

APRIL 1, 2024

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# FDC HAPPENINGS



\*The logo for the Collaborative Course (Re)Design (CCRD) learning community.

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## Collaborative Course (Re)Design

We are excited to announce our call for applications for the Collaborative Course (Re)Design Learning Community, running for the second time during the fall 2024 semester.

Collaborative Course (Re)Design (CCRD) is an approach to redesigning a course that you have taught previously. In CCRD, you and one of your former students work together collaboratively to redesign portions of a course that you want to update and improve. Faculty benefit from engaging in the CCRD process as it increases insights into student learning, and student collaborators benefit from engaging in the CCRD process as they develop insights into the teaching and learning process.

For participating in this learning community, faculty and student participants will each receive a \$400 stipend.

To apply, click [here](#).

Applications are due April 22, 2024 @ 8 PM.

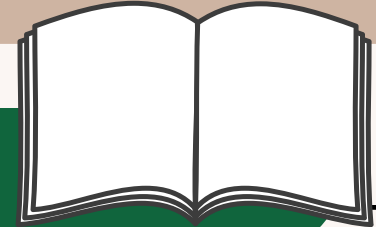
To view the [Call for Applications](#), click [here](#). If you wish to discuss this opportunity further, please contact Sarah Ginsberg, Lead Faculty Member for the CCRD Learning Community, at [sginsberg@emich.edu](mailto:sginsberg@emich.edu)

# CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

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The Provost's Office encourages faculty and instructors to get their summer and fall 2024 textbook orders to the EMU Bookstore!

From the Provost's Office  
and the EMU Library



## Here are some ways to submit course materials information:

- Email [0976mgr@follett.com](mailto:0976mgr@follett.com) or [0976txt@follett.com](mailto:0976txt@follett.com)
- Visit or call (734.483.2850) the EMU Campus Bookstore.
- Use the Campus Bookstore's Online Adoption Tool ([www.emichshop.com](http://www.emichshop.com), then click on "Online Adoptions")
- Provide the information to your Department Head/School Director who will forward it appropriately to the Provost's Office, or provide the information directly to the Provost's Office at [emuprovost@emich.edu](mailto:emuprovost@emich.edu), who will forward it appropriately to the Bookstore.

## Faculty and Instructors are also encouraged to explore affordable textbook options. Here are some ways to help students with textbook costs:

- Familiarize yourself with the [EMU Library Text Affordability Initiative](#)
- Use open access textbooks
- Use library resources
- Consult your Subject Librarian (for a link, click [here](#))
- Submit book orders early to increase the stock of used books
- Beware of "inclusive access" that automatically bill the cost of an electronic textbook rental to a student's tuition.

To discuss affordability options, contact Kate Pittsley-Sousa from the University Library at [kpittsley@emich.edu](mailto:kpittsley@emich.edu).

For questions or concerns about ordering course materials, contact the Provost's Office ([emuprovost@emich.edu](mailto:emuprovost@emich.edu))

# upcoming

# EVENTS

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## THANK-AN-EAGLE

*To nominate someone, [click here](#).*

*Please share this link!*

The Faculty Development Center hosts a university-wide annual event called Thank-An-Eagle, where EMU community members have a chance to thank an instructor, staff member, coach, GA, or mentor who has helped them during their time at EMU. For many instructors and mentors, an unsolicited "thank you" from a student is a highlight of their semester's experience. The instructor or staff member you thank receives a formal Thank-An-Eagle letter of recognition from the Faculty Development Center that includes the nominator's remarks and will be recognized at the April 18th event. We hope you will nominate a deserving Eagle! Please share this link with your students.

## 2024-2025 DEI Faculty Fellow

*Applications for this position are due by April 2nd at 5 PM  
Submit complete applications to Jeffrey Bernstein, FDC  
Director, at [jbernstei@emich.edu](mailto:jbernstei@emich.edu).*

The Bruce K. Nelson Faculty Development Center and the Office of the Interim Associate Provost and Associate Vice President of Academic Programs and Initiatives are seeking applications for a quarter-time release Faculty Fellow to play a leading role in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programming for the FDC during the 2024-25 academic year. Click [here](#) to view examples of work completed by our previous Faculty Fellows, Uttara Manohar and Audrey Farrugia. To read the call for applications, click [here](#). We'd love to hear your vision for this important position!

