

# Welcome Back to the Community

FACET NEWSLETTER  
FALL 2022



**TOWSON  
UNIVERSITY.**

Faculty Academic Center  
of Excellence at Towson  
(FACET)

**WE WELCOME** you back to campus as you continue your service to our students at Towson University. This fall will include more opportunities to enrich your teaching, scholarship, research, and creative endeavors. We have introduced two new fellowships in Leadership and Disciplinary & Interdisciplinary Research. We invite you to learn more about these opportunities which include fellows' support, teaching resources, events, conferences, and other academic opportunities. When you return to campus, we invite you to visit us in person to learn more about your center, a center created by faculty for faculty.

Learn more: [towson.edu/facet](http://towson.edu/facet)

**Dr. Patricia Westerman**

Assistant Provost, Faculty Academic Center of  
Excellence at Towson (FACET)

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# TEACHING RESOURCES

## THE ONE-STOP-SHOP

Are you looking for resources for designing and teaching using Blackboard? Would you like to explore your options for building courses on Blackboard?

FACET invites you to stop by the One-Stop-Shop Resources for Faculty for information about the following:

- Online teaching eligibility process
- Creating content on Blackboard
- Course design
- FACET course template
- Student Engagement
- Assessment
- Office of Technology Services Help Center

And more...

Visit the [One-Stop-Shop](#).

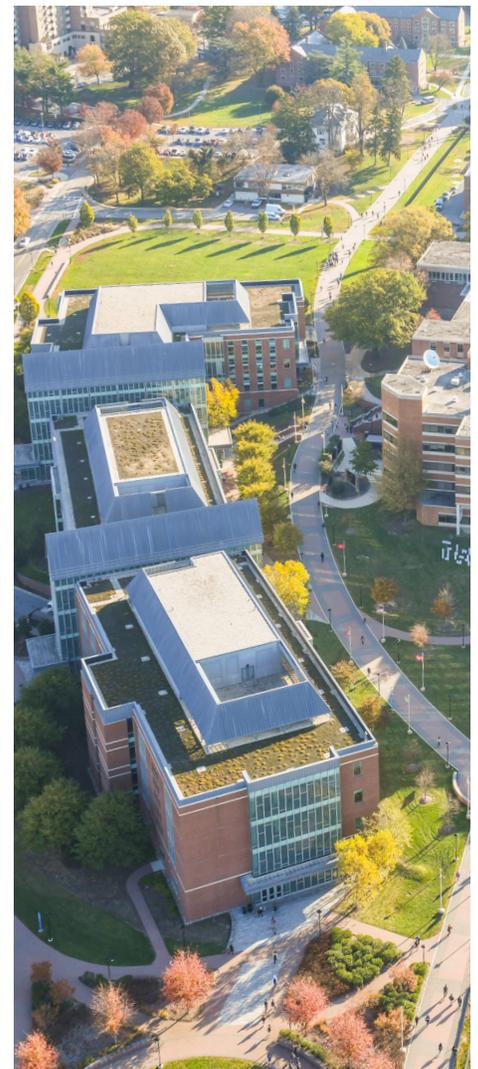


# COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE (CoP)

## JOIN A FACET-SPONSORED COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (CoP)

A CoP unites faculty and staff from across the campus who share common interests, passions, and concerns regarding their roles and responsibilities in the educational environment. Through collaborative efforts, faculty build their knowledge-base and skill levels. An additional objective of each FACET CoP is to bring together information about relevant programs and activities occurring at TU and identify models that may be generalizable from one department, college, or unit to another. The outcomes of the collective members of the community improve individual efforts and increase access to initiatives. Each CoP focused on its specialized theme, began to build a community of faculty and staff members with common interests, and provided leadership to facilitate professional learning related to the theme. FACET has developed seven communities of practice [CoP]:

