



# Keeping Connected

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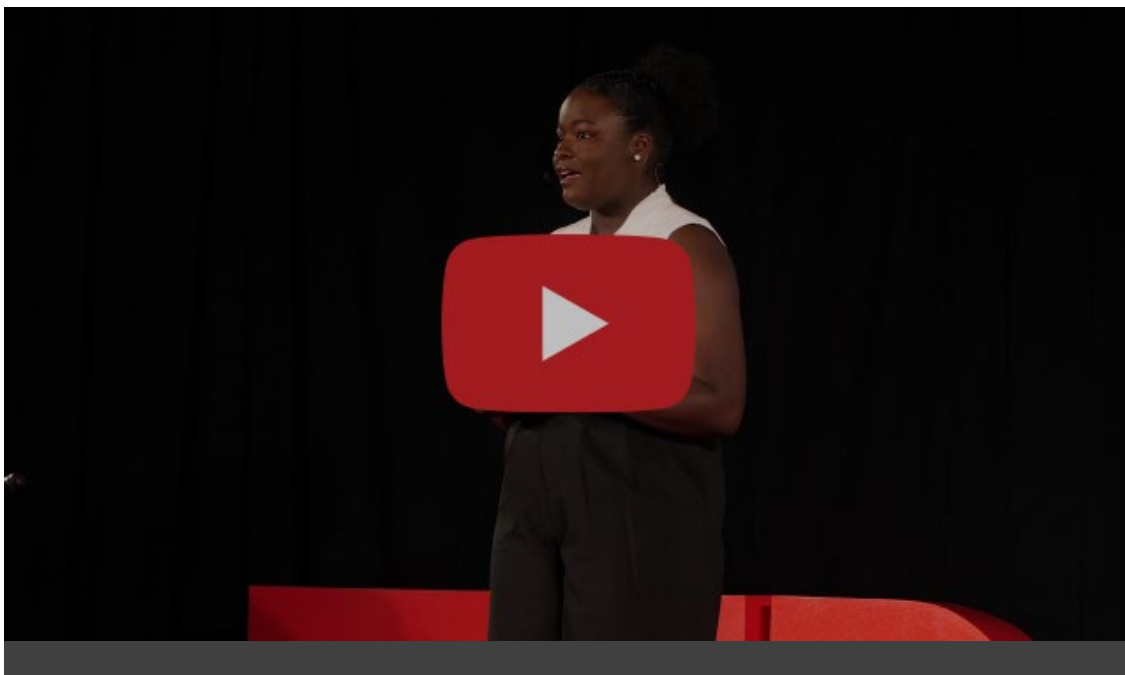
## **Paving the Pathway for Park Students' Success - Student Support**

If you haven't heard lately, here's a quick reminder YOU'RE AWESOME for always going above and beyond to support Park learners. This month the *Faculty Center for Innovation* focuses on student support and helping them achieve their goals. We hope you enjoy this material and look forward to sharing innovative teaching and learning ideas, development opportunities, and inspirational stories on how much you can impact the lives of our students.



## **What I have Learned as a First Generation College Student** **Lyric Swinton | TEDxUofSC**

Anyone can feel out of place due to differences in gender, race, socioeconomic status, relationships, or even a separation of work life and weekend life. But Lyric Swinton knows that we are not defined by the stereotypes placed upon us. [CLICK HERE](#), or on the video below, to listen to Swinton's experiences and learn how we can identify with and support Park students.



### **How Faculty Members Can Support Students in Traumatic Times** *created by the Chronicle of Higher Education*

Everyone is under stress trying to cope with the novel coronavirus pandemic (and students have the additional stress of their courses, personal, and professional lives). This special collection includes some of our strongest pieces on how faculty members can help students cope. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the full article.

