

We are on this journey together!



Nov 30 - Dec 3 | New Orleans Marriott

IFWE 2021

IFWE Empower

Conference Program

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

3:00 p - 5:00 p Pre-conference Workshops

Darcy Hardy

Anthology (Blackboard)

Napoleon

Now and Then - Strategic Planning for Online Programming

Before the pandemic, it was important to have a strategic plan for online programming – which programs to offer, what audiences are you targeting, how to ensure quality from course design to faculty development to student supports. During the past two years, much has been learned at each individual institution about how prepared they are to go forward in the new normal. As a result, strategic planning is even more important. What did we learn? What did we do well? Where did we fall short? Will you stay online and possibly increase or scale our programming? How will your institution best compete in this next phase of online learning? This workshop will explore the need for a strong institutional vision (and how to develop one), and the elements of a strategic plan you should be considering.

Janet Major

ATP/SWTRC

Lafayette

How to Effectively Engage Families in Telehealth

How does Telehealth happen? How can a healthcare provider build a successful intrapersonal relationship through a video screen? Training, best practices and "Lights, Camera, Action!" are the key. Attendees will participate in a technology demonstration, learn and share best practices for improved telehealth experiences. Learn about several initiatives and pilot programs for establishing a telehealth program in your local library or community center.

Kristin DeProspero

Solutionz

St. Charles

Navigating the Expanding World of Grants

Learn how to find and successfully apply for grants. Hear about current and upcoming funding sources. Collaborate with grant experts on finding strategies for your technology projects.

Conference Program

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

2:30 p - 7:30 p Registration Open
Riverview 2

7:00 p - 8:30 p Opening Reception
Riverview 2

Posters

Eunice Ofori &
Barbara Lockee
Tulane University

Next Generation Mobile Learning: Designing
for Learning & Accessibility

Bradley Bowers
Barry University

Online Transcultural & Interdisciplinary
Literary Studies

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

7:00 a - 5:00 p Registration Open
Riverview 2

Conference Program

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

7:00 a - 8:00 a Exercise & Meditation

Napoleon

Morning Meditation

St. Charles

HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training)

Outside Trail

Walk / Run

8:00 a - 9:00 a Coffee / Continental Breakfast
Riverview 2

9:00 a - 12:00 p Pre-conference Workshops

Alexandra Salas
Delaware CCC &
Sharon Sherman
Rider University
Napoleon

Practicing the Art of Questioning in Career Building & Lifelong Growth

How do we structure a situation that fosters empowerment? Developing sound and purposeful questioning skills is an effective path. This session provides practice in the art of questioning--an ability that enables us to lean in and empower ourselves throughout the various iterations of our professional lives.

Stacy Greathouse &
Sheryl Hathaway
The Dark Classroom
Lafayette

1-Minute Gardener: How to Plant Personalized Mindful Moments
What is it like to be childlike and return to joy? Come play and construct your own 1-minute mindfulness experiences as celebrations of your bodies to plant in our terrains throughout the day. Embodiment, pleasure, and joy. And we can do this in digital spaces and in our physical worlds.

Conference Program

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

12:00 p - 1:00 p Lunch on Your Own

1:00 p - 2:30 p Opening, Keynote, & Networking
Riverview 1

Merlyna Mathieu Valentine
Merlyna Valentine
Consulting, LLC.

Merlyna Mathieu Valentine is a national speaker, author, consultant, trainer, and owner of Merlyna Valentine Consulting, LLC. As a well respected educator for over thirty years, Ms. Valentine served as a teacher, principal, and executive director in a highly successful school district. In her talk she will discuss her journey through her career and obstacles that she overcame despite it all.

2:30 p - 3:00 p Afternoon Break

3:00 p - 3:45 p Sessions

Lucy Kefauver
Napoleon

We CAN Have It All - Together

Women often feel the pressure of handling everything- work, home, children...everything. If we want to have it all, we have to give in and help one another. This interactive session explores the benefits of a supportive community of like-minded professionals.

Darcy Christianson
Johns Hopkins Center for
Talented Youth
Lafayette

Innovating Learning Grammar Online

Traditionally, online grammar lessons include single choice and fill-in-the-blank activities. While useful and simple, these approaches tend to limit curiosity and application. This presentation introduces an innovative approach to learning grammar online, where the students find, annotate, share, and discuss specific grammar concepts from classical texts.

Conference Program

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

3:00 p - 3:45 p Sessions

Amy Murphy &
Dara Anderson
Angelo State University
St. Charles

Climate Matters: Cultivating Safe & Empowering Online Learning Environments
Online learning requires unique strategies to establish supportive learning climates. The pandemic has raised new concerns about student safety and wellness. This session will introduce an expanded view of online learning climates, share strategies for identifying climate concerns, and discuss implications for faculty development and instructional support.