- (1) Faculty Mentoring [[Sam Collins](#), Chair]: Focus on identifying, exploring, and developing further any programs that support faculty mentoring of faculty.
- (2) Open Educational Resources [[Jennifer Scott](#), Chair]: Focus on bringing together faculty who use or would like to identify or develop and use open-source materials to decrease their students' educational costs, enhance their learning, and enhance culturally responsive curricular activities.
- (3) Student Engagement [[Karla Kubitz](#), Chair]: Focus on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and other approaches to enhancing student engagement and success.
- (4) Emerging Technology [[David Merino](#), Chair]: Focus on use of [emerging technologies](#), including virtual and augmented reality, 3D printing, and drone technology, on research, scholarship, creative activities, and teaching.
- (5) Fair Chance - supporting justice-impacted individuals in their pursuit of higher education.
- (6) Sustainability - focus on creating interdisciplinary connections to support the growth of sustainability-related content within the curriculum and research.
- (7) Undergraduate Learning Assistant CoP [[Cody Sandifer](#), Chair]: Focus on ULA programs: documenting existing programs, needs assessment, effective practices, mentoring of new coordinators, and supporting the creation of new programs.



# FACET FELLOWS

## 2022-2023 FACET FELLOWS IN TEACHING, MENTORSHIP, DISCIPLINARY & INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH, LEADERSHIP, AND SCHOLARSHIP

Please join us in welcoming the FACET Fellows for the 2022-2023 academic year. This year includes the introduction of two new fellowships in leadership and Disciplinary & Interdisciplinary Research Fellow. We heard from our faculty about the need for career and teaching mentorship, and these fellowships will focus on fostering those relationships. Please join us in welcoming our new FACET Fellows in Teaching, Mentorship, Scholarship, Disciplinary & Interdisciplinary Research, and Leadership! FACET Fellows are here for you and we encourage you to reach out to them with any questions or requests for consultation and support.



**JENNIFER POTTER**  
COFAC/Comm Studies,  
Faculty Mentoring Fellow  
[jpotter@towson.edu](mailto:jpotter@towson.edu)

As the FACET Faculty Mentoring Fellow, I am implementing the Faculty Mentoring @ TU framework to encourage faculty mentoring at the department, college, university, and informal levels. In addition to the three yearly mentor trainings I will host, I am also available to work with faculty at all levels to discuss how to: find the mentoring you need, be a good mentor, build a formal mentoring program [or, alternatively, how to formalize informal mentoring practices]. Come see me or send an email, if you'd like to talk; I look forward to working with you!



**SAMUEL COLLINS**  
Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal  
Justice  
Disciplinary & Interdisciplinary  
Research Fellow  
[scollins@towson.edu](mailto:scollins@towson.edu)

As a FACET Disciplinary & Interdisciplinary Research Fellow, I help connect faculty to methodologists and subject specialists, develop interdisciplinary research groups based on common subject interests, consult with faculty on qualitative research, and consult with faculty on grant applications.



**BETSY NEVILLE**  
COE/Special Education  
Faculty Leadership Fellow  
[eneville@towson.edu](mailto:eneville@towson.edu)

As the inaugural Faculty Leadership Fellow, I support faculty by engaging in one-on-one appointments with current department chairs to establish relationships and identify possible areas for professional development; holding additional one-on-one/small group meetings by request to address identified leadership challenges/opportunities; delivering professional development sessions addressing identified areas of interest in conjunction with the Council of Chairs; and providing consultation for faculty interested in a future department chairperson or other academic leadership position.



**JENNIFER BALLENGEE**  
CLA/English  
Disciplinary & Interdisciplinary Research  
Fellow  
[jballengee@towson.edu](mailto:jballengee@towson.edu)

In my role as FACET Fellow for Interdisciplinary and Disciplinary Research, I provide support and resources for faculty scholarship, including helping faculty to find disciplinary and interdisciplinary research partners. I provide support for the FACET faculty writing space and writing retreats, Institutional grant proposal development support, digital storytelling, and digital humanities workshops. I also work with Wellspring to assist faculty in identifying possible funding sources for their research projects and programs.



**KELLY ELKINS**  
FCSM/Chemistry  
Scholarship Fellow  
[kmelkins@towson.edu](mailto:kmelkins@towson.edu)

In my role as FACET Scholarship Fellow, I am happy to provide the following support: consulting on research methodology, professional writing support, review of internal and external grant proposals, and presenting and publishing your teaching practice. Contact me for a meeting.



