

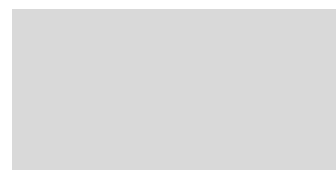


# SPRING 2020 FACULTY CENTER ASSESSMENT REPORT

UNLV Faculty Affairs

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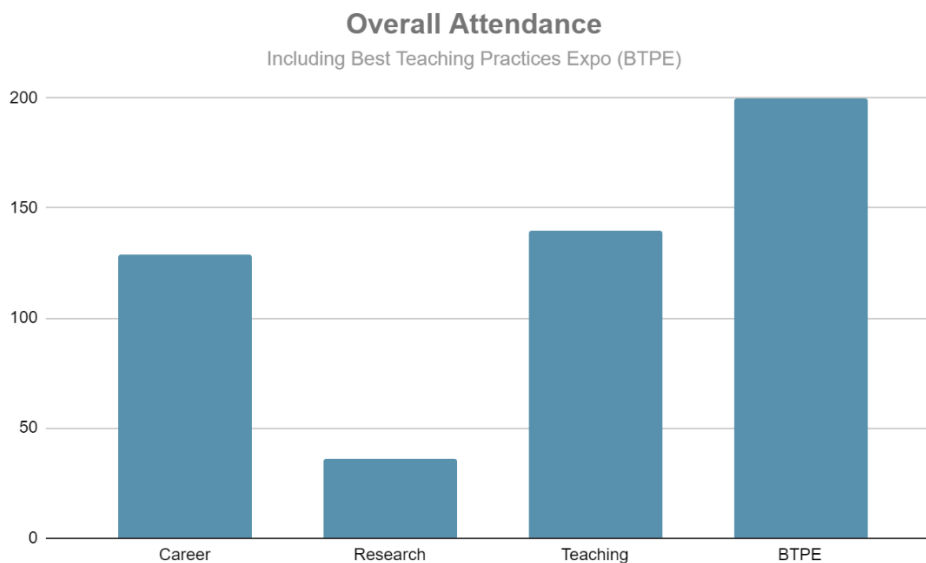
# Executive Summary of Spring 2020 Faculty Center Events & Services: Assessment Report

## Services

1. Workshops on teaching, research, and career development/wellness
2. Support for transition to remote teaching and learning in March 2020
3. Book group
4. Writing groups
5. Teaching observations
6. One-on-one consultations
7. Communication via newsletter and social media
8. Selection committees for Teaching Awards (Regents/Foundation, Spanos, SOTL, and PTI)
9. Website with resources, request forms, and news

## Outcomes Overview

- In Spring 2020 the UNLV Faculty Center had total attendance of 505 participants at 32 Faculty Center-sponsored events over the course of the semester.



- After the switch to remote teaching was announced in March, the Faculty Center organized drop-in help for faculty members to help move courses online and, during Spring Break, helped 122 instructors make the transition.
- To support remote instruction, we solicited tips from instructors and distributed “Teaching Remotely: Tip of the Day” emails to academic faculty, with a total of 21 different teaching ideas sent out and archived on the Faculty Center website.
- Faculty Center Fellows offered 3 one-on-one consultations and 4 teaching observations.
- The Faculty Center organized 3 different writing groups with a total of 20 faculty participants.
- Most faculty members who used Faculty Center services were Assistant Professors, Faculty-in-Residence, or Administrative Faculty.

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- All academic units (colleges and schools) were represented at Faculty Center events and services, most from Education, Sciences, and Liberal Arts.
- In addition to events planned and hosted by the Faculty Center, we co-sponsored and/or advertised many other events for campus units including The Intersection, Online Education, and other campus partners.
- We send a weekly newsletter on Sunday nights, and between January and May we distributed 20 issues of the newsletter. Average open rate for the weekly newsletter has increased to over 50%.
- We moved into Beam Hall and spent much of January and February getting set up in the new space.

## **Future Directions**

- Faculty Center multi-use room will re-open in Fall 2020, but lounge and conference room will be closed for social distancing.
- We are bringing 12 new Faculty Center Fellows on-board to provide support and programming.
- Focus on building small groups and faculty learning communities rather than drop-in, one-time workshops.
- Outreach to tenured faculty (associate and full professors) not currently using services or attending events.
- Additional programming and outreach to part-time instructors.

# Programming Workshop Themes

The Faculty Center’s workshops focus on three distinct areas: Teaching, Research, and Career Development. Each workshop is categorized into one of these three areas, although some workshops may have elements from multiple areas. In Spring 2020 we hosted our signature event, the Best Teaching Practices Expo, plus 8 other teaching-related events. We had 7 career-development/mentoring events and 2 research-related events. Some events in March, April, and May had to be cancelled or moved online due to the COVID-19 related shutdown.

