



Bryant University

CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

MAY 2023
VOL. 1

DID YOU KNOW?

The Center for Teaching Excellence was nominated for Bryant University's **2023 Spirit Award!** This award is designed to recognize a team or individual that enhances the quality of life at Bryant by preserving, promoting, and carrying out positive and quantifiable values and traits. Recognized individuals go above and beyond what's expected in serving Bryant University; encourage teamwork in others; act as a positive role model; mentor others and share knowledge; are reliable; and show flexibility.



THANK YOU TO OUR CAMPUS PARTNERS

- Krupp Library
- Academic Computing
- General Education
- Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Office of Accessibility Services
- Academic Center for Excellence (ACE)

FACULTY MINI GRANTS

The CTE was excited to offer a mini-grant program this year. Instructors submitted proposals for how \$150 could be used to make an immediate impact in their Spring 2023 courses. Thirteen faculty received grants for projects ranging from the purchase of a Polaroid camera and LED lights to demonstrate the differences between place and space in an Environmental Humanities seminar, to an upgraded microphone for improved sound quality on economics class Zoom recordings. Faculty used books as incentives, models, and applications for class activities in subjects ranging from data analytics to history, and from economics to creative writing. Classroom learning was enhanced with items such as legos, puppets, calculators, and printmaking tools, and students even used funds to test out theories about the ethics of corporations.

RECIPIENTS

Shastri Akella | Lindsay Amper | Ilisabeth Bornstein | Valerie Carrigan
Jennifer Horan | A. Can Inci | Jongsung Kim | Ryan Marnane | Bradford Martin
Gao Niu | Ferdous Sardar | ML Tlachac | Joan Zaretti

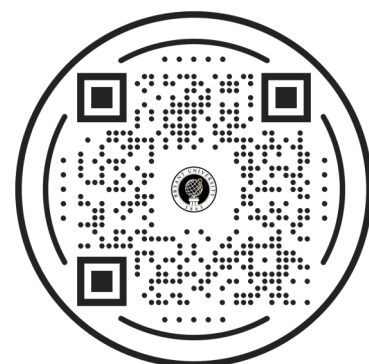


Applied Analytics students discussing AI ethics of book use cases.



Child Psychopathology students practicing play therapy skills with mini grant-funded supplies.

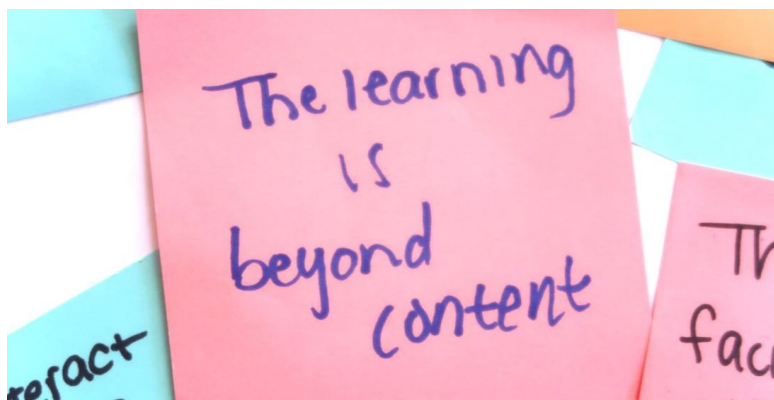
CHECK OUT WHAT OUR INNOVATION GRANT AWARDEES HAVE DONE THIS YEAR!



DAY OF UNDERSTANDING

November 1, 2022

During the Day of Understanding, the Center for Teaching Excellence encouraged faculty and students to reflect on conditions that make them feel part of a community, particularly in the classroom. Participants contributed their own response to the phrase “**The classroom feels like a community when...**” while also reflecting on the responses of others. The result was a vibrant visual display of community experience with belonging.



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2022-23 has been a very busy year for the CTE. In September, we welcomed our third and largest cohort of faculty to ACUE's year-long course in effective teaching. In December, when generative AI writing tools exploded onto the academic scene, the CTE began hosting workshops and discussions, and prepared and updated resources to guide faculty in how to address this tool in their courses on short notice. On May 23, 2023, our year culminates with our annual day-long Teaching and Learning Summit.

