

Keeping Connected

Fostering a faculty culture of continuous learning and engagement

Fall 2, 2024

As we approach the middle of the semester and beginning of the Fall 2 term, let's embrace the joy that comes from seeing students on campus, meeting to new learners in our courses, and feeling the energy of teaching the topics we love. This issue is focused on strategies for building class community and on understanding our learners. We hope you enjoy!

Sincerely,
Your FCI Team



Community in the Classroom

written by Teresa Thompson

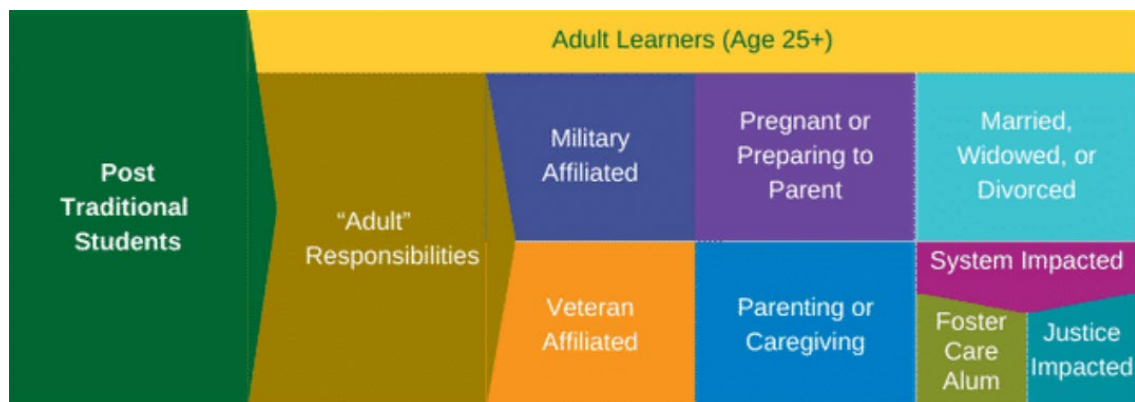
Personal connections lead to success. As educators, it is our responsibility to make space in our classrooms for all students to feel welcomed and encouraged to be a part of our community. Danielle De La Mare, a former educator, and the creator of

the “Self-Compassionate Professor Podcast,” said in a recent interview that “we all deserve to take up space in the world” and that this space allows “for our own gifts to change other people, to impact the work in positive ways (Newbury, 2013).” So, what can we do to start and encourage community building *and* keep it going even after the semester ends? [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.



Teaching Contemporary Students Certification

FCI is pleased to share the newest faculty development certification available, [Teaching Contemporary Students](#). The four online on-demand modules help faculty better understand and support contemporary learners, explore promising practices and strategies to create an inclusive classroom, as well as join/follow resources that support these students. A guidebook is provided in the modules for participants to follow along and share their reflective practices. Faculty who complete all four modules and submit their completed guidebook to FCI (innovate@park.edu) will be awarded their certificate and a digital badge.



Let's Lunch N Learn Together!

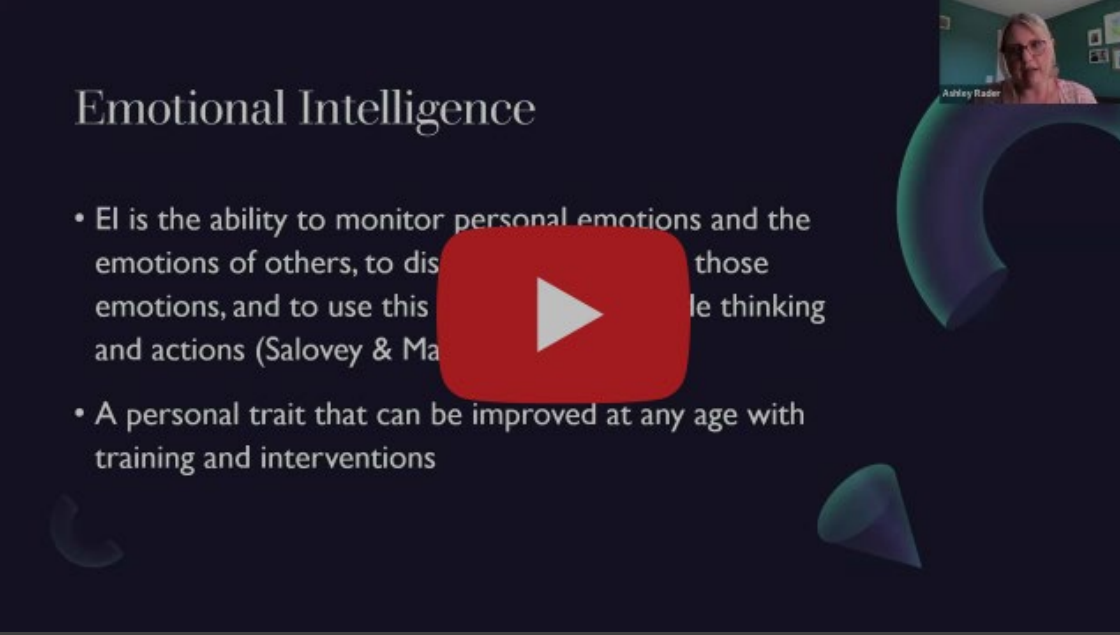
- ***Caring for Our Learners - Student Panel - Oct. 23rd (12:00pm, CST)***

