

In this Newsletter:

Events & Deadlines

1. [CEC ChatGPT Faculty Learning Community](#).
2. [Summer Course ReDesign Academy](#).
3. [Turn your teaching into research with Stearns Center!](#)

Faculty Development Workshops

1. [Motivating Students in STEM Courses](#)
2. [Providing Feedback to Support Student Revision](#)
3. [Mason Core Course Proposal Workshop](#)
4. [Reading and Discussion Group: Scholarship of Teaching and Learning](#)
5. [Preparing Your Course and Yourself](#)
6. [Anti-Racism and Inclusive Teaching: An Introduction](#)
7. [Managing Important Conversations in the Classroom](#)
8. [Mason Core Course Proposal Workshop](#)
9. [Reading as Active Learning in STEM Disciplines](#)
10. [Design Practices for Writing-Intensive Courses](#)

Online Teaching



**Stearns Center
for Teaching and Learning**
Digital Learning | Teaching Excellence

From Our Director

Greetings, Friends,

The weather around here is (mostly) making it easy to think about Spring, which always cheers us up in the Stearns Center offices. Midsemester can be a space where we're all just paddling to stay afloat, but we hope that you can create a little time to join your colleagues this month and bring some new energy to you spring courses.

If you have an hour free, please consider joining one of our workshops. Our March "refresh" workshops address giving feedback, proposing Mason Core courses, designing important and inclusive conversations for your students, and these **brand new** offerings with a STEM and research spin:

- **Friday March 3, 10:00-11:00 am:** [Motivating Students in STEM Courses](#)

- **Tuesday March 21, 11:30 am-12:30 pm:** [Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Discussion Group](#) (newcomers welcome!)

- **Friday March 31, 9:00-10:30 am:** [First Meeting of CEC Teaching in a ChatGPT Era Faculty Learning Community*](#)

- **Tuesday April 4, 1:30-2:30 pm:** [Reading as Active Learning in STEM Disciplines](#)

(*If you teach a different STEM or STEM-adjacent course and would like to be added to the FLC waiting list for this conversation, please email [Laina Lockett](#).)

We are excited for our main spring event: the **Celebration**

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Resources

1. [Quality Assurance resources for online courses!](#)

Writing Across the Curriculum

1. [Friday Faculty Writing Sprints](#)

From Our Partners

Faculty Affairs

1. [Join an Affinity Group](#)

University Libraries

1. [Special Collections Research Center](#)

OSCAR

1. [OSCAR Excellence Awards](#)
2. [Undergraduate Research Scholars Program](#)
3. [Research Assistant Positions](#)
4. [Undergraduate Student Travel Fund](#)

Undergraduate Education

1. [Curriculum Impact Grants](#)

favorite people, so we hope you'll stop by to clap for colleagues and chat with people you haven't seen in a while. Please **save the date: Monday April 17, 1-3 pm.**

Please also be aware that Ramadan this spring, March 22-April 21, may affect Muslim students' learning and study schedules; [see suggestions online](#) for how you can support Mason students.

Finally, it's not too early to be thinking about your next course design adventure: applications for our June 2023 Course ReDesign Academy, scheduled for June 6 & 7, are due Monday April 17, 2023.

See more details and registration links below or on our [Events Calendar](#).

Along with our partners (including the Office of the Provost, Faculty Affairs and Development, Writing Across the Curriculum, Undergraduate Education/Mason Impact/OSCAR/CECIL, Graduate Education, GradLife, University Libraries, Classroom and Lab Technologies, and Information Technology Services) we wish you a productive March, with the warming winds behind you and the teaching and learning possibilities blooming out in front of your path.