4:00 p - 4:45 p Sessions

Debra Luken &
Nicole Stahi
University of Central Florida
Napoleon

Using Online Personas to Promote Faculty Empathy & Reflection During COVID-19
For faculty who are new to online teaching, interacting with student personas can showcase a diverse set of scenarios to help prepare them in handling unfamiliar situations with empathy and understanding. These professional development activities were created using in-house programs and served as beta tests to improve upon future iterations.

Marie Sanchez, Jessica
Handley, Toni Saldivar,
& Siria Carrasco
UT Rio Grande Valley
Lafayette

Game On! Bringing Meaningful Gamification to the Learning Experience
Journey with us as we explore meaningful gamification in online learning. Our quest is to gain insight into some of the background, best practices, and how to design a gamified learning experience. Participants will see different applications of gamification in Blackboard. This presentation will be narrative in style.

Melanie Inman Olson
Western Governors University
St. Charles

Fostering Sense of Community Among Remote Employees to Increase Retention
A study was conducted with online adjunct faculty from across the United States to identify the essential elements that lead to a sense of community among online adjunct faculty in order to improve job satisfaction and retention. Specific recommendations will be provided for leaders to best support remote employees.

Conference Program

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

6:00 p Meet in Lobby for Mobile Roundtables

Thursday, December 2, 2021

7:00 a - 5:00 p Registration Open
Riverview 2

7:00 a - 8:00 a Exercise & Meditation
Napoleon Morning Meditation
St. Charles Yoga

8:00 a - 9:00 a Coffee / Continental Breakfast
Riverview 2

8:00 a - 9:00 a Book Club
Lafayette

9:00 a - 9:45 a Sessions

Tricia Berry
Purdue University Global
Napoleon

Building Relationships in the Virtual World
Building relationships in the virtual environment can be very challenging. Join this session to learn more about over to overcome those challenges and work toward building positive virtual relationships.

Conference Program

Thursday, December 2, 2021

9:00 a - 9:45 a Sessions

Holly Pak
US Sports Academy
Lafayette

Improving Motivation with Video-enhanced syllabi in Online Courses

It can often be difficult to motivate students in the online environment because of lack of personalization and negative perceptions of the instructor and the course. This study uses video-enhanced syllabi to improve the level of student motivation in the asynchronous, online course environment.

Debra Luken &
Anita Gabbard
University of Central Florida
St. Charles

Creating Professional Development Programs from the Ground Up
The University of Central Florida's Division of Digital Learning established a Professional Development Committee to provide opportunities for professional and personal enrichment for unit staff. The committee comprises a diverse group of individuals that collaborate to provide sessions to promote a culture of learning within the unit.

10:00 a - 10:45 a Sessions

Harriet Watkins &
Jacquelyn Cato
Instructional Connections
Napoleon

Empowerment through Support!

Empowerment through leaning on support is possible! Providing the right kind of support to faculty can empower them to enhance their online course in ways they only dream of due to bandwidth issues, administrative and other sundry tasks associated with teaching.

Linda Davis
Humana, Inc.
Lafayette

Empower Learner Thinking with Tailored Scenario Feedback

Build meaningful scenario experiences with tailored feedback that coach learners in decision-making.

Kylah Torre
THECB
St. Charles

Moving Digital Learning Forward as a State

In November 2020, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board created a Division of Digital Learning with the aim of partnering with institutions of higher education to promote, sustain, and advance quality digital student experiences. In this session, presenters will discuss ongoing best practices, programs for capacity building, and sustainable partnerships.

Conference Program

Thursday, December 2, 2021

11:00 a - 11:45 a Sessions

Amy Price
IntelliBoard
Napoleon

Lean-In(telliBoard): Cross-Team, Multi-Level Global Voices + Our Best Practices

As a remote (even pre-pandemic), global (and rapidly growing) company, IntelliBoard is the premier reporting and analytics tool for your Learning Management system. While we live, love, and breathe data, we're also human. Join us for a cross-team, multi-level, region-diverse conversation on how we Lean In and up.

Yi Guan-Rackowski
Middlesex Community College
Lafayette

The Power of Learning: Past, Present, and Future

Embracing technology with cutting edge infrastructure and training has been a focus at Middlesex Community College. This presentation gives an overview of the technology training that helps the transition of online learning during the pandemic. The challenges involved in coping with technology deficiency are also highlighted.

Rhonda Blackburn
Strut Learning
St. Charles

Empowering Through Leading!

Whether you are leading a group in a volunteer association or employees at your workplace, how do you inspire them, excite them, and guide them? In this session, we will discuss different leadership styles and will empower each other to take on the next leadership step in our journey.

12:00 p - 1:30 p

Lunch with Darcy Christianson
Riverview 2

Darcy Christianson
Johns Hopkins Center
for Talented Youth

Living Better with Classic Journaling

Have an extra busy year? Seeking some relief? Consider classic journal writing, collecting random thoughts to help clear your head. This interactive session introduces the benefits and methods of journal writing and provides prompts, space, and time to experience classic journal writing, applicable to both new and experienced journalers.