**CODY SANDIFER**  
FCSM/Physics, Astronomy, &  
Geosciences  
Teaching Fellow  
[csandifer@towson.edu](mailto:csandifer@towson.edu)

As a FACET Teaching Fellow, I am here to help you improve your teaching practice. I am here to support informal in-person teaching observations, one-on-one appointments for instructional support, and consultations regarding current and potential undergraduate learning assistant programs.

# ANNUAL FACULTY RESEARCH CONFERENCE



## MULTIFACETED RESEARCH AT TU

October 28, 2022, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
University Union Ballrooms

This conference is an opportunity for faculty at any stage in their careers to share their work, reconnect with other TU faculty, and participate in emergent interdisciplinary research clusters. This unique conference is co-sponsored by OSPR and will include dozens of sessions in different formats such as lectures, panels, performances, posters, and roundtables for unique opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration.

[Learn more and save the date!](#)

## TU FACULTY SUCCESS PODCAST

Tune in to FACET's new audio podcast, Faculty Success: Higher Ed Conversations! The podcast generates conversations on important topics that support faculty professional growth and success in higher-ed. Topics include teaching, course design, mentoring, scholarship and research, open educational resources, emerging technology, and spotlights TU faculty and their work. [View all episodes and subscribe.](#)

Available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and Anchor.fm.



## WRITING GROUPS

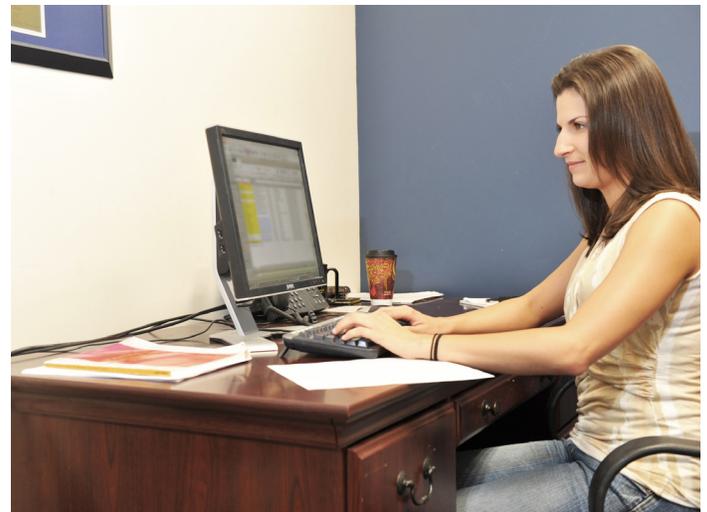
### MEET EVERY 1ST AND 3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

In order to support faculty research, scholarship, and creative activities, and to encourage a community of faculty around professional writing, FACET will offer writing space from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the first and third Fridays of each month from August through December 2022.

No need to RSVP. Just show up to FACET in Cook Library 405!

Members of the writing space community will be encouraged to contribute to a Blackboard organization in which they can catalog their progress, identify their research interests and areas, and communicate with colleagues who are working toward similar goals.

FACET Disciplinary and Interdisciplinary Fellow Dr. Jennifer Ballengee will support this community by scheduling some office hours in the space. She will be available to discuss scholarly activity, work with faculty to identify research partners, and identify ways to overcome barriers in their professional writing.



## DATES

- August 5 & 19
- September 2, 16, & 30
- October 7 & 21
- November 4 & 18
- December 2 & 16

# EVENTS

Planning is now underway to bring you many supportive events this fall. The dates and times have not yet been determined, but please make note of these workshops and activities and be on the lookout for updates later this fall.

[towson.edu/facetevents](http://towson.edu/facetevents)

## AUGUST

- **Writing Group**  
August 2 & 16, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CK 404B

## SEPTEMBER

- **Writing Group**  
September 2, 16, & 30, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CK 404B
- **Sustainability Community of Practice Inaugural Meeting**  
September 9, 2022, 12-1 p.m.

