

JANUARY 27, 2025

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FDC HAPPENINGS

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*Group of people in business attire look at each other and smile

Inclusive Teaching Strategies Workshop

Join us for an engaging and interactive workshop on inclusive teaching strategies, designed to enhance student achievement, belonging, and self-efficacy. Led by Audra Baleisis from the University of Michigan Center for Research on Learning and Teaching in Engineering, and facilitated by Selyna Pérez Beverly, Assistant Professor of Leadership and Counseling and FDC Faculty Fellow for DEI, this workshop will provide valuable insights into creating learner-centered teaching spaces that boost student persistence and retention.

This event is open to all faculty, lecturers, and instructional staff. Participants will learn simple yet effective pedagogical practices that can be easily integrated into their teaching to support student learning.

Wednesday, February 19
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
109B Halle Library or [Zoom](#)
Click [here](#) to register or for more information.

Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your teaching practices and create a positive, inclusive environment for all students. Register by February 17 to secure your spot and take additional positive steps towards fostering a more equitable classroom.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

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From the FDC &
eFellows Committee

EFELLOWS CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY GRANT RECIPIENTS

The eFellows program supports faculty and full-time lecturers in obtaining the resources needed to successfully pilot innovative technology-based projects that enhance student-focused instruction in courses and curricula. The overall goal of this program is to improve and enhance student learning and the scholarship of teaching through the integration of appropriate technology. Congratulations to all recipients!

"Improving Clinical Learning for Psychology Graduate Students"

Jamie Lawler, Kelsey
Sala-Hamrick, and
Claudia Drossel

"Advancing Computer Science Learning through Embedded AI"

Ourania Spantidi

"Material Literacy: Creating a Digital- Physical Book Laboratory"

Amanda K. Allen and
John Dunn

"Student Portfolio Development Equipment - EMU Theatre"

Meriah Sage and Pam
Cardell Cato

upcoming EVENTS

CHECK OUT OUR UPCOMING
EVENTS WE ARE HOSTING AT
THE FDC! FOR MORE
INFORMATION OR TO
REGISTER, CLICK "READ
MORE".

INTERNAL RESEARCH AWARDS: FACULTY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

- Next Session: January 28 @ 3:30 PM
- Open to Full-Time Tenured or Tenure-Track Faculty
- Bring your application draft to receive feedback from facilitators and other participants

[Read More](#)

FACULTY-LED TRAVEL PROGRAMS

- Wednesday, January 29 @ 3:30 PM (rescheduled due to Snow Day)
- Open to Department Heads, Faculty & Lecturers
- Learn strategies for creating a pedagogically valuable experience for students, building your travel course itinerary, and enhancing your efforts to make the most of the learning experiences when you take your students on the road.

[Read More](#)

TaLT PUBLICATION CELEBRATION

- Thursday, January 30 @ 3:30 - 4:30
- Open to Everyone!
- Come eat cake and celebrate the publication of FDC-focused special issue of the journal Teaching and Learning Together in Higher Education

[Read the Publication](#)

MAKE RESEARCH COLLABORATION EASY: EXPLORING FORAGERONE

- Monday, February 3 @ 12 - 1:30 PM (rescheduled due to Snow Day)
- Open to Faculty, Lecturers & Department Heads
- Drop-in session for faculty who want to learn more about ForagerOne, or would like assistance updating their research profiles

[Read More](#)

LESSONS ON TEACHING AND LEARNING: THE LEGACY OF LEE SHULMAN

- Wednesday, February 5 @ 2 PM
- Open to Faculty, Lecturers, Staff & Students
- Learn more about the late Lee Shulman's seminal work on teaching and learning, and how his work might be applied to our teaching

[Read More](#)

upcoming EVENTS

Scan the QR code
to access the links
in this issue



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GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LEARNING COMMUNITY

- 2025 calendar year-long learning community
- Open to Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty, and lecturers, from any department, school, and/or discipline
- Acquire knowledge and skills that will help in shaping departmental and disciplinary approaches to working with Gen AI

[Read More](#)

TALT TOPICS: BRINGING JOY INTO TEACHING AND LEARNING

- First Session: Tuesday, February 4 @ 3:30 - 5 PM
- Open to Faculty, Full-Time Lecturers & Students
- Generate practical and actionable modifications to the way we relate to each other in the classroom that will support a positive teaching and learning experience.

[Read More](#)

2025 CONNECT CONFERENCE

- Friday, February 14
- Open to Department Heads, Faculty, Lecturers, Staff & Students
- Register to join us at this conference, and learn from the great work your colleagues are doing

[Read More](#)

EMU UP: UNIVERSITY PREPARED

- Friday, March 7 @ 9 AM - 1 PM
- Open to Full-Time Faculty and Full-Time Lecturers
- Explore creative and innovative solutions to revise or create new programs in ways that are attractive to students

[Read More](#)

Spotlights



Dr. Alankrita Pandey

Department of
Management

In this spotlight, Dr. Alankrita Pandey shares her philosophy and experience while teaching at EMU for the last twelve years. She dives into her personal guide to success as a professor, and gives us a look into the research she has been developing. Click [here](#) to read the full spotlight.