Facilitated by Alyssa Acuna, this session is part of the Student Perspectives Series and will offer a student panel discussion to incorporate what we can learn from our students, particularly in how to best care for and support them and their learning. [REGISTER HERE](#)

- ***Caring for Your Colleagues - Nov. 20th (12:00pm, CST)***

This session will follow up from the responses and collective brainstorming by faculty and deans during the Fall Faculty Conference discussions. These conversations explored ideas for supporting (and being supported by) your peers in the profession of higher education and within Park University. Additional dialogue and discussion will include practical strategies for fostering a culture of care within your college, department, and discipline. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Missed the August FCI Lunch 'N Learn? No worries! [CLICK HERE](#) or on the video below to watch Park alumna, Ashley Rader, present over student self-efficacy and emotional intelligence.



Emotional Intelligence

- El is the ability to monitor personal emotions and the emotions of others, to discern those emotions, and to use this information to guide thinking and actions (Salovey & Sluyter, 1997)
- A personal trait that can be improved at any age with training and interventions

Click the recording above to watch FCI's August 28th Lunch 'N Learn, "A Culture of Care: Promoting Student Self-Efficacy".

Digital Learning Lab

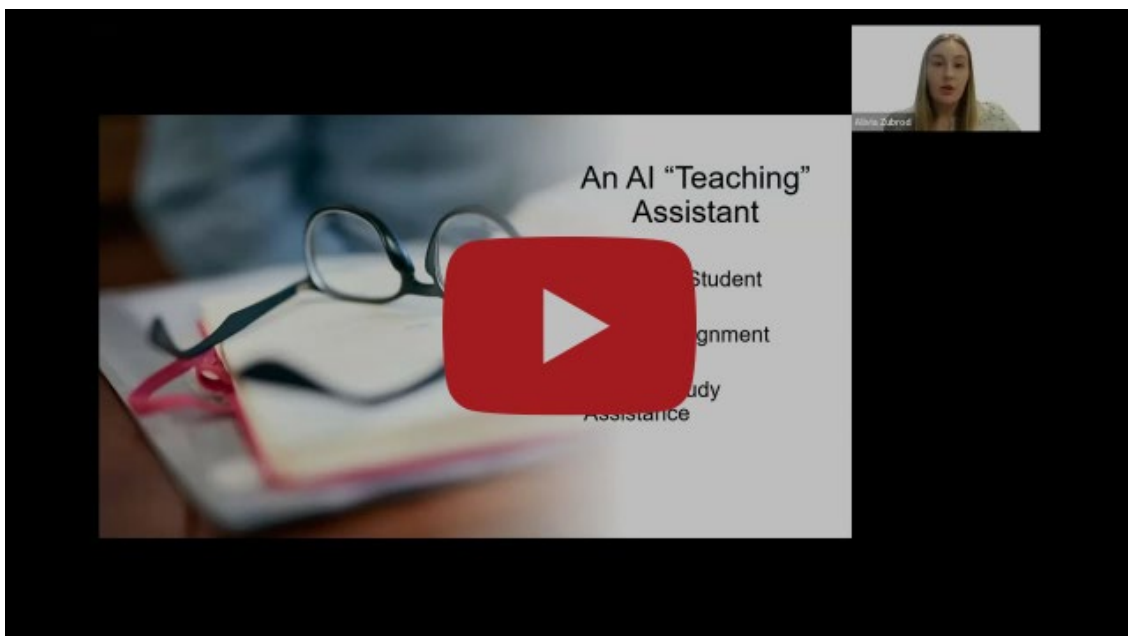
- *Practical Ways to Add Personality to Your Online Courses - Oct. 16th (12:00pm, CST)*

Adding personality to your online courses brings the temperature and nerves down for your students, allowing them to relax and invest in the material. Join this presentation for some tips and resources for bringing the heat to your online courses! [REGISTER HERE](#)



2-Minute Mentor - AI as a Teaching Assistant

Interested in dabbling with AI but not sure where to start? [CLICK HERE](#) or on the video below to learn Dr. Alivia Zubrod's four strategies for using AI as a teaching assistant, and immediately use these ideas for your courses.



InSight: A Journal of Scholarly Teaching

Are you interested in potentially publishing your scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) work or reflective teaching practices essays? Check out *InSight's* [Call for Papers](#) and *InStruct's* [Call for Papers](#). You can also view the current and past editions of *InSight* on the [journal's website](#), and we encourage you to follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

This term, we showcase Vaugh et al.'s (2024) article, [*"I'm Afraid It's Going to be Awkward": Students' Perceived Barriers to Visiting Instructors During Office Hours.*](#)

Connect with FCI on Social Media!

If you have enjoyed participating in FCI programs and/or utilizing FCI resources, we invite you to follow us on YouTube, LinkedIn, and Instagram. Just click on one of the social media icons below to go to its FCI media page. Then, click the option to follow so you are aware of upcoming FCI events, receive teaching and learning tips, see featured faculty and students, and more.



YouTube LinkedIn Instagram