



FALL 2019 FACULTY CENTER ASSESSMENT REPORT

UNLV Faculty Affairs

December 2019

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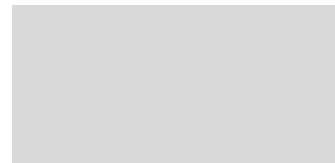


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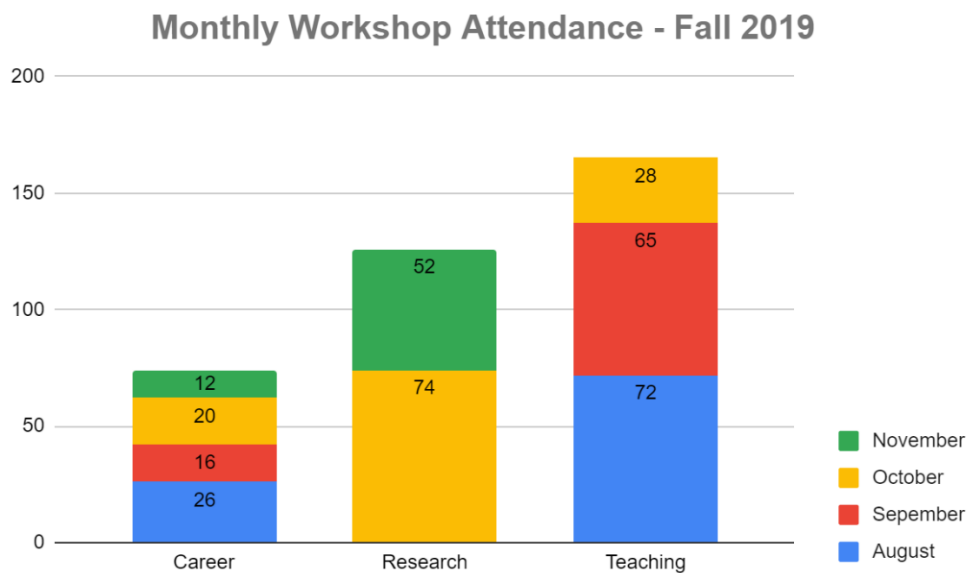
Executive Summary of Fall 2019 Faculty Center Events & Services: Assessment Report

Services

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

Outcomes Overview

- In Fall 2019 the UNLV Faculty Center had total attendance of 365 participants at 19 Faculty Center-sponsored events over the course of the semester.



- Faculty Center Fellows offered 8 one-on-one consultations and 3 teaching observations.
- The Faculty Center organized 3 different writing groups with a total of 17 faculty participants.
- Most faculty members who used Faculty Center services were Assistant Professors, Faculty-in-Residence, or Administrative Faculty.
- All academic units (colleges and schools) were represented at Faculty Center events and services, most from Education, Engineering, 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.

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- We began sending a weekly newsletter on Sunday nights, and between August and December we distributed 17 issues of the newsletter. Average open rate for the weekly newsletter is about 47%.
- Our social media activity picked up in Fall 2019, and we gained Twitter followers.
- We raised over \$1,000 during Rebel Gives and secured the ongoing support of a sustaining donor, who is giving on a monthly basis.
- We selected furniture and AV equipment for the Faculty Center in Beam Hall, and will move in January 2020.

Future Directions

- Faculty Center lounge, multi-use room, and conference room will open in Spring 2020. We will track use of the space and conduct surveys of faculty on what they would like to see made available in the space.
- Strategic outreach to colleges and schools not currently making full use of services, specifically Business and Hospitality.
- 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 Fall 2019 we hosted 5 different teaching-related events plus a book group that met three times, 5 research-related events plus a three-part writing workshop, and 7 career-planning or wellness events. A list of categorized events follows:

Event Title	Career Development	Research	Teaching
Deciding to Teach Online: Tier One Education			X
Educational Equity Workshop (2-day)			X
FIR & PTI Mentoring Group: Teaching Tips	X		
FIR Mentoring Group: Goal Setting	X		
First Friday: Building Research Collaborations-November		X	
First Friday: Building Research Collaborations-December		X	
First Friday: Building Research Collaborations-October		X	
Getting Back to Your Research Agenda After an Administrative Break: Discussion on how to refresh and renew		X	
Guided Meditation: Intentional Self-Care	X		
Guided Meditation: Meditation Basics & Breathwork	X		
Guided Meditation: Take a break	X		
Mid-Promotion Portfolio Review Workshop	X		
Neurodiversity in the Classroom: Working with Students on the Autism Spectrum			X
New Faculty Book Group: Small Teaching			X
Part-Time Instructor Mentoring Group	X		
Supporting Students Who Experience Food or Housing Insecurities			X
Translating Research into Practice & Communicating with the Public		X	
UndocuAlly Workshop			X
Writing for Publication		X	
Total	7	6	6

Faculty Center Workshops: Fall 2019

The Faculty Center hosted 19 events in Fall 2019. Listed below are the workshop titles and descriptions for each event.

- **Deciding to Teach Online: Tier One Education**
 - *Have you considered teaching online, but want to know more about what's possible? This session will offer ideas and examples from faculty members, instructional designers, and online education experts.*
- **Educational Equity Workshop**
 - *In this two-day workshop, we will discuss how to create a culture of equity and inclusion in the classroom. Participants will learn about UNLV's student demographics, practice universal design for learning, and share their own ideas about building inclusive activities and assignments.*
- **FIR & PTI Mentoring Group: Teaching Tips**
 - *Mentoring Groups complement existing mentoring pairs in the departments by offering multiple mentoring experiences to UNLV faculty. Alison Sloat (Sciences) and Joanna Kepka (Honors) convene a group to focus on the career development of Faculty-in-Residence and Mark Spinrad convenes a group for part-time instructors. This joint session will be focused on sharing teaching tips.*
- **FIR Mentoring Group: Goal Setting & Resources for Success (October and November)**
 - *Mentoring Groups complement existing mentoring pairs in the departments by offering multiple mentoring experiences to UNLV faculty. Alison Sloat (Sciences) and Joanna Kepka (Honors) convene a group to focus on the career development of Faculty-in-Residence.*
- **First Friday: Building Research Collaborations (October, November, and December)**
 - *Are you interested in getting grants? Interdisciplinary research is more likely to get funded, but first you need to meet researchers outside of your discipline in order to collaborate, develop research projects, and apply for funding together. Join us for First Friday: Building Research Collaborations to meet other researchers at UNLV, enjoy lunch, and learn about the passion projects of your peers.*
- **Getting Back to Your Research Agenda After an Administrative Break: Discussion on how to refresh and renew**
 - *If you are a faculty member who is mid-career, looking to talk with others about how to refresh and renew your research agenda, perhaps after an administrative break or after a major project is completed, this discussion will help you connect with others who have been there. Led by Faculty Center Fellow Dr. Andrew Hardin, this discussion will provide ideas for returning to research when your attention has been elsewhere for awhile.*
- **Guided Meditation (August, October, and December)**
 - *Join the Faculty Center and Anne White, certified through the Chopra Center as a meditation guide, for a guided meditation session to set your intention for fall semester.*
- **Mid-Promotion Portfolio Review Workshop for Faculty-in-Residence**
 - *Are you preparing for a mid-promotion review? Get feedback and assistance from experienced faculty-in-residence and Faculty Center Fellows Alison Sloat (Sciences), Joanna Kepka (Honors), and Ed Nagelhout (English).*
- **Neurodiversity in the Classroom: Working with Students on the Autism Spectrum**
 - *Over the next decade, campuses across the country will see a drastic increase in the number of students on the Autism Spectrum entering higher education institutions.*

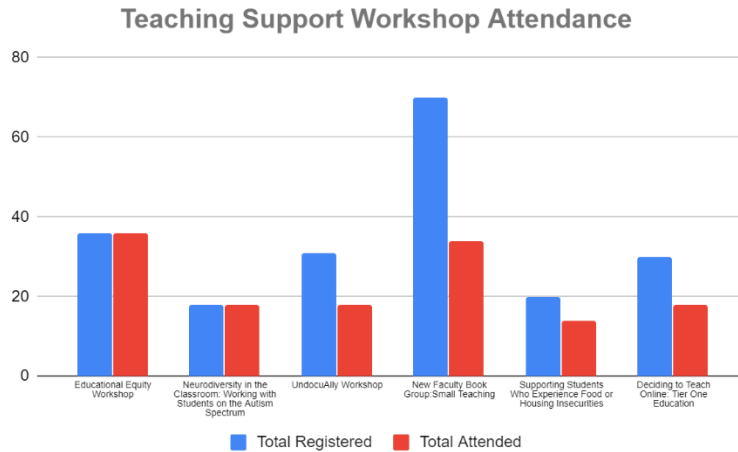
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This session will give faculty and staff tools to support this dynamic population of students in and out of the classroom.