## OCTOBER

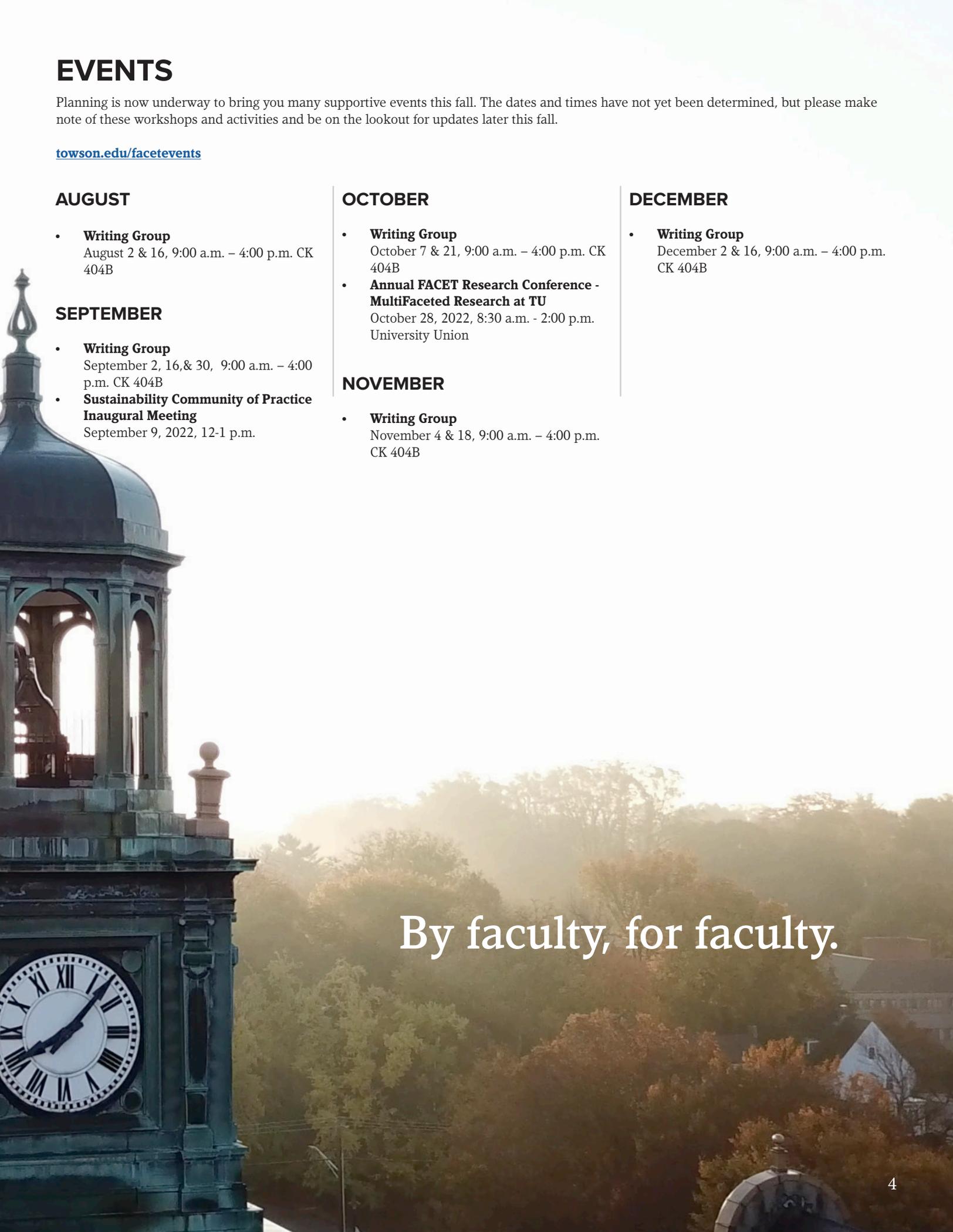
- **Writing Group**  
October 7 & 21, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CK 404B
- **Annual FACET Research Conference - MultiFaceted Research at TU**  
October 28, 2022, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. University Union

## NOVEMBER

- **Writing Group**  
November 4 & 18, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CK 404B

## DECEMBER

- **Writing Group**  
December 2 & 16, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CK 404B



By faculty, for faculty.