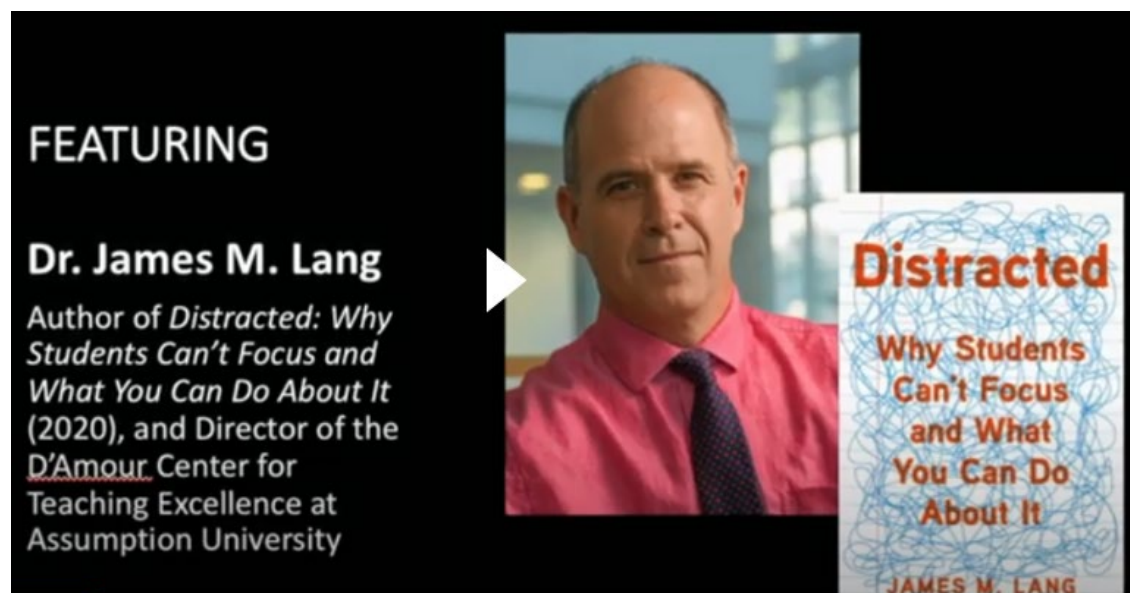


## 2021 *Virtual Academic Conference* Registration

On March 13th, 2021, Park instructors, faculty, and staff will come together for the second annual *Virtual Academic Conference* to explore best teaching practices at our university. From 9:00am to 12:00pm, CST, we will consider ways to create focus and reach students remotely. For more information, please visit the [Virtual Academic Conference website](#), or for additional questions, please email [innovate@park.edu](mailto:innovate@park.edu).

Click the button below to register or use the following link ([HERE](#)). This will let us know you intend to participate in the conference as well as be entered into the drawing for prizes during the event. We look forward to seeing you on March 13th!

Register for the Conference [HERE](#)



## Apply to Spark Tank!

The Faculty Center for Innovation (FCI) is pleased to announce **Spark Tank!** – an innovation grants challenge designed to create community and invigorate faculty teaching and learning at Park University. For AY 2021-22, FCI is awarding Spark Tank grants to departments/programs who wish to utilize grant funding on a collaborative project that will enhance teaching and learning on a program level. Applicants can win up to **\$5,000** to fund their project and transform their program! All applications are peer-reviewed and evaluated, resulting in the selection of three winning projects that will be funded from July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about Spark Tank. Applications are due by **5pm, CST on April 1, 2021!**



**APPLY HERE to Spark Tank**



## Upcoming FCI Programming

We hope you will join us for this month's exciting opportunities that allow you to take a break from the daily grind, connect with your colleagues, and ignite your curiosity to learn something new. Join us for any (or all) of the following sessions below.