The CTE continues to build community through our monthly On Pedagogy discussions, books groups, and faculty learning communities. Over 100 instructors have engaged with the CTE this year in formal programming and consults, and our reach extends to everyone with our lending library and newly expanded website.

Our support of faculty is expansive - we provide one-on-one consults, and we fund faculty attendance at professional development opportunities across the country. We provide mini-grants for discrete and immediate needs in the classroom, and we fund year-long innovation grants for larger-scale impacts on teaching and learning. We are available online, in the Center's AIC location, and in faculty suites.

The CTE's partnerships continue to be strengthened as we collaborate with the Krupp Library, Access Services, Academic Computing, and others to support faculty in developing inclusive classrooms that take advantage of innovations to improve the teaching and learning experience.

Thank you for being part of the teaching and learning journey this year. We look forward to welcoming you to the Summit and to engaging with you in the future.

- Ilisabeth Bornstein

CTE RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT



The Lending Library

Located in AIC 224, the CTE now has a Lending Library where books covering different subject matters, all related to teaching, can be signed out by faculty at any time.

Topic areas include:

- Faculty Development
- Anti-Racism & Inclusive Teaching
- Classroom Tools & Techniques
- Understanding Our Students
- Online Instruction
- Assessment



Consultation Services

CTE Staff and faculty fellows offer one-on-one consultations on topics related to teaching and learning, including the following areas:

- Assessment & Grading
- Course/Syllabus Design
- Educational Technology
- Faculty Learning Communities
- Inclusive Pedagogies
- Surveys & Course Feedback

CTE BY THE NUMBERS

For academic year 2022-2023

40

ATTENDEES AT BOOK GROUPS
AND FACULTY LEARNING
COMMUNITIES

28

PROGRAMS OFFERED
BY THE CTE

112

INSTRUCTORS WHO HAVE
ENGAGED WITH CTE PROGRAMMING

17

TEACHING-RELATED
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
AWARDED THIS YEAR

59

BRYANT FACULTY
WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE ACUE
YEAR LONG COURSE
IN EFFECTIVE COLLEGE INSTRUCTION



Monthly "On Pedagogy" conversation.



Faculty & staff engaged in discussion at the 2022 Teaching and Learning Summit.

FIRST YEAR TEACHING TECHNIQUES COHORT

First Year Teaching Techniques (FYTT) is a course designed by the CTE to highlight effective and evidence-based practices for today’s incoming students. As Bryant is restructuring its general education program, the FYTT curriculum seeks to complement these changes by preparing faculty and staff to better engage and connect with the learners in their classrooms. Our first cohort had 12 members complete the course, and we look forward to future offerings.

2023 PARTICIPANTS

Shastri Akella	Stephanie Carter	Gao Niu
Zachary Baker	Tony Houston	Mehreen Pasha
Allison Butler	Ryan Marnane	Veronica Stewart
Valerie Carrigan	Ramesh Mohan	Joan Zaretti

GUESS WHO?

Can you assign the following publication or presentation to the correct CTE staff or fellow?

- 1

Who presented a paper at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association?
- 2

Who presented on “Open World Assessment: Increasing Student Agency in the Demonstration of Learning and Growth”?
- 3

Who will be presenting at the National Higher Education Teaching Conference in New York next month?



Answer Key:

- (1)

Allison Butler; “Uniting principles of educational psychology with online teaching and learning pedagogy to create equitable educational practices”.
- (2)

Ryan Marnane at the 2022 Lilly Conference: Evidence Based Teaching and Learning
- (3)

Constanza Bartholomae; “Life Happens: Normalizing an Ethos and Andragogy of Care in Higher Education.”

The Mission of the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) is to support and enrich the practice and scholarship of teaching and learning at Bryant University.

For more information about the Center for Teaching Excellence, please visit cte.bryant.edu



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CTE STAFF

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CTE FELLOWS

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Faculty Associate

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