In addition to the one-time workshops listed below, we sponsored a **book group** on teaching across cultural strengths that met once a month during the semester, and a **learning community** connected to a MOOC from Cornell University titled “Teaching & Learning in the Diverse Classroom” that met 5 times. We also hosted 7 **meditation** sessions, led by Dr. Anne White from the Academic Success Center.

A list of categorized events follows:

Event Title	Career Development	Research	Teaching
Part 1: Best Teaching Practices EXPO			x
Part 2: Best Teaching Practices Mini Workshops			x
Mid-Promotion Portfolio Review Workshop: FIR	X		
FIR Mentoring Group: Be Proactive	X		
Preparing an Application for a UNLV Teaching Award			x
Tenure Track Mentoring Group	X		
Supporting LGBTQ Students In & Beyond the Classroom			x
Part-Time Instructors Mentoring Group: Teaching Tips Extravaganza			x
Beyond Email: Fostering Effective Relationships with Students via Social Media			x
Developing an Effective Teaching Statement			x
UndocuAlly Training: Supporting our DACA and Undocumented Students			x
Tune Up Your Library Account: Finding Efficiencies to Support Your Research and Teaching		x	
FIR Mentoring Group: Workload Management	X		

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Tenure Track Mentoring Group: Mixing mentorship and research – creating productive undergraduate/graduate student research teams	X		
First Friday: Building Research Collaborations		X	
10-Hours-Per-Week: First Steps to More Efficient Grading Practices			X
Career Readiness Imperative: Strategies for Connecting Student Learning to Careers	X		
Engagement & Empathy: Faculty Panel			X
FIR Mentoring Group: FIR Summer	X		
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>

## Participants and Attendees

For our **teaching events in Spring 2020**, we had a total attendance of **372 participants**, and **200 of those attendees** were at the signature “**Best Teaching Practices Expo**” in January.

Teaching Event	Total Attended
Part 1: Best Teaching Practices EXPO	200
Part 2: Best Teaching Practices Mini Workshops	32
Preparing an Application for a UNLV Teaching Award	6
Book Group: Teaching Across Cultural Strengths (Feb)	16
Supporting LGBTQ Students In & Beyond the Classroom	5
Teaching & Learning in a Diverse Classroom: Discussion Group 2/18	10
Beyond Email: Fostering Effective Relationships with Students via Social Media	8
Teaching & Learning in a Diverse Classroom: Discussion Group 2/25	16
Developing an Effective Teaching Statement	5
Teaching & Learning in a Diverse Classroom: Discussion Group 3/5	8
10-Hours-Per-Week: First Steps to More Efficient Grading Practices	15
Book Group: Teaching Across Cultural Strengths (Mar)	3
Teaching & Learning in a Diverse Classroom: Discussion Group 3/12	6
Career Readiness Imperative: Strategies for Connecting Student Learning to Careers	4
Teaching & Learning in a Diverse Classroom: Discussion Group 3/26	6
Teaching & Learning in a Diverse Classroom: Final Project Discussion 3/31	4
Book Group: Teaching Across Cultural Strengths (Apr)	2
Engagement & Empathy: Faculty Panel	26

For **research events in Spring 2020**, **36** attended.

Research Event	Total Attended

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Tune Up Your Library Account: Finding Efficiencies to Support Your Research & Teaching	9
Research Collaborations 3/6	27

**For career-planning and wellness events, we had 129 attendees.**

<b>Career-Planning/Wellness Events</b>	<b>Total Attended</b>
Meditation: New Beginnings	17
Mid-Promotion Portfolio Review Workshop: FIR	6
FIR Mentoring Group: Be Proactive	3
Tenure Track Mentoring Group	6
Part-Time Instructors Mentoring Group: Teaching Tips Extravaganza	6
Meditation: Feeling Love	15
FIR Mentoring Group: Workload Management	1
Tenure Track Mentoring Group: Mixing mentorship and research -- creating productive undergraduate/graduate student research teams	2
Meditation: Practice Breathing	16
Meditation with Dr. Anne White - Apr 1	16
Meditation with Dr. Anne White - Apr 8	7
Meditation with Dr. Anne White - April 15	5
FIR Mentoring Group: FIR Summer (Apr 14)	3
Meditation with Dr. Anne White - April 22	7
Meditation: Letting Go	10
Meditation with Dr. Anne White-May 6	9

## Attendees by Type and College

We had 505 attendees at our Faculty Center hosted events. The following table and chart highlight which faculty types attended events in the three categories of career-planning, research, and teaching.