Finding Wisdom, and Joy, in Teaching

By Jeffrey L. Bernstein

I have used this space previously to talk about mentors who have been important to me in my teaching life and academic career, most recently to remember Professor John D Sprague, who deserves much of the credit (or bears much of the blame) for my decision to go to graduate school and become a political science professor. Many of you responded quite warmly to my piece about Professor Sprague, which I think taps into the feelings of gratitude that so many of us share for the people who helped get us to where we are today. Your comments on that piece meant a lot to me.

I've been moved to do some writing in the last few weeks since finding out that a dear friend, mentor, and perhaps even an academic hero, passed away. When Lee Schulman died on December 30, 2024, the higher education teaching community lost a giant. Lee was President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching when I had a fellowship there for the 2005-2006 academic year; he spent much of his career on the faculty at Michigan State and then Stanford. He was an inspirational role model, as well as a prolific scholar whose work on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL), pedagogical content knowledge, signature pedagogies, and so many other things will long be remembered.

I cannot fathom what my teaching would be like today if I had not met Lee, worked with him, and learned from his example. Every seminar with Lee Schulman was a treasured opportunity to learn from a master

(I'm glad we all realized it at the time); I am forever grateful for the opportunities I had to learn from Lee years ago at Carnegie and in many subsequent conversations.

To celebrate Lee's legacy, the Faculty Development Center will be holding a program on Wednesday, February 5, at 2 PM. I will be part of a panel alongside Sarah Ginsberg (Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders and the FDC's Faculty Associate Director), as well as Deborah Ball, Professor of Education and former dean of the School of Education at the University of Michigan. The three of us have learned a great deal from him; we'll share some of these insights and ways that his legacy can help all of us to be even more effective in what we do.

One of the most important things Lee taught me (I'll talk more about this at the program) is that teaching, all too often, is done in solitude. We teach alone. When class ends, we generally walk back to our offices alone. We rarely have the opportunity to share what we did or talk with others about how things went. Contrast this with research, where we often spend a great deal of time discussing ideas with colleagues and presenting our ideas to others in written drafts and at conferences.

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 with your blog post idea for the opportunity to be featured in future newsletters!

We don't do this nearly as much in teaching, a point Lee Shulman, Randy Bass, and others have made quite compellingly. Lee talked about ending pedagogical solitude because, in his view, teaching benefits when it is a communal exercise, or in his words, when teaching becomes community property.

Don't get me wrong. Teaching, especially good teaching, is hard. Professing is hard, perhaps more so today than it was 20 years ago. But everything is harder if we must do it alone. The wisdom we get from others - the fortification we get from engaging in meaningful work with others - has made all the difference in my career, and in my approach to directing the FDC. Lee's stamp is abundantly evident in what we do here.

Of course, we do not need to do teaching, or professoring, all alone. As many of you know, one of the things we have been working on this year at the FDC, together with the Office of Campus & Community Writing, has been a series of programs meant to bring joy into what we do. Whether it has been celebrating National Punctuation Day, Pardoning an Emu for Thanksgiving, or in upcoming celebrations including for Opening Day of baseball season (March 27), Ann Blakeslee and I have spent a lot of time this year hoping to build community and help us all find joy and strength from each other.

One of these community-building events is coming up later this week. It will be a cooking class, done with Darlene Bellers and Eagle Nutrition Services, in which we will be making chicken and chickpea curry with naan bread. As societies all around the world know, cooking together is a great way to build community. Unfortunately, at this point, we have all the community that can fit into the kitchen; this event is full. Let us know at faculty_development@emich.edu if you would like to be on the waiting list, and keep your eyes out for a future cooking class in late March.

Thinking about joy brings me back to Lee Shulman. As I remember Lee, I think of the ubiquitous smile on his face. As hard as he worked, he knew he was doing work that was meaningful to him, that made a difference in the lives of students and colleagues, and that he was doing that work with others. That's a nice way to spend a career, and a life.

I hope you will join the Faculty Development Center on February 5 to learn more about Lee Shulman and his legacy, and that you will join us (and the Office of Campus & Community Writing) for other fun events this semester. I look forward to seeing you soon.



About the Author



Jeffrey L. Bernstein is a Professor of Political Science and Director of the Bruce K. Nelson Faculty Development Center at Eastern Michigan University. He remains eternally grateful to teachers and mentors who have made his incredibly blessed life possible.