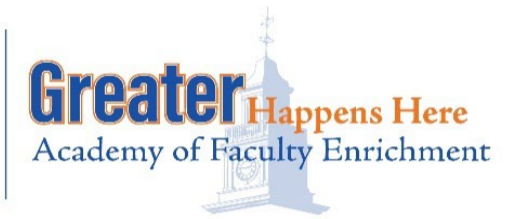


Virginia State University

The Academy of Faculty Enrichment

November 2025 Professional Development Calendar



Date	Workshop Title, Description & Presenter	Location	Virtual Option	Time	Rigstration
6-Nov	Creating Inclusive Pathways: Supporting Every Learner, Empowering Every Educator Culturally Responsive Teaching: Creating Inclusive and Engaging Learning Environments Presenter: Dr. Kristal Clemons, Interim Associate Dean of the College of Education Culturally responsive teaching is more than a strategy—it's a mindset that affirms students' identities, builds meaningful connections between their lived experiences and academic content, and fosters a sense of belonging in the classroom. This workshop invites participants to reflect on their own cultural lens and explore instructional practices that honor diversity while promoting academic success for all students. Using research-based frameworks, case examples, and multimedia resources, participants will examine how to integrate students' cultural backgrounds into curriculum design, classroom interactions, and assessment strategies. The session will also provide practical tools for addressing implicit bias, creating equitable learning opportunities, and engaging students as active contributors to the learning process. Faculty will leave with actionable steps to make their teaching more inclusive, relevant, and impactful. Target Audience: Faculty, Chairs, Directors, and Deans	Online	Join the Meeting	12:30 PM -1:30 PM	Register
11-Nov	Creating Inclusive Pathways: Supporting Every Learner, Empowering Every Educator Supporting Student Success Through Academic Accommodations Presenter: Cyntina Bagley, Director of Counseling and Accessibility, Trojan Health and Wellness Students arrive in the classroom with diverse needs, learning styles, and lived experiences. Providing accommodations is not only a matter of compliance but also an essential practice for fostering equity and inclusion. This session will help faculty understand the legal framework (ADA/Section 504), processes, and best practices for providing student accommodations in higher education. Participants will learn strategies for working effectively with disability services, designing accessible course materials, and supporting students in ways that uphold academic standards while ensuring equitable access. Case studies and practical examples will illustrate how accommodations can enhance—not diminish—student learning and persistence. Target Audience: Faculty, Chairs, Directors, and Deans	Online	Join the Meeting	12:30 PM -1:30 PM	Register

Date	Workshop Title, Description & Presenter	Location	Virtual Option	Time	Rigstration
11-Nov	FACULTY LEARNING COMMUNITY Artificial Intelligence (AI) Presenter: Dr. Gabriella Waters, Director, Center for Responsible AI Discover how Artificial Intelligence (AI) can drive accessible, inclusive learning to support students. This engaging session invites faculty from all disciplines to explore hands-on strategies for leveraging AI tools like Notebook LM and ChatGPT to support Universal Design for Learning (UDL). Participants will identify practical ways AI can enhance course content, assignments, and feedback to create more flexible learning environments for different learning styles, including neurodiverse students. Faculty will collaborate in peer-led activities, design accessible learning materials, and exchange ideas for integrating AI into teaching and research practices. Whether you're seeking innovative techniques or ready to implement new tools, this session will broaden your understanding of AI's evolving role in higher education and empower you to make your courses more student-centered and equitable. Target Audience: Teaching faculty, deans, and chairs	Foster Hall Room 300	Join the Meeting	12:30 PM -1:30 PM	Register
13-Nov	Creating Inclusive Pathways: Supporting Every Learner, Empowering Every Educator Faculty Accommodations and Workplace Support Presenter: Kimberly F. Smith, Director of EEO/Title IX Compliance, Office of Institutional Integrity & Compliance Just as students may require accommodations, faculty members sometimes need workplace support to perform at their best while balancing personal health, caregiving, or other challenges. This session will provide an overview of faculty accommodation policies, processes, and resources available at the university. Topics include understanding rights and responsibilities under ADA and FMLA, navigating requests for modified duties or schedules, and building a supportive culture that values flexibility while maintaining institutional effectiveness. Department chairs and deans will gain insights into handling accommodation requests with fairness, confidentiality, and compassion. Faculty participants will leave with a clearer understanding of how to access support and advocate for their needs. Target Audience: Faculty, Chairs, Directors, and Deans	Online	Join the Meeting	12:30 PM -1:30 PM	Register