Shelley

E Shelley Reid, Ph.D.
Executive Director of Engaged Teaching
Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning
Associate Professor, English Department
ereid1@gmu.edu

Events & Deadlines

- **CEC [ChatGPT](#) Faculty Learning Community: Apply by Tue., March 14**

Fridays between March 31-April 28 | 9:00-10:30am | Zoom

Faculty Learning Community: Teaching Future Engineers and Computer Scientists in

ChatGPT has taken higher education by storm in the last few months because the AI technology has the ability to greatly impact higher education and the way that faculty have taught for years. Join other colleagues in the college of CEC to reflect on how to modify and update your courses to maintain the teaching excellence that GMU prides itself on. Faculty from College of Engineering and Computing can [register here](#). (Faculty from other STEM or STEM-adjacent fields can [email Laina Lockett](#) to request to be on the FLC waitlist.)

- **Summer Course ReDesign Academy, June 6-7, 2023: April 17 application deadline**

Are you already dreaming about your Fall 2023 courses? Maybe you're looking ahead to teaching in an active learning classroom, or thinking about how to combine online and in-person modalities in a productive blend? Consider bringing a current course syllabus—or a plan for a new course—to June's Course ReDesign Academy. For more information or to submit an application, [see our website](#).

- **SoTL Turn your teaching into research with Stearns Center!**

The Stearns Center is excited to offer a cohort opportunity designed to support faculty, staff, and graduate students in developing and carrying out a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning project. View the slides from our [January Intro to SoTL workshop](#) here.

Opportunities this spring will include:

- **February-March:** Optional [one-on-one meetings with us](#) to develop your ideas about a SoTL project
- **Tuesday, March 21**, 11:30am - [register here](#). Topic: Investigating student collaboration in an introductory STEM class through a mixed method study ([article here](#))
- **Early April:** Q&A session with Mason's IRB to help you think about proposing human subjects research
- **End of April/early May:** SoTL Project Planning Retreat: Join us down for a half-day workshop to finalize your project plan and IRB application.

For more information, please respond to this short [survey](#). Questions? Email Breana Bayraktar, bbayrakt@gmu.edu .

Faculty Development Workshops

Friday, March 3 | 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. | Zoom | Workshop: Motivating Students in STEM Courses | CPD Level 1 Engage | Facilitator: Laina Lockett | [Register here](#).

Providing Feedback to Support Student Revision

Thursday, March 9 | 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. | Zoom | Workshop: Providing Feedback to Support Student Revision | WAC + CPD Level 1 Assess | Facilitator: Tim Lilley | [Register here](#).

Mason Core Course Proposal Workshop

Thursday, March 9 | 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. | Zoom | Mason Core Course Proposal Workshop | Facilitators: Laura Poms, Shelley Reid, Rachel Yoho | [Register here](#).

Reading and Discussion Group: Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

Tuesday, March 21 | 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Zoom | Reading and Discussion Group: Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (Newcomers welcome!) | Facilitators: Breana Bayraktar and Sophia Abbot | [Register here](#).

Workshop: Important Conversations in the Classroom: Preparing Your Course and Yourself

Tuesday, March 21 | 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. | Zoom | Workshop: Important Conversations in the Classroom: Preparing Your Course and Yourself | Facilitator: Rachel Yoho | [Register here](#).

Workshop: Anti-Racism and Inclusive Teaching: An Introduction to Developing More Inclusive Educational Spaces

Friday, March 24 | 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. | Zoom | Workshop: Anti-Racism and Inclusive Teaching: An Introduction to Developing More Inclusive Educational Spaces | CPD Level 1 Engage | Facilitator: Rachel Yoho | [Register here](#).

Workshop: Important Conversations in the Classroom: Handling Situations in the Moment

Tuesday, March 28 | 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. | Zoom | Workshop: Important Conversations in the Classroom: Handling Situations in the Moment | Facilitator: Rachel Yoho | [Register here](#).

Friday, March 31 | 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Zoom | Mason Core Course Proposal Workshop | Facilitators: Laura Poms, Shelley Reid, Rachel Yoho | [Register here](#).

Workshop: Reading as Active Learning in STEM Disciplines

Tuesday, April 4 | 1:30-2:30 p.m. | Zoom | Workshop: Reading as Active Learning in STEM Disciplines | Facilitator: Laina Lockett | [Register here](#).