*April 4 from 3:45 - 5 PM  
Student Center Ballroom  
Click [here](#) to register.*

## CAREERS AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY FAIR

Please consider attending the Careers and Cultural Diversity Fair, a campus-wide event that will gather professionals from southeast Michigan from a variety of fields including business, healthcare, social sciences, and humanities. Students, faculty, administrators, and advisers are encouraged to attend! Invited guests will interact with participants and share with them their professional background, and their experiences and opportunities linked to working in a diverse workplace.

## FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

*Proposals due April 12 @ 3 PM  
Click [here](#) to read the  
full Call for Proposals.*

The Faculty Development Center, with the generous support of GameAbove, is looking for proposals for our Faculty-Student Research Fellowships. We are pleased to offer up to four grants for projects to take place during the 2024-25 academic year. Each project team must have at least one faculty member or lecturer and at least one student member on it. We will award up to \$3,000 for each funded application, with continued funding possible for successful partnerships in the following year. Click [here](#) to visit the webpage for more information and the application.



Click each event title for more info

## SUPPORT FOR FACULTY WRITING

The end of the semester is a hectic time for us all, and our scholarship often gets pushed to the back burner. We tell ourselves, "I'll catch up on research over the summer." But family obligations, travel plans, and summer teaching can make those precious weeks fly by. How can you advance your scholarly agenda over the summer while still taking that much-needed break? Join Sarah Walsh for "**Achieving Your Summer Writing Goals: A How-To Workshop.**" This event provides an hour to plan your scholarly agenda for the summer. We'll work together to set humane goals for ourselves and make a realistic plan for the next few months. This event will take place on Wednesday, April 17th at 10:00 AM in 109B Halle or on [Zoom](#). Click [here](#) to register.

Are you ready to kickstart your summer research agenda? Join us for "**Summer Research Writing Sprint,**" a two-day writing retreat on Wednesday, May 22nd, and Thursday, May 23rd. You bring your laptop and your works in progress. We'll bring the snacks and the supportive environment to keep you focused and productive. Take two days away from the usual distractions and demands on your time. Reconnect with your writing practice and finally finish that manuscript (or book proposal or grant application or...)! Click [here](#) to register.

## FULBRIGHT WORKSHOP

May 3 @ 11 AM

Location: Room TBD and [Zoom](#).

Check back soon to register.

The Fulbright Scholar Program is a life-changing opportunity for faculty, staff, and administrators to teach, conduct research, and carry out professional projects in over 135 countries. Previous Fulbrighters report that the experience has been one of the most fulfilling in their careers, with profound effects on how they approach their teaching and scholarship in years to come. Please join Carla Damiano and other for this informational workshop. Participants will hear several experts talk about the various types of Fulbright grants and how to navigate the application process through EMU, as well as personal success stories of recent EMU faculty Fulbright grantees.

## Partnership Spotlight

### Dr. John Koolage & John Milkovich

Department of Philosophy &  
the General Education Program

In this partnership spotlight, Dr. John Koolage (R) and John Milkovich discuss the journey of Milkovich being a freshman visiting Dr. Koolage's office to Milkovich becoming a Graduate Assistant in Koolage's department. They show us the power that having similar interests can have for a partnership. Click [here](#) to read the full spotlight.



## ***Understanding Student-Faculty Partnerships Through Interviews with Practitioners of the Art***

***By Rylin Reynolds***

Through being a student worker in the Faculty Development Center my entire second year of college, I have seen the work that faculty are putting in to try to better understand and accommodate their students. During my first year at EMU, I was solely a student and I didn't connect with any faculty. I kept wondering, "Do they even try to talk to students?" but now I know the "behind the scenes" of the faculty, and the relationships they are building with students. It is better than I had thought!