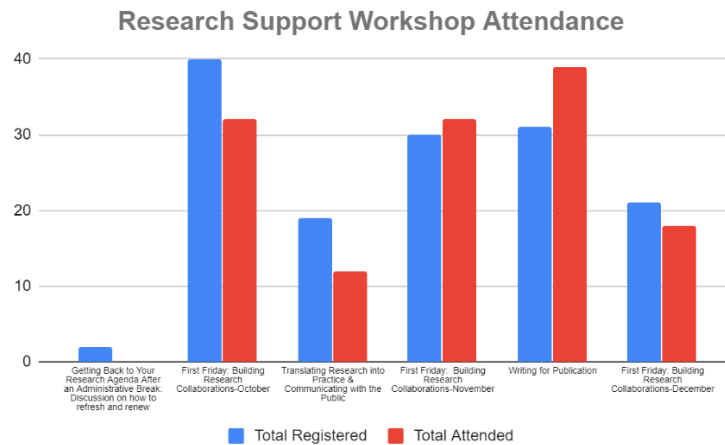
- **New Faculty Book Group: *Small Teaching* (September, October, and November)**
 - *New faculty are invited to join Jarret Keene, Faculty Center Fellow, for a discussion about *Small Teaching: Everyday Lessons from the Science of Learning* by James Lang.*
- **Part-Time Instructor Mentoring Group**
 - *Mentoring Groups complement existing mentoring pairs in the departments by offering multiple mentoring experiences to UNLV faculty. Mark Spinrad convenes this group to focus on the career development of part-time instructors. Sessions focus on teaching and identifying important resources for success at UNLV.*
- **Supporting Students Who Experience Food or Housing Insecurities: Student panel and campus resources**
 - *There are students at UNLV who experience food insecurity and housing insecurity, and their instructors may never know it. What can you do in the classroom to support students who are uncertain of their next meal, and who may not have a steady place to live? A panel of students will share their experience and tips for instructors, and resources from the UNLV community will be highlighted.*
- **Translating Research into Practice & Communicating with the Public**
 - *Research makes a bigger impact when it is communicated broadly, beyond the academy and into the public spheres where it can inform professionals and the wider community. In this session, Tamara Herold and Bill Sousa from Criminal Justice will discuss how they disseminate their research and translate it into practice.*
- **UndocuAlly Workshop**
 - *UndocuAlly Workshops equip staff, faculty, and student leaders with knowledge, skills and resources necessary to better serve undocumented students. Learn about relevant immigration policy, terminology, myths and misconceptions, and resources, as well as best practices in working with students. This workshop is facilitated by Mariana Sarmiento Hernández, resource coordinator with the office of diversity initiatives.*
- **Writing for Publication**
 - *This 3-part workshop series features advice from UNLV faculty member, Jennifer Pharr (Community Health Sciences) on writing and publishing, and will offer opportunities for practice and feedback. Boost your writing productivity!*

Participants and Attendees

For each workshop held, we tracked how many participants registered and how many attended. For our **teaching** events in Fall 2019, we had a total registration of 205 faculty members who expressed interest, and 138 who actually attended.

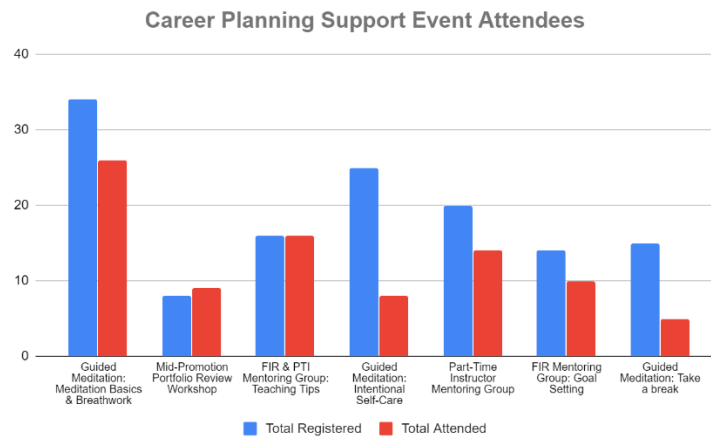


For research events in Fall 2019, 143 registered and 133 attended.