Date	Workshop Title, Description & Presenter	Location	Virtual Option	Time	Rigstration
14-Nov	Book Cub Series Our Book for the Semester: AI for Educators: Learning Strategies, Teacher Efficiencies, and a Vision for an Artificial Intelligence Future by Matt Miller Session 1 Lead by: Dr. Desmond Stephens, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Office of the Provost Join us for a Lunch & Learn as we explore AI for educators! This practical guide offers real-world ways to streamline your work, enhance student learning, and prepare for an AI-driven future, sparking meaningful conversation! Free books are available to the first 25 faculty members who register. Participants will be notified via email of the pickup location. Target Audience: All teaching faculty, Deans, and Chairs	Online	Join the Meeting	12:00 PM -1:00 PM	Register
18-Nov	Creating Inclusive Pathways: Supporting Every Learner, Empowering Every Educator Meeting Students Where They Are: Outreach That Builds Trust & Belonging. Retention is a Team Sport: Building Campus-Wide Responsibility Presenter: Dr. Douglas Delano, Academic Intervention Coach, Academic Center for Excellence This session explores effective outreach strategies that resonate with Gen Z students, including text messaging, peer mentoring, and social media engagement. Participants will learn how to build trust through timely, consistent communication and inclusive practices that affirm student identity and belonging. Emphasizing that retention is a campus-wide responsibility, the workshop highlights how collaboration between faculty, staff, and student services can create a culture of shared accountability for student success. Attendees will leave with actionable approaches to strengthen connections and improve persistence across the university. Target Audience: Faculty, Chairs, Directors, and Deans	Online	Join the Meeting	12:30 PM -1:30 PM	Register

Date	Workshop Title, Description & Presenter	Location	Virtual Option	Time	Rigstration
19-Nov	Book Cub Series Our Book for the Semester: AI for Educators: Learning Strategies, Teacher Efficiencies, and a Vision for an Artificial Intelligence Future by Matt Miller Session 2 Lead by: Dr. Desmond Stephens, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Office of the Provost Join us for a Lunch & Learn as we explore AI for educators! This practical guide offers real-world ways to streamline your work, enhance student learning, and prepare for an AI-driven future, sparking meaningful conversation! Free books are available to the first 25 faculty members who register. Participants will be notified via email of the pickup location. Target Audience: All teaching faculty, Deans, and Chairs	Online	Join the Meeting	1:00 PM -2:00 PM	Register
20-Nov	Creating Inclusive Pathways: Supporting Every Learner, Empowering Every Educator Trauma-Informed Pedagogy: Teaching with Empathy and Resilience Presenter: Dr. Melissa Johnson, Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Leadership Trauma—whether individual, collective, or generational—can deeply shape how students learn, engage, and persist in higher education. This session introduces the principles of trauma-informed pedagogy, an approach that recognizes the prevalence of trauma and its impact on learning while promoting practices that create safe, supportive, and empowering learning environments. Participants will explore strategies for fostering connection, predictability, and trust in their classrooms; balancing rigor with compassion; and designing courses that are both inclusive and responsive to student needs. By the end of the session, faculty will leave with practical tools to strengthen student engagement, build resilience, and contribute to a culture of care and academic success. Target Audience: Faculty, Chairs, Directors, and Deans	Online	Join the Meeting	12:30 PM -1:30 PM	Register

Date	Workshop Title, Description & Presenter	Location	Virtual Option	Time	Rigstration
25-Nov	FACULTY LEARNING COMMUNITY Artificial Intelligence (AI) Presenter: Dr. Brian Sayre, Director of Academic AI and Operational Integration The Faculty Learning Community (FLC) on Artificial Intelligence (AI) brings together faculty from across disciplines to explore the evolving role of AI in teaching, learning, and scholarship. In this peer-led, collaborative environment, participants will engage in case studies, hands-on applications, problem-solving exercises, and discussions on best practices for AI integration in the classroom. The FLC provides a structured yet flexible curriculum designed to encourage experimentation, reflection, and interdisciplinary collaboration, breaking down traditional academic silos. Whether you are just beginning to explore AI tools or already incorporating them into your courses and research, this community offers a supportive space to share experiences, exchange ideas, and advance the quality of teaching at VSU. Through regular meetings, faculty will develop innovative strategies for leveraging AI while strengthening professional connections and contributing to a culture of academic excellence. Target Audience: Faculty, Chairs, Directors, and Deans	Foster Hall Room 300	Join the Meeting	12:30 PM -1:30 PM	Register