The Faculty Development Center has opened my eyes to all the relationships faculty members are trying to achieve with their students. I have spent a lot of time this semester interviewing student-faculty partners for the FDC's weekly newsletter. Many of these partnerships consist of different things: some collaborate on senior theses, other research projects, in teaching, or in other ways. They are all very different and yet, in some ways, very much the same.

One question I asked while interviewing is, "What advice would you give someone wanting to start a partnership?" Collectively, they all say the same answer using different words. They say that it is easier to start a working partnership with a faculty member or student when you have a close relationship. Get to know your potential partner outside a formal setting and decide if you think they would be a good collaborator! After doing this, they suggest bringing up the partnership opportunity. Some of the students in the part-

nerships told me they would've never known an opportunity like this existed if the faculty member didn't mention it to them. Courtney Lewis and Alivia English, for example, described it as "taking a leap of faith and hoping the other is interested in what you are offering."

Another common theme I have seen throughout these interviews is that there is no battling over power and control. These partners see each other as equals and they both have insights to bring to the table. No one is "more dominant" than the other; they are both equally contributing to achieve the same end goal. They do not see the partnership as being "one person is more powerful" than another. They collectively use their own knowledge and help each other out. Even when the partnership is for a thesis, the student understands that the faculty member is there to help them and make their paper better. If they run into disagreements, they talk about it and brainstorm different ideas to make them both happy.

### **Submit a blog post!**

We welcome blog posts from faculty, lecturers, staff, and students on teaching and learning topics. Email us at [faculty\\_development@emich.edu](mailto:faculty_development@emich.edu) with your blog post idea for the opportunity to be featured in future newsletters!

While these partnerships are so different, such as concerning what research they are doing, they seem to come across another common issue: it is difficult to schedule time to meet with your partner. You have to remember that these faculty and students have their own everyday lives that consist of classes, family, jobs, etc. They make the most of the time when they can meet in person and discuss their research. They both value each other's time and know that the time they have together doesn't come easy.

I have found it interesting learning about the partnerships and what they do. These partnerships we have featured on the FDC web page range from collaborative course redesign (such as with Sarah Ginsberg and Shay Morrison) to how to understand and support students in the realm of wellness (such as Zuzana Tomas and Mars Ward) to thesis projects (for example, Maria Milletti and Syed Waisiuddin, or Ron Delph and Riley Coffee). Seeing the wide range of student-faculty partnerships makes me excited. Before doing these interviews, I had no idea these opportunities existed. Not only do I know they exist now but I also know they also aren't one-sided. It is very important for students to know because being in a partnership with another person of higher power can be daunting. But after doing interviews, I realize there is nothing to be afraid about. Most are open to communication and learning new things.

More students need to know about partnership opportunities. My very first interview was with Mars Ward and Zuzana Tomas. During this interview, I asked Mars, "What was one thing you took away from this partnership?" They answered with, "I am

capable of doing something like this because my academic experience has been tainted by a lot of negativity and lack of confidence and not feeling like I'm smart enough. There was the looming feeling of worthlessness around academia for me, so being able to work with a professor that thinks I'm wonderful and encourages me to be confident, and trust myself." This was valuable to hear; I love seeing the self-growth these students have developed while in the partnership.

These partnerships have really opened my eyes to the experiences that students have at EMU. Before I did these interviews, I didn't know these partnerships were even an option. Now, I have learned that students can take the first step and approach a faculty member, but that it also happens the other way around. My key takeaway from these partnerships is don't be afraid to start an interaction with a student or faculty member if you both know there is a mutual interest in a topic. Most of the students said they were intimidated at first but quickly realized that the faculty member was there to help them and learn from them as well. As you can see from even a quick look at these [Partnership Spotlights](#), they can make a meaningful difference in the lives of both students and faculty.

## About the Author



Rylin Reynolds is a sophomore at Eastern, majoring in Health Administration. She is from Rossford, Ohio, and is a student worker at the Faculty Development Center. She hopes to see her Tigers sweep the Mets this week.