Conference Program

Thursday, December 2, 2021

1:30 p - 2:15 p Sessions

Vandy Pacetti-Donelson &
Holly Pak
US Sports Academy
Napoleon

User Story Approximation Model: Sensemaking in Online Learning Design

This session presents use case scenario employing a new learning design model that incorporates Agile Project Management Principles with Weick's Sensemaking Theory to produce an array of rapidly prototyped continuing education courses for multiple user stories and contexts. This model situates course design within an action-employability oriented framework.

Robyn McKenzie &
Freda Braddock
Columbia Southern University
Lafayette

Freedom Writers to Freedom Warriors: Lessons for Life Through Education

Waldorf University and Erin Gruwell, author of the 1999 best-selling book *The Freedom Writers Diary* have partnered to offer specialized courses to the students who inspired Gruwell's book. Now adults in their 30s, this session will outline how they continue to inspire through stories of challenge, perseverance, determination, and hope.

Lisa Andion
Blackboard
St. Charles

Working, Parenting, & Sanity During the COVID Academic Year
Working from home this past year while my middle-school aged child also conducted his learning from home was more difficult than I could have imagined. I spend this past year in survival mode. This session will focus on how I got through it and what I learned.

2:30 p - 3:15 p Let's Network
Riverview 2

Conference Program

Thursday, December 2, 2021

3:30 p - 4:15 p Sessions

Anita Gabbard
University of Central Florida
Napoleon

Developing a Mentoring Program in a Large Division
The Division of Digital Learning at the University of Central Florida created a Mentoring Program to appeal to over 180 employees consisting of 13 separate and distinct teams. Learn how advance planning and a variety of structures within the program made it so successful that it far exceeded our expectations.

Scott Ready & Leslie Sands
Vervbit.ai
Lafayette

Equity & Access in Online Environments
The pandemic exposed a sharp disparity in resources, time and structures for students learning at home versus in school. With a focus on equity and access, this session will build awareness and understanding of how to create an equitable learning environment for all students in a distance setting.

Monique Earl-Lewis
Morehouse College
St. Charles

Stop, Look, Listen, Act: Self Care as Radical Social Action
Research findings and anecdotal reports exploring pivot impact to remote learning include noteworthy concerns regarding how educators have/are experiencing and managing secondary trauma. This session will engage participants in reflective punctuation activities to: (1) rediscover self; (2) realign personal/professional values; and (3) share restorative "whimsdoms" promoting balance, joy and healing.

Conference Program

Thursday, December 2, 2021

4:30 p - 5:15 p Sessions

Elizabeth MacWhinnie
Columbia Southern University
Napoleon

The Happiest Place on Earth (well, almost) May Surprise You!
Creating a supportive, positive, and even happy culture in a distributed workforce can be challenging. The presenter will share how she created a Happiness Committee with the participation and support of her leadership and how the committee established its purpose and created activities and resources for the team.

Vandy Pacetti-Donelson &
Holly Pak
US Sports Acedemy
Lafayette

Agile Leaning! Social Processes of Agile Project Management for Supporting Teams
Join us as we explain how the 4 primary Agile communication methods work together as a social process to drive high levels of team performance. A general understanding of agile practices may be useful, no prior Agile knowledge is necessary to gain insight and useful tips for project management.

Gina Shipley &
Kinsey Hansen
Angelo State University
St. Charles

Empowered Through Resilience: Forging Forward & Not Bouncing Backwards
Since the dawn of civilization, humanity has experienced adversity - personally, professionally, politically, socially, and culturally. Women are uniquely equipped to create new and positive paths forward as they face hardships with resilience and emotional intelligence. This presentation will guide participants in self-discovery as they strengthen skills for empowerment.

7:00 p - 10:00 p PAJAMARAMA

Riverview 2

Come join the fun and network with your peers during the evening event - the PAJAMARAMA!

Conference Program

Friday, December 3, 2021

7:00 a - 11:00 p Registration Open

Riverview 1

7:00 a - 8:00 a Exercise & Meditation

Napoleon

St. Charles

Morning Meditation

Yoga

8:00 a - 9:00 a Coffee / Lite Breakfast

Riverview 1

9:00 a - 10:30 a Session

St. Charles

Lynea Lavoy, Lynn Baldwin,
Jill Huizenga, Jodi Goldbeck,
& Kristin Gebhardt
Madison College
St. Charles

The Badassery of 5 Women Cultivating Learning Professionals
During COVID

Five community college leaders discuss how cultivating and celebrating individual badassery to design, innovate, create, re-create, teach and then expand the Fundamentals of Well-Being actually worked- all the way from this free course concept to digital badges, paid opportunities and a huge initiative with state government. Talk about leaning in!

10:30 a - 11:30 a Closing Brunch & Keynote

Riverview 1

Dr. Sasha Thackaberry
Vice Chancellor
National University System

At LSU, Dr. Thackaberry led fully online programs, support for online and blended courses, and continuing education that encompasses professional development, K-12 and lifelong learning. Her talk will focus on her journey.
