

INSTITUTE
SPRING 2023

FACET NEWSLETTER

The Center was created by and for Towson University faculty. We support an inclusive and collaborative faculty community and foster a culture of excellence in scholarship and teaching.

BY FACULTY FOR FACULTY

Greetings from FACET! We hope this message finds you well and eager to start another exciting semester on campus. At FACET, we understand the hard work and commitment that goes into supporting our students, and we want to express our sincere gratitude for all that you do.

We're here to support you in your personal and professional development. We've put together a rich array of offerings specifically designed for you, our valued faculty members. Whether you're looking to deepen your research, nurture your creative ideas, or enhance your teaching skills, we encourage you to explore and engage with the opportunities we've created just for you. After all, FACET was founded by faculty, for faculty, and we believe in the importance of supporting each other in our shared mission of helping students reach their full potential.



EVENTS AND DATES

Open Educations Resources Grant
Application Deadline - **MAR. 6**

FACET Fellow Application due **MAR. 10**

Faculty Research Conference
Proposals due **MAR. 27**

Chat GPT and AI - **APRIL 4**



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PROGRAMS

FACET Programs Include:

- Fellowships
- Communities of Practice
- FACET Scholars

SERVICES

FACET Supports:

- Teaching
- Faculty Research
- Mentoring
- Creative Activities

towson.edu/facet

TEACHING RESOURCES

Open Educational Resources (OER)

Students need our help in keeping their education costs low. One way you can contribute is to develop and use Open Educational Resources (OER), which are free to your students. FACET is pleased to offer mini-grants to faculty for exploration or adoption/adaptation of OER for their classes. In addition to the mini-grants, recipients receive support and mentoring from the TU OER Community of Practice (CoP).

The application deadline is March 6, 2023.

[Apply for a grant!](#)



Teresa Valais

Meet Teresa Valais, Lead/Senior Instructional Designer, an experienced instructional designer who believes that accessible design should be at the forefront of every learning experience. In her words, “Accessible instructional design is good instructional design, regardless of modality.” With a passion for creating inclusive and engaging learning opportunities, Teresa brings a wealth of knowledge to our team.

Have questions about course design, active learning, or ways to increase student engagement? Reach out to get to know Teresa! tvalais@towson.edu



Trauma-Informed Learning Environments (TILE) Workshop

Many of our students have experienced some degree of stress and trauma in their lives, and there is a measurable impact on their learning. Scholarly work has led to the discovery of pedagogical approaches that can support academic success of students, regardless of their trauma exposure.

Join this self-paced workshop, which will be available throughout the spring 2023 semester, to learn strategies that you can apply to your course syllabi, assignments, and other materials. Email us at FACET@towson.edu with any questions.

Request access to the blackboard community to learn how to support academic success in students who have experienced trauma.

[Request Access](#)

CHAT GPT AND AI-GENERATED ASSIGNMENTS

Towson University is taking a proactive approach in preparing for the future of education by engaging its faculty to learn more about the positive and negative aspects of AI and Chat GPT. FACET recognizes the significance of these technologies in shaping the future of education and is working to equip faculty with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions. Through workshops and discussion forums, faculty members are exploring the benefits and limitations of these technologies and how they can be integrated into the curriculum to enhance student learning experiences. In addition, FACET has developed materials and posted them on the FACET website (towson.edu/facet) and the Faculty One-Stop Shop Blackboard organization to help faculty to make decisions about their teaching in this AI-rich environment.

Events include Teaching in the Age of ChatGPT on February 14, and a follow-up session in April. Keep an eye out for events!



The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL)

The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) is a growing field of study that focuses on exploring and improving the teaching and learning processes in higher education. It involves rigorous research, reflection, and analysis of teaching practices, learning outcomes, and pedagogical approaches with the aim of creating effective and engaging learning environments.

The SoTL is an important aspect of faculty research and faculty development and provides opportunities for educators to engage in continuous improvement and innovation in their teaching. By embracing the principles of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, faculty members can enhance their teaching skills and provide students with transformative learning experiences.

A FACET SoTL mini-grant program was recently launched, with application deadlines in May and December. Look for the next notice of application in April 2023.

FACET FELLOWS

The FACET Fellowships program provides full-time faculty members with opportunities to lead campus-wide initiatives in their respective areas of expertise and help to shape faculty professional development programs throughout TU.

Meet our fellows!



Apply to be a FACET Fellow

Due by March 10, 2023

Please apply for a Faculty Academic Center of Excellence at Towson (FACET) Fellowship. FACET Fellows work for one year or two years to support professional development of their faculty colleagues in teaching; research, scholarship, and creative activities; mentoring; leadership; or emerging technology. They also work as a team along with the FACET staff on program development, marketing, and evaluation. These opportunities include leadership development as well as a stipend or other compensation in exchange for your work in your selected area. Applications are due by March 10, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

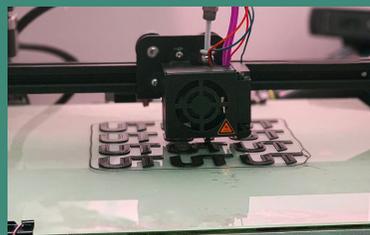
Learn more and apply! towson.edu/facet

SERVICES



Large-Format Poster Printing

As travel resumes and conferences continue to return to in-person events, FACET is here to support your poster printing needs. Use our templates or submit your own design to print in high-quality photographic paper. This service is free of charge to faculty!



3D Printing

FACET maintains multiple 3D printers. 3D printers are great for producing rapid prototypes. Recent collaborations with faculty have included producing custom pieces such as for classroom lab use or research. Learn more about additive manufacturing and how it can enhance your work!

towson.edu/facet

TWO NEW COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE (CoP)

High-Impact Practice CoP (HIP CoP)

Engaged learning environments provide students with opportunities to be active, creative, and critical in their learning process. While engaged learning tactics have evolved over time, the development of 11 high-impact practices (HIPs; Kuh, 2008; Watson et al., 2016) have provided a framework to enhance both the depth and breadth of engagement on campus through both curricular and co-curricular activities. HIPs provide a platform for engagement, community-building, and innovation with the goals of promoting equity and addressing achievement gaps. These 11 practices -- including first-year seminars and experiences, common intellectual experiences, learning communities, writing-intensive courses, collaborative assignments and projects, undergraduate research, diversity/global learning, e-portfolios, service learning/community-based learning, internships and capstone courses/projects -- are often built into academic programs, but to this point, the University has not had a formal structure in place to support faculty and staff in both the practice and scholarship surrounding HIPs. In this vein, we welcome the High Impact Practice Community of Practice, under the guidance of Co-Chairs Dr. Jessica Minkove and Lorie Logan-Bennett, to TU.



Trauma-Informed Practice and Pedagogy

This new CoP focuses on work underway across campus by faculty and staff in support of students and others who have experienced trauma at any point in their lives. A growing research literature indicates that trauma exposure can have lasting impacts on brain development, often manifesting in serious negative academic, social, and emotional outcomes (Henshaw, 2022; Johnson, 2018; Morgan, Pendergast, Brown, & Heck, 2014). Fortunately, numerous evidence-based practices have also been identified that show great promise in ameliorating problems caused by trauma. The primary goal of the trauma-informed practice and pedagogy CoP is to bring together efforts across disciplines, offices, and units at TU around this topic in order to position TU as a leader in employment of such practices for the betterment of students and community members. Join us to talk about your project that centers trauma-informed practice or to learn how to apply research findings to improve your teaching and protocols.