For career-planning and wellness events, 132 registered and 88 attended.

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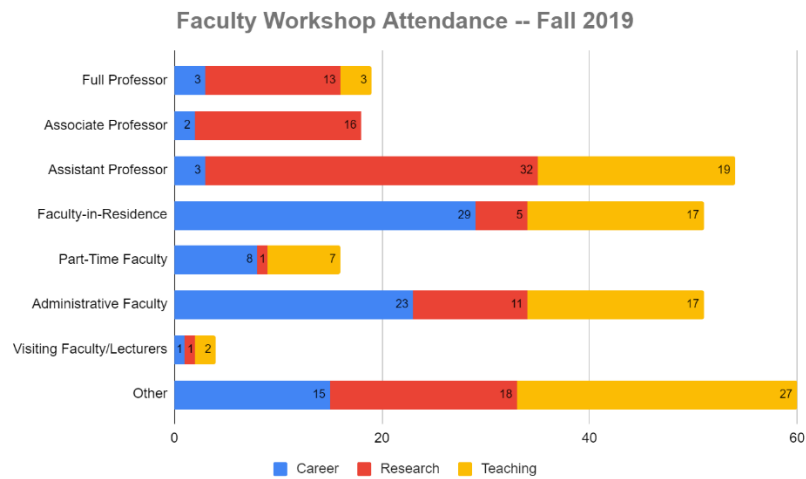
Attendees by Type and College

We had 365 attendees at our 19 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

Faculty Type	# of Attendees Career Events	# of Attendees Research Events	# of Attendees Teaching Events	Total Attendees
Full Professor	3	13	3	19
Associate Professor	2	16	0	18
Assistant Professor	3	32	19	54
Faculty-in-Residence	29	5	17	51
Part-Time Faculty	8	1	7	16
Administrative Faculty	23	11	17	51
Visiting Faculty/Lecturers	1	1	2	4
Other	15	18	27	60

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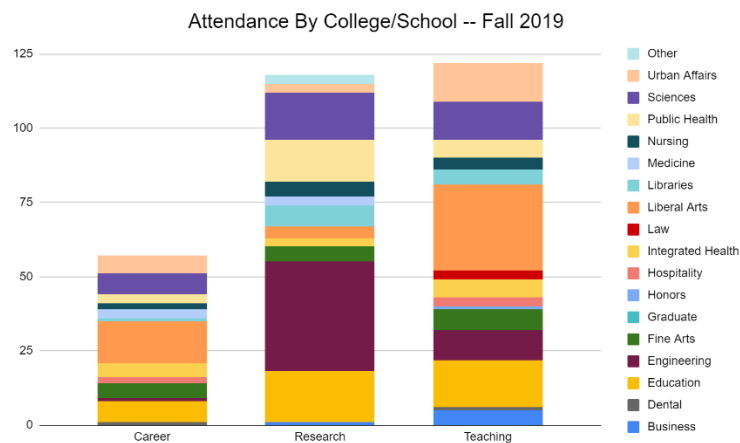


Most of our participants are Assistant Professors, Faculty-in-Residence, and Administrative Faculty. We will conduct strategic outreach with tenured faculty members (Associate and Full Professors) and with part-time faculty in the coming semester.

Colleges/Units Represented:

College or School	# of Attendees in Fall 2019
Business	6
Dental	2
Education	40
Engineering	48
Fine Arts	17
Honors College	1
Hospitality	5
Integrated Health Sciences	14
Law School	3
Liberal Arts	47
Libraries	13
Medicine	6
Nursing	11
Public Health	23
Sciences	36
Urban Affairs	22
Other	3
Total	297

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We are missing faculty in **Business** and **Hospitality**, and will conduct strategic outreach to those colleges in the coming semester.

Book Group

In Fall 2019 we had our first Faculty Center book group and distributed 24 copies of *Small Teaching* by James Lang. The book group was led by Jarret Keene, Faculty Center Fellow, 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. We have selected another book for Spring 2020, *Teaching Across Cultural Strengths*, and distributed 24 copies to interested faculty members.