- **Authentic Teaching & Engaged Learning** - Wed., Feb. 10th (12-12:30pm, CST) [JOIN HERE](#) (Note. Please be sure to [watch the recording](#) **before** the live session, as it will serve as the foundation for the discussion.)
- **Writing Directions for Digital Learners** - Thur., Feb. 18th (2-3pm, CST) [JOIN HERE](#)
- **The Dark (and Bright) Side of Human Communication** - Wed., Feb. 24th (12-12:30pm, CST) [JOIN HERE](#) (Note. Please be sure to watch the recording, to be shared in upcoming events on the [FCI website](#), **before** the live session, as it will serve as the foundation for the discussion.)
- **Teaching Essentials Roundtable Discussion (Module 2)** - Wed., Feb. 24th (7:30-8:30pm, CST) [JOIN HERE](#) (Note. Please be sure to complete Module 2: Facilitating Discussions in Bridge [ENROLL HERE](#) before the discussion.)
- **Virtual Coffee House** - Fri., Feb. 26th (11:30am-12pm, CST) [JOIN HERE](#)

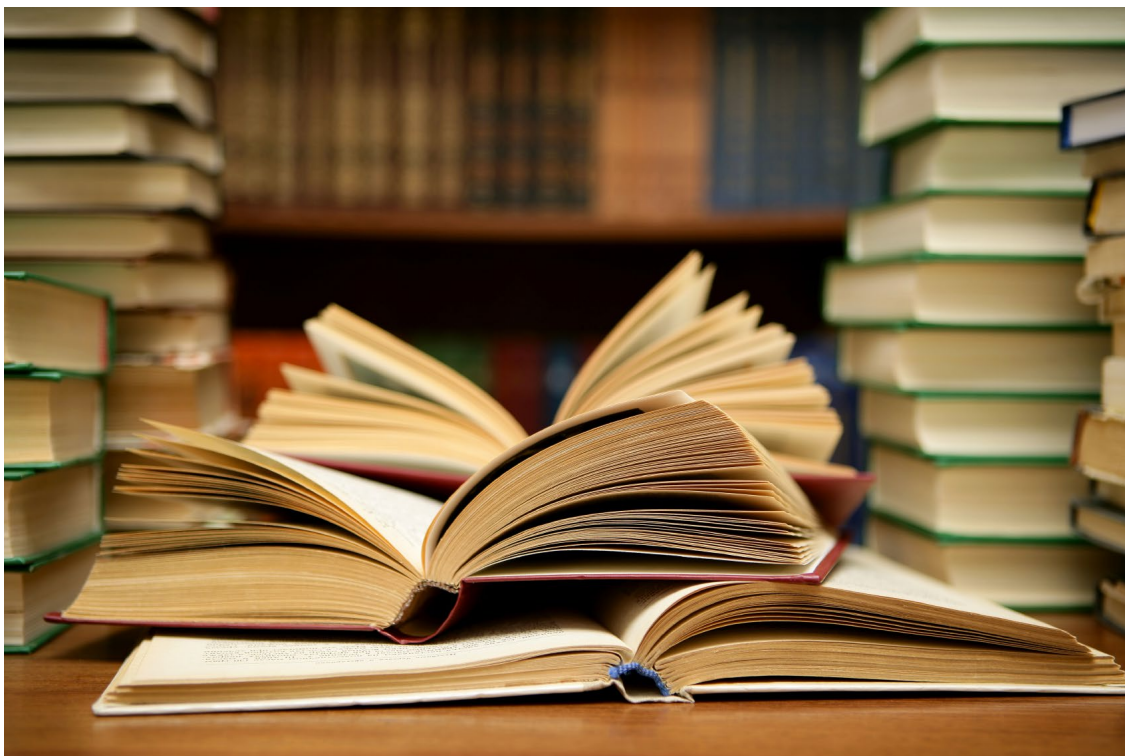


## Scholarly InSights

The Faculty Center for Innovation (FCI) is excited to highlight scholarly work published by FCI's academic journal, [\*InSight: A Journal of Scholarly Teaching\*](#). This month, we are showcasing Ward and Doyle's (2020) article, [\*Opening Up Hispanic Literature: An Open-Access Critical Edition Assignment\*](#), which focuses on collaborative learning and open educational resources (OER) in an introductory Hispanic literature course.