### **All Faculty**

<b>Faculty Type</b>	<b># of Attendees Career Events</b>	<b># of Attendees Research Events</b>	<b># of Attendees Teaching Events</b>	<b>Total Attendees</b>
Full Professor	3	8	14	25
Associate Professor	5	5	34	44
Assistant Professor	12	8	57	77
Faculty-in-Residence	12	1	56	69
Part-Time Faculty	8	0	33	41
Administrative Faculty	57	7	70	134
Visiting Faculty/Lecturers	3	0	10	13
Other	33	6	65	104

Most of our participants are Assistant Professors, Faculty-in-Residence, and Administrative Faculty. We will conduct strategic outreach with tenured faculty members (Associate and Full Professors) and with part-time faculty in the future.



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**Colleges/Units Represented:**

<b>College or School</b>	<b># of Attendees in Spring 2020</b>
Business	30
Dental	2
Education	59
Engineering	25
Fine Arts	42
Graduate College	4
Honors College	1
Hospitality	29
Integrated Health Sciences	34
Law School	3
Liberal Arts	52
Libraries	20
Medicine	17
Nursing	19
Public Health	18
Sciences	62
Urban Affairs	34
Other	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>451</b>

We previously had low attendance from faculty in **Business** and **Hospitality**, but that has improved.

## **Support for transition to remote teaching and learning in March 2020**

When UNLV announced that the second half of Spring 2020 instruction would be delivered remotely, the Faculty Center worked with partners in OIT and Online Education to make a quick plan to offer drop-in help to instructors during Spring Break. A team of instructional designers, IT professionals, and faculty members were available to assist individuals and small groups who needed various types of help: getting started with WebCampus, creating videos, setting up assignments online, and more.

On Monday, March 16th we had open drop-in hours in-person, online, and via phone at the Faculty Center and helped 42 faculty members transition their courses to a remote format. On Tuesday, March 17th we were open again from 9am to 4pm and assisted 50 people with the transition. For the rest of the week we offered online and phone consultations only, as we closed the physical space, and assisted another 30 faculty members make the switch before classes started again after Spring Break.

After classes started remotely on March 23rd, we continued to offer consultations and began sending out regular “Remote Teaching Tips” to share practices adopted by faculty members from different departments. 21 tips are archived on the Faculty Center website:

<https://www.unlv.edu/facultycenter/tip>

In addition to consultations on demand and teaching tips shared via email, we hosted a panel discussion on April 24th titled “Engagement & Empathy” and four faculty members from different disciplines (Psychology, English, Life Sciences, and Art) shared what they were doing to engage students in the newly remote environment and to create an empathetic remote classroom. We had over 30 attendees at the virtual event.

The Faculty Center has been part of ongoing discussions and planning with partners from Online Ed and OIT to continue to develop resources and documentation to help faculty members teach and work remotely.

## Book Group

In Spring 2020 our book group selection was *Teaching Across Cultural Strengths*, and we distributed 24 copies to interested faculty members. The book group was led by Dr. Christine Bergman, Faculty Center Fellow from Hospitality, and met three times during the semester. The group formed a learning community and we intend to continue this type of programming that builds longer-lasting communities than a one-time workshop.

## Writing Groups

Faculty Center Fellows Lori Johnson, Ed Nagelhout, and Jennifer Pharr organized three writing groups with 20 faculty members. They met online and in-person throughout the semester.

## Teaching Observations & Consultations

Faculty Center Fellows are available for observations and consultations through a form on the website. This semester all requests were met, for 3 consultations and 4 observations. We will promote these services more actively in the coming semesters.

## Communication via Newsletter & Social Media

We continued sending a weekly newsletter on Sunday nights, and between January and May we distributed 20 issues of the newsletter. The newsletter goes out to 3,448 subscribers, and the average open rate among academic and administrative faculty has increased to just over 50%.

Our social media activity following continues to grow.

We are still assessing the best ways and platforms to reach faculty members, and will experiment with more communication directly from Faculty Center fellows as well as a physical bulletin board in the new Center.

## Website with Resources, Request Forms, and News

We continue to revise and improve the Faculty Center website with the support of UNLV Web Services.

## Selection Committees for Teaching Awards

We managed the awards process for the Spanos Teaching Award, Outstanding Part-Time Instructor Awards, and Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award in Spring 2020, and selected outstanding winners. The awards committees were once again very helpful in proposing changes to the process, so we continue to improve communication, criteria, and rubrics for the teaching awards.

## Future Directions

- Faculty Center multi-use room will re-open in Fall 2020, but lounge and conference room will be closed for social distancing.
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