

2018 Cuesta College Faculty Retreat
March 9 – March 11, 2018 at the Avila Beach Lighthouse Suites

Engaging Students for Success

Friday

4:00 – 5:30 ~ Arrival and Check in

5:30 – 6:30 ~ Welcome and Informal Gathering

6:30 – 7:30 ~ Dinner sponsored by Student Equity (Taco Bar)

7:30 – 8:45 ~ Getting to Know You: Social scavenger hunt.

Using a smartphone collect the answers to questions on our scavenger hunt list. Participants turn in answers in the form of pictures, funny videos, or even quick text responses. This activity will give participants the chance to learn about their colleagues in a short period of time. Challenges include themes like hobbies, school, travel, works, skills, and personal interests. The themes are guaranteed to start deeper conversations and create a solid foundation for friendships and working relationships.

8:45 – 10:00 ~ Evening Social: Participants to engage with fellow faculty members in a social setting (refreshments sponsored by the Foundation)

Saturday

7:15 – 8:00 ~ Morning Activity: Full-body circuit training with Michelle Zulim-Clark (meet in lobby)

8:00 – 9:00 ~ Breakfast at Hotel

9:00 – 10:00 ~ Keynote Speaker – Dr. Sarah Klotz

Dr. Klotz will present on the meaning and importance of equity-minded practice. After building their understanding of the concept of equity and equity-mindedness, participants will learn about the utility of “equity-minded” approaches, and the ways in which they can advocate for equity and advance equity-mindedness in the classroom and other contexts where they interact with students. Specific equity-minded instructional approaches will be contrasted with more traditional approaches, which tend to focus solely on students and their deficits as the causes of educational inequities. Finally, the connection between equity-minded practice and positive student outcomes and experiences will be discussed. Presentation to be followed by Q & A.

Sarah Klotz is a Senior Project Specialist and Research Assistant Professor at the Center for Urban Education in the USC Rossier School of Education. Before coming to CUE, Dr. Klotz was an English professor at Butte Community College.

10:00 – 11:15 ~ “It Cannot Be Done” – Dr. Matthew Davis

Our culture encourages building and maintaining a positive attitude - not a bad thing! However, this activity encourages an honest look at specific hurdles that might impede college success. Students can then counter each negative possibility with an effective, doable antidote. This activity is designed to *engage students for success*. Participants will first role play as student and then will use the same approach to explore the obstacles instructors face in engaging our students for success while brainstorming solutions.

11:15 – 11:30 ~ Break

11:30 – 12:45 ~ Strategies for Student Engagement – Members of the Faculty Learning Community

Dr. Rachael Barnett and Dr. Kevin Bontenbal, members of the Faculty Learning Community supported by the BSSOT Grant, will share new strategies they have discovered through their attendance at conferences

and workshops to foster greater student engagement. Be prepared for an interactive discussion followed by practical strategies and concepts for the classroom.

12:45 – 1:45 ~ Lunch

1:45 – 3:45 ~ Better Understanding our Students

Dean Ryan Cartnal, along with Dr. Darla Cooper of the RP Group, will present Cuesta institutional data and responses from student focus groups to help us understand what our students at Cuesta College have identified as their wishes, outcomes, and obstacles to being successful in their college studies. How can we use this information and data to formulate a plan that will close the equity gap, improve student success, and better engage our students?

Activity: What is made possible? You can clear space for success and equity by helping let go of what you know (but rarely admit) that limits success and inviting creative destruction. In this activity, participants will work on identifying ways they can better understand their students, and develop equity minded practices that promote student success and engagement. This activity will create a safe space for innovation, and collaboration though fun and courageous conversation.

3:45 – 4:00 ~ Break

4:00 – 5:00 ~ Becoming Equity-Minded Faculty through Your Syllabus – Dr. Greg Baxley and Dr. Lara Baxley

For some faculty members, the syllabus is a guide that outlines what learners should expect in a course and clarifies what is expected of them. For students, the syllabus helps them figure out what they need to do to ensure they will pass the course. In many ways the syllabus conveys so much more than rules and course expectations and as such, serves a larger purpose that can shape the students' academic experiences and foster their success. This workshop will offer faculty tools for concrete strategies to develop equity minded syllabi to greater support all students. Participants will bring their syllabus and work in small groups to update and infuse equity into their syllabus.

5:00 – 6:30 ~ More Team Building: Wine Tasting (\$10), Games and Puzzles, Group Beach Walk.

6:30 – 8:00 ~ Dinner on own

Sunday

7:00 – 9:00 ~ Breakfast at Hotel

9:00 – 11:00 ~ Conclusions and Collective Perspective Taking – Members of the Professional Development Committee

Faculty to gather into smaller groups (by division or cluster) to discuss, share, and highlight ideas and strategies that can be implemented into our classrooms, programs, and disciplines. This activity will allow participants to have richer and thoughtful conversations about the important topics and take ways from the retreat. This activity will allow member to slow down and listen more closely to each member's thoughts. It allows for understanding of issues from multiple perspectives, building a foundation of trust and a more constructive, inclusive team environment. Participants will individual answer the question they were asked and then formulate a question for the next member in the group.

Recap trivia contest: compete with other attendees (using your smart phone) to see who best remembers all that was learned and discussed at the retreat and win valuable prizes.

12:00 ~ Checkout