## ***InSight* AND...*InStruct* Call for Papers**

Are you interested in potentially publishing your scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) work? Check out [\*InSight's call for papers\*](#)! The journal is also delighted to share with you *InSight's* new section, *InStruct*, which provides a space to celebrate and display pedagogical content that demonstrates the practical application of SoTL principles. To learn more about *InStruct* manuscript submissions, please view [\*InStruct's call for papers\*](#). For information about the journal, including viewing current and past volumes, please visit [\*InSight's website\*](#); all inquiries should be emailed to FCI at [innovate@park.edu](mailto:innovate@park.edu).



### **iHub (Instructor Hub) Resource Share - Adobe Spark**

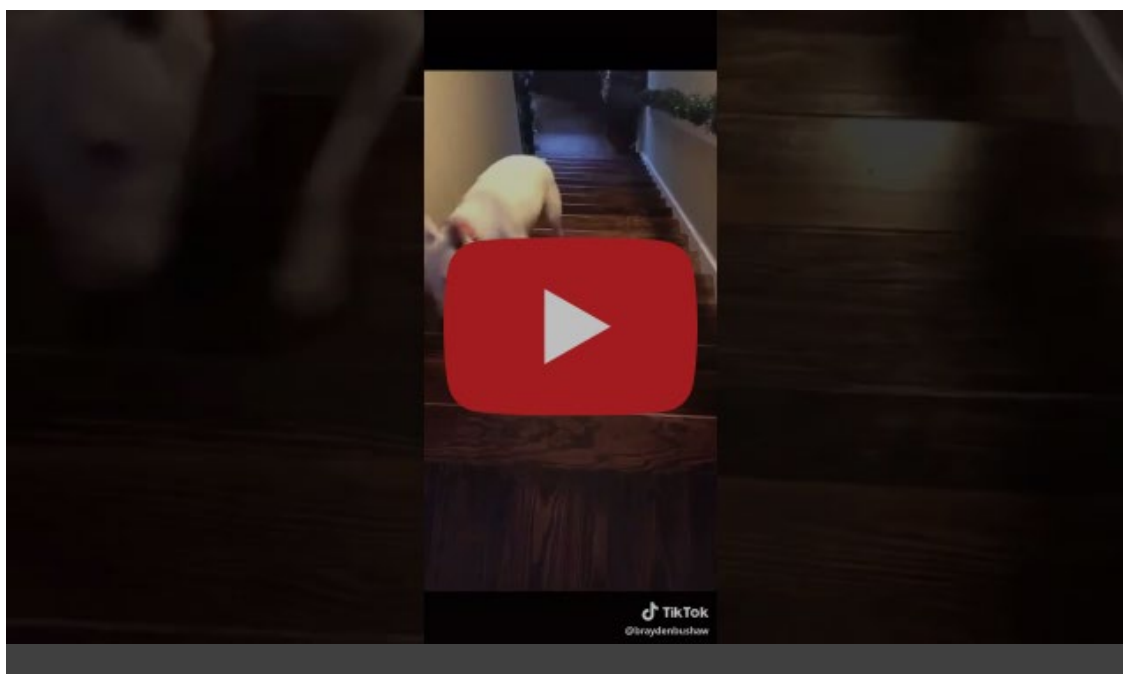
Interested in changing the look and feel of how to present and share classroom content? Look no further, as [Adobe Spark](#) lets you easily create graphics, videos, and webpages that will keep your students engaged. To learn more about Adobe Spark, we encourage you to check out this quick creating video lectures recording developed by one of Park's Instructional Designers, Valorie Engholm. To view more course design strategies, Canvas or educational technology quick tips, self-enroll in [FCI's Canvas Instructor Hub \(iHub\)](#) and check out all of the on-demand recordings. For additional questions, please contact the [Digital Learning Team](#) for course design, [Melanie Kinney](#) for educational technology, [Jared Flaherty](#) for Canvas, and [FCI](#) for teaching and learning strategies and faculty development.





### **Just for Fun: Laugh Out Loud Today!**

As we continue the spring semester, let's jump head first into providing the best support and education for Park students.



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