November 2021

Faculty Spotlight: Kate M. Chaffin

Kate M. Chaffin, MSSW, LAPSW, MSW, is Director of the Center for Student Wellbeing and Professor of Social Work. Kate completed her MSSW degree here at UT in 2004, and then worked as a forensic social worker in the court system until 2008. In that year the College of Social Work hired Kate to launch their new online MSSW program. Her vision for the program, which assumed the unique and varied needs of the online student, has led to its successful completion and completion of MSSW degree three years later. Kate is passionate about the community and the field of social work, and serves as a role model for the next generation of social workers. Kate also believes in the innovation, receiving a doctoral degree in a Division of Teaching and Learning (DTL) program that focuses on teaching and learning. Her research in the area of women's leadership, and her experiences in the social work field, serve to validate her passion for the field. Kate strives to empower her students to become effective social workers who can assume the best, allow grace and room for growth, and strive to develop a deeper understanding of rights and responsibilities.

Ongoing Online Mini-Term Support

Mini-Terms provide unique opportunities to engage in common-sense education for a shortened, intensive model. January 2022 marks our first Winter Mini-Term, and today at 1pm is our last scheduled Winter Mini-Term workshop. The topic is, “Expect the Unexpected: Navigating Changes to Produce Innovative Results” (Click here to register to attend this virtual workshop). The Winter Mini-Term homepage below. Also, view our growing library of related resources by visiting our online learning & academic programs (OLAP) homepage.

Call for Proposals: December 3-10

Innovative Teaching and Learning Innovation (TLI), a unit of the Office of the Provost in the Division of Faculty Affairs, invites proposals for its 2022 Innovative Teaching and Learning Conference which will be held virtually on Tuesday, March 29, 2022. Our theme for 2022 is “Transforming the World through Innovative Teaching and Learning”. TLI encourages submissions that create critical and creative thinking about how to deepen teaching and learning. Proposals must be submitted by 11:59pm on Friday, December 10, 2021, and will be reviewed by a panel of TLI faculty members. For more information about consultations to support instructors December 1 - 10.

The Career Advocate Program is a three-hour interactive training focused on developing meaningful and effective career conversations with students. As a result of this opportunity participants will:
- Understand the importance of career conversations and how to facilitate them
- Learn how to apply what you've learned in your personal career conversations
- Gain a basic knowledge of career development theory, career decision making, internship and job searching, and relevant resources/tools
- Learn the professional and ethical guidelines outlined by NACE.

The training will be held Monday, November 22nd from 9am - noon via Zoom. Visit the Career Advocates webpage for more information.

The Center for Career Development & Academic Exploration's "Career Advocates Program" for Faculty & Staff

The "Career Advocates Program" is a three-hour interactive training that highlights Campus Partners opportunities for critical and creative thinking about how to deepen teaching and learning. TLI encourages submissions that create critical and creative thinking about how to deepen teaching and learning. Proposals must be submitted by 11:59pm on Friday, December 10, 2021, and will be reviewed by a panel of TLI faculty members. For more information about consultations to support instructors December 1 - 10.

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Our Experience Learning Dashboards are now available to the campus for viewing and use. As stated in our previous newsletter, the dashboards were developed to showcase our institutions growth, progress, and accomplishments. The dashboards were built over the course of the semester.

Highlighting Campus Partners

Our Experience Learning Dashboards incorporate a diversity of learning styles into each course.unted out for a shortened, intensive model. January 2022 marks our first Winter Mini-Term, and today at 1pm is our last scheduled Winter Mini-Term workshop. The topic is, “Expect the Unexