Faculty Learning Communities
An Effective Tool for Engaging Faculty in the Innovation, Implementation, and Institutionalization of Technology in Teaching and Learning

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Who We Are (Fall 2013)

The CSU has
• 446,000 students
• 25,000 faculty (tenure line & lecturers)
• 23 campuses ranging from 1500-38,000 students

Sac State has
• 29,000 students
• 700 Tenure line faculty
• 700 lecturers
What is the problem we are trying to solve?

- CA is lagging
- Faculty anxiety
Problem solving: The usual approach
What happens when you have a “wicked problem”

Multiple approaches are needed to address the problem of using technology for learning
Participant Polling question:

Which of the following have you participated in: (select all that apply)

A. Technology workshops (1-2 hours in duration)
B. Technology retreats or boot camps (1 day or more)
C. Technology institutes or academies (1 week or more, staff facilitated)
D. Faculty Learning Community (peer facilitated)
E. Other: please describe
Faculty Learning Communities (FLCs)

- Documented, effective professional development (Milton Cox, http://www.units.miamioh.edu/flc/)
  - Structured, multi-meeting community of practice with curriculum, deliverables and timeline
  - When well structured, utilizes the “wisdom of crowds” to effectively address problems
  - Well designed deliverables are implemented in the short term to demonstrate utility of development topic(s)
  - Develops core of advocates and experts
Why we need FLCs

Adoption Profile
- Innovators: 2.5%
- Early Adopters: 13.5%
- Early Majority: 34%
- Late Majority: 34%
- Laggards: 16%

Psychographic
- Technologists
- Visionaries
- Pragmatists
- Conservatives
- Skeptics

Scarcity → Social Proof

THE CHASM

Tipping Point
## Faculty Learning Community Timeline

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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| 5 Meetings (2 hours each) | • Team and trust building  
  • Introduce, explore, and practice new technology  
  • Apply basic course and lesson design principles (Backward design, Bloom Taxonomy…)  
  • Create of lesson or course redesign proposal (includes project description and evaluation plan) |
| Summer or Winter Break |  |
| 5 Meetings (2 hours each) | • Collaborative project trouble shooting  
  • Technology implementation updates  
  • Pilot technology projects  
  • Collection and analysis of evidence of student learning  
  • Publication of results (poster session, e-portfolios, and/or other culminating event) |
Example technology FLCs

- Using MOOCs to Flip Your Classroom
- Learning Management System and Action Research
- iPads in the Classroom
- Instructional Materials for the 21st Century Student
FLC Outcomes

- Course Redesign presented at national conference
- External Grants: $40,000 from CSU Chancellors Office
- Prioritization of classroom wireless infrastructure
- Faculty Leadership
Funding and Partnerships

$10,000 per FLC (10-15 faculty)
$700 stipends or professional development funds

FLCs are funded and facilitated in partnerships:

- Center for Teaching and Learning
- National Science Foundation
- CSU Chancellors Office
- Student Success
- Office of Assessment
- Sacramento Alumni Association
- College of Natural Sciences
- Center for Community Engagement
- First Year Experience Programs
Questions?

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