

WELCOME TO THE
2019 CONFERENCE FOR
FIRST-YEAR INNOVATION

May 14, 2019



UConn | UNIVERSITY OF
CONNECTICUT
FIRST YEAR PROGRAMS
LEARNING COMMUNITIES
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

"Failure is success
in progress"
~Albert Einstein

WELCOME TO THE 2019 CONFERENCE FOR FIRST-YEAR INNOVATION, HOSTED BY FYF | LC | AAC. GET READY FOR A DAY OF DIGGING DEEP AS WE THINK ABOUT FEAR OF FAILING AND AS WE EXPLORE WAYS TO MORE FULLY ENGAGE STUDENTS AND DIVERSIFY OUR CURRICULUM.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

All morning sessions will be in McHugh Hall

8:15am-8:55am

Registration & Breakfast

9:00am-9:15am

Welcome, MCHU 102

9:15am-10:45am

Theater Delta Performance

We are partnering with the Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning (CETL) to host Theater Delta for an interactive workshop, "Can I be of any help?" This theater performance and facilitated discussion will address conflicts that may appear in the classroom based on racism, classism, homophobia, cultural appropriation, etc...

10:55am-11:45am

Session 1

MCHU 102—Conversation with the actors, moderated by Tina Huey

Continue the conversation with the actors from Theater Delta. Learn about their process, ask questions about performing, or discuss addressing conflicts in the classroom more.

MCHU 107—Growth mindset for handling adversity w/Chelsea Cichocki

Failing forward is an important process of learning, one that is closely connected to Carol Dweck's research on growth mindset. This session will present an overview of growth mindset and how it overlaps with topics such as neuroplasticity and deliberate practice. We will discuss ways to talk with students about their own mindset story during FYE.

MCHU 108—It's not you, it's me: Engaging quiet classes w/David Ouimette & Hend Ouda

This session will address one of the biggest challenges for FYE instructors; quiet students! Over the years feedback from instructors and mentors alike lament how quiet first year students are in FYE. We will introduce techniques to build a classroom culture of engagement. We will discuss instructor/student expectations as well as activities and techniques to develop your class over the 14 weeks. This session will be highly interactive (of course) and will leave you feeling energized and ready for your FYE class in the Fall.

MCHU 109—Responding to and grading the FYE student writing assignment, w/Karen Skudlarek

Do you feel like you're not qualified to grade the FYE Writing Assignment? Are you afraid of giving feedback? Then stop by while we discuss a variety of ways to respond to and grade it. This session will cover learning outcomes, the process of the assignment, as well as the formats available for the Writing Center visits (at the Writing Center or in-class).

12:00pm-1:15pm Lunch in Werth Forum (Room 112)

All afternoon sessions will be in Werth Tower

1:25pm-2:30pm Mini Sessions

Interactive community building activities to use with students

1:25pm-1:55pm Mini-Session 2.1

Living Room—Leo Lachut, Tank: Overcoming awkwardness in class through creative engagement

W115—Sloane Hanley, Weird question of the day

W116—Whitney Losapio, Forfeit failure and facilitate a fantastic first five minutes (name games)

W117—Kyle Harrington & Sarah Renn, Developing deeper connections: Cross-cultural community building

W118—Becky Acabchuk, Mindfulness & meditation in the first year

2:00pm-2:30pm Mini-Session 2.2

Living Room—Leo Lachut, Tank: Overcoming awkwardness in class through creative engagement

W115—Sloane Hanley, Weird question of the day

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2:40pm-3:30pm Session 3

W115—Coaching students through failure w/ Joanna Rivera Davis & Sloane Hanley

This workshop will provide FYE instructors with coaching strategies and techniques to best assist undergraduate students through failure. There will be tips and best practices shared on ways to aid students with stress management, evaluation of their opportunities and development of a plan to rebound for success in their personal, academic and professional life.

W116—Getting to good enough w/ CMHS Interns: Alana Coscia, Ashley Perreira, & Trevor Cote

This workshop is centered on working toward students seeing themselves as “good enough” and reframing failures and disappointments. Content will touch on perfectionism, self-compassion, and comparison/competition.

W117—Fear factor, FYE edition w/ Sarah Scheidel

Stare fear in the eye as you compete for FYE glory. You will complete challenging FYE case studies, which will test you mentally & physically. If you're too afraid to address the case study, you're eliminated. Once you get past the spiders, snakes, and eyeballs, we will analyze and discuss various scenarios that are common when teaching FYE. By working together, you will overcome fears including not having enough time, working with FYE mentors, increasing engagement, and more!

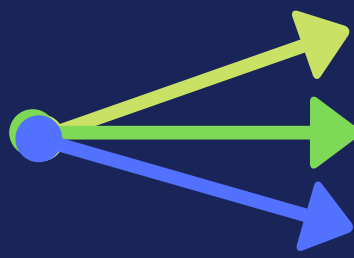
W014—Making the experience w/ P.J. Barnett & Cody Ryan

In this Maker Session, attendees will participate in a Maker Challenge which can be adapted into lessons. Topics can include teamwork, communication, resource utilization, problem solving and/or creativity using everyday items. This will expose instructors to one of many examples of how to integrate the Makerspace Experience into the FYE curriculum.

3:35pm-3:45pm Closing & Door Prizes

CONNECT

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RECOGNITION

2019 CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

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Sloane K. Hanley
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Sarah Renn
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Daniel Mercier
Christine Mosman
David Quimette
Sarah Renn
Dr. Sarah Scheidel
Amanda Wilde

2018-2019 FYE AWARD RECIPIENTS

FYE INSTRUCTORS OF THE YEAR

Karen Skudlarek & Dr. Betsy Cracco
FYE Teaching Excellence Award recipient &
FYE Teaching Innovation Award recipient, respectively

FYE MENTORS OF THE YEAR

Elena Jillson & Scarlett Du
Allied Health (2020) & Psych (2019)



(pictured with Sarah Scheidel & David Quimette)

(Scarlett pictured w/Sarah Renn)