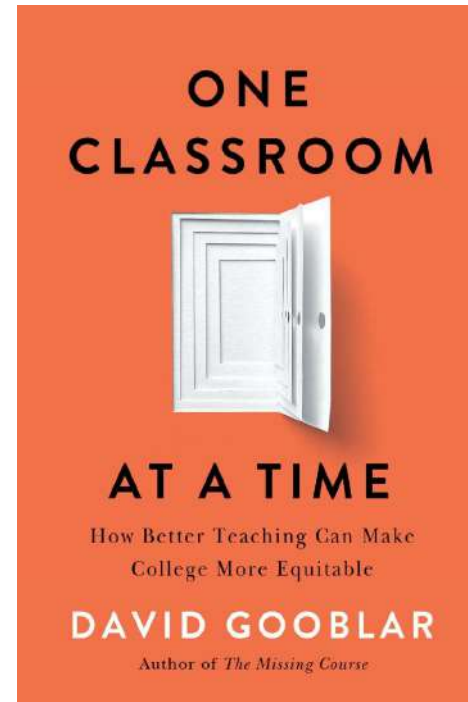
We look forward to building this community together and welcome anyone interested in participating.



Facilitated by Dr. Amanda Patrick

Thursday, January 14, 2027

Day of professional development sessions and workshop featuring author, David Gooblar



FLP 2027-2028

Start thinking about your
participation NOW!

We are recruiting YOU!

Start talking with your Department
Chair about fitting it into your
teaching schedule and TLC

Faculty Leadership Program

Mission Statement: The Faculty Leadership Program (FLP) offers tenured and tenure track faculty a year-long series of practical leadership training and networking opportunities with the broader university community. Participants will be equipped with the tools and knowledge required to lead effectively and contribute to the growth and development of APSU.

The Faculty Leadership Program recognizes the importance of developing relevant leadership skills for faculty at Austin Peay State University. The Faculty Leadership Program fosters the development of a more interconnected, knowledgeable, and adaptable campus community capable of responding quickly and collaboratively to challenges and opportunities.

The Faculty Leadership Program offers an opportunity for selected faculty to acquire a more comprehensive awareness of university operations, apply leadership skills to their various roles on campus, interact interpersonally with leaders on campus, and identify a worthy project or initiative to tackle as a team. The program fosters an exploratory team environment that requires participants to relegate all other campus responsibilities to non-program hours.

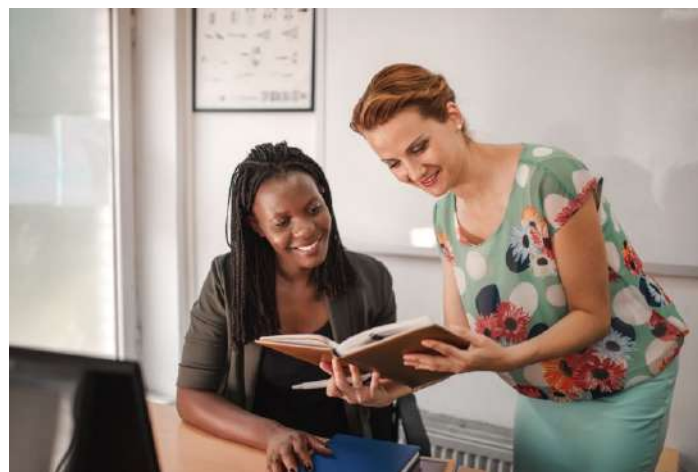
Accepted applicants meet half-days each week for both semesters (Fall and Spring) as part of a campus-led immersion program that assists participants in developing a collaborative project to positively impact the institution and student success, in addition to participating in mentoring conducted by university leaders.

Mentoring Community of Practice

Overhauling Faculty Mentoring
here at APSU

Coming Spring 2027

**To be put into practice for the
2027-2028 AY**



Come visit us in McCord! :)



CAFE Window Frost



CAFE Door Sign

CAFE at APSU

- How can CAFE support you in 2026-2027?



I appreciate your support!

- I'm very proud of what we achieved this past year and am looking forward to a great upcoming academic year with all of you!

Please be in touch anytime!

williamsjj@apsu.edu, cafe-fac@apsu.edu

x7648, MMC 322 & McCord 212