Workshop: Intentional Design Practices for Writing-Intensive Courses

Thursday April 6 | 2:00-3:30 p.m. | Zoom Workshop: Intentional Design Practices for Writing-Intensive Courses | WAC | Facilitator: Thomas Polk | [Register here](#).

Online Teaching Opportunities and Resources



Stearns Center Quality Assurance resources for online courses!

Faculty Self-Checklist: Use the Faculty Self-Checklist to review your online course and online teaching.

Online Course Quality: Essential Elements: Review our infographic on Online Course Quality: Essential Elements to get the most out of your course.

Want to learn even more? Our Quality Assurance Checklist and Guidelines contains both a faculty self-checklist and essential quality indicators for each domain with examples of how they can be demonstrated in an online course. This is an extensive document, and we encourage you to schedule an appointment with our QA team if you have any questions regarding it. Email QATeam@gmu.edu to request a copy of the full guidelines. You can indicate whether you would like a brief consultation with our QA team in your email.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Contact QA Team: For any questions regarding Online Quality Assurance, please contact: gateam@gmu.edu.

Teaching Online in Spring 2023?

Subscribe to the Online Teaching Coaching Newsletter!

Throughout Spring 2023 semester, our newsletter will highlight practices for quality online teaching, using **our checklist of quality standards**. We'll provide guidance for how you may implement regular and substantive interaction in your online courses, and also share strategies to support students and their learning.

Starting in mid-February, you will receive an Online Teaching Coaching Newsletter issue about every two weeks during the semester. The Newsletter will be available to you as a downloadable PDF, so that you may save and refer to these teaching strategies just when you need them.

Subscribe here: <https://stearnscenter.gmu.edu/subscribe-to-our-online-teaching-newsletter/>

Writing Across the Curriculum

Friday Faculty Writing Sprints

Starting January 27 | MS Teams | Every Friday 9:00-11:00am

Our Faculty Writing Sprints are underway, and all faculty invited to participate. Every Friday morning, you can join colleagues from across campus to build some community around your writing and to set the pace for a productive academic year. After a few minutes of check-ins and goal-setting, we spend our time quietly working together.

To participate in the sprints, register here for updates and reminders, then simply connect to our [Faculty Writers Community workspace](#) in MS Teams (make sure to sign in with your Mason credentials) and look for the meeting in the General channel.

Questions? Visit our [website](#) or email us at wac@gmu.edu.

From Our Partners

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Office of Faculty Affairs & Development

Opportunity to Join an Affinity Group

As part of Mason's commitment to inclusive excellence, the Office of Faculty Affairs and Development supports faculty and doctoral students' affinity groups. These groups provide our diverse faculty and doctoral students with a sense of community, inclusion and belonging. The groups also serve as safe spaces for discussion of issues that impact the success and well-being of Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Multiracial, Asian, Asian American, Pacific Islanders and First-Generation faculty members and historically underserved doctoral students. [Learn more about Affinity Groups here.](#)

AAPI—Asian, Asian American, Pacific Islander Faculty

March 22, 12 noon - A conversation about wellbeing and Healing (Guest: Dr. Al Fuentes)
(For the Zoom link to join the meeting, contact [Ms. Amy Ayres](#) or [Dr. Millie Rivera](#))

Aging Parents Employee Support Group

The group will meet monthly over Zoom on Thursdays from noon to 1 p.m. If you are interested in joining or have questions, please contact Laura Winkler at lwinkler@gmu.edu.

Black Male Faculty and Staff Group

For the meeting schedule, to be included on the listserv and the Microsoft Teams Group, or if you have any questions, please contact Philip Wilkerson at pwilkers@gmu.edu.