Writing Groups

Faculty Center Fellow Lori Johnson organized three writing groups with 17 interested faculty members. One was active throughout the semester, while the other two groups dropped off in activity. In the spring we will have a Faculty Center Fellow assigned to coordinate each of the three groups in order to provide more structure and support. Groups will also have the option to meet in the Faculty Center conference room for regular write-on-site accountability meetings.

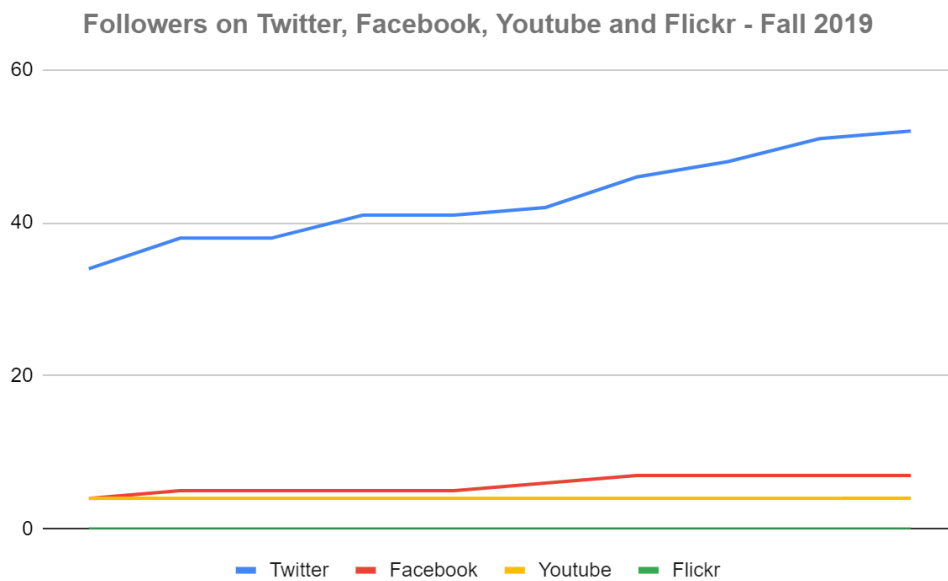
Teaching Observations & Consultations

Faculty Center Fellows are available for observations and consultations through a form on the website. This semester all requests were met, for 8 consultations and 3 observations. We will promote these services more actively in the coming semesters.

Communication via Newsletter & Social Media

In Fall 2019 we changed our newsletter format from monthly to weekly in order to spread the word about events. We began sending a weekly newsletter on Sunday nights, and between August and December we distributed 17 issues of the newsletter. The newsletter goes out to 3,576 subscribers, and the average open rate among academic and administrative faculty is about 47%.

Our social media activity picked up in Fall 2019, and we gained Twitter followers.



We are still assessing the best ways and platforms to reach faculty members, and will experiment with more communication from Faculty Center fellows as well as a physical bulletin board in the new Center, beginning in Spring 2020.

Website with Resources, Request Forms, and News

We revised the Faculty Center website in Fall 2019 with the support of UNLV Web Services, and pared down old content while providing greater usability.

Selection Committees for Teaching Awards

We managed the awards process for the Regents/Foundation Teaching Award in Fall 2019, and selected four winners. The committee was very helpful in proposing changes to the process, so we will have improved criteria and rubrics for the awards given in the spring (Spanos, PTI, and SOTL).

Qualitative Feedback from Faculty Members

We surveyed faculty members regarding their satisfaction with Faculty Center programs in Fall 2019, asking for feedback on what they learned and what suggestions they have to improve future Faculty Center events and services. Though we had few responses, satisfaction with teaching, research, and career-planning events was high. One faculty member said:

I always learn a variety of perspectives from the faculty presenters. Even if I don't adopt something directly, it's nice to hear the various ways that people approach teaching and research.

Suggestions for future programs included:

- *More programming for administrative faculty*
- *Research and productivity topics*
- *Discussion about integrating research and teaching*

Future Directions

- Faculty Center lounge, multi-use room, and conference room will open in Spring 2020. We will track use of the space and conduct surveys of faculty on what they would like to see made available in the space.
- Strategic outreach to colleges and schools not currently making full use of services, specifically Business and Hospitality.
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