BLIM—Black, Latine, Indigenous, Multiracial Faculty

March 8 at 12 noon - Topic: Reimagining Faculty Roles and Rewards. (For the Zoom link to join the meeting, contact [Ms. Amy Ayres](#) or [Dr. Millie Rivera](#))

Juntos—Mason Hispanic/Latine Alliance

Cafecito Hour (Coffee Hour) - March 7 at 9 a.m., Fairfax Campus (JC Bistro)

LGBTQ+ Faculty/Staff Alliance

Please visit the [LGBTQ+ Faculty/Staff Alliance webpage](#) to learn more and become a member.

Working Mothers Support Group

Please visit the [Working Moms Support Group website](#) for more information.

The Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) at George Mason University Libraries is excited to announce their new content management system and finding aids database, available through ArchivesSpace. SCRC implemented ArchivesSpace as their back-end content management system in early 2020, after using the legacy content management system Archivists' Toolkit for many years. Graduating from using the back end to a full Public User Interface was SCRC's natural next step and is a welcome upgrade for both SCRC archivists and users. With an intuitive user interface and broader search capabilities, this next iteration of SCRC's finding aids is an exciting step forward to facilitating research and making our incredible collections even more accessible. Please contact speccoll@gmu.edu for with questions.

OSCAR

2023 OSCAR EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Nominations Due Soon!



VISIT FOR MORE INFORMATION
[HTTPS://OSCAR.GMU.EDU/STUDENTS/STUDENT-EXCELLENCE-AWARDS/](https://oscar.gmu.edu/students/student-excellence-awards/)
DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS MARCH 10, 2023

OSCAR Excellence Awards

OSCAR Student and Mentor Excellence Award Nominations are now open. Please nominate an outstanding undergraduate student researcher, or faculty staff, or graduate

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

student mentor. For more information visit the [OSCAR Excellence Award page](#). The deadline for nominations is **March 10, 2023**.

Research Assistant Positions

OSCAR is expanding opportunities for students to learn research, creative, or scholarly methods in their field and giving faculty free support on their projects at the same time. [Learn how you can hire a research assistant.](#)

Undergraduate Research Scholars Program

Deadline: March 8, 2023

URSP supports undergraduate students collaborating on a research, creative, or scholarly project with a faculty mentor. The spring applications are closed. Applications for summer will open after winter break. Summer proposals are due March 8, 2023. [Find more information on our website.](#)

Undergraduate Student Travel Fund

The Undergraduate Student Travel Fund (USTF) supports research and scholarly related travel for undergraduates who are presenting their projects via poster, talk, screening, round table, performance, etc. USTF can support costs associated with presentations at virtual conferences. Students must apply 30 days before the start of the event. [Learn more here.](#)

Undergraduate Education

Curriculum Impact Grants

The Office of the Provost, the Office of Community Engagement and Civic Learning (CECIL), and the Anti-Racist and Inclusive Excellence Task Force (ARIE) are pleased to announce that the 2023-2024 cycle of Impact Grant proposals is open. This year, we will be accepting proposals for both Curriculum Impact Grants and Course-based Impact Grants. We encourage proposals that develop anti-racist and inclusive curriculum, specifically those engaging with the [Quality Enhancement Plan](#), Transformative Education through Anti-Racist Community Engagement, or the [curriculum and pedagogy goals](#) set by

Curriculum Impact Grants must involve a programmatic curriculum change (at least three courses) at any degree level, while Course-based Impact Grants can be limited to a single course, at any degree level.

Proposals will be due on April 21, 2023. Please see go.gmu.edu/CIG for details.

Information Session

The Office of Undergraduate Education and Stearns Center will offer Impact Grant Information Sessions March 21-24, 2023. Pre-developed teams or individuals interested in curriculum or course development relevant to this year's foci and beyond are welcome to sign up for a time. Please register for a time slot at go.gmu.edu/CIG-Info.

We look forward to seeing how you will have an impact on our students, and help your students have an impact on our world.

Share something for next month's newsletter

Add someone to our mailing list



Share this email:



Manage your preferences | **Opt out** using TrueRemove®

Got this as a forward? **Sign up** to receive our future emails.

View this email **online**.

Stearns@gmu.edu
Fairfax, VA | 22030 US

This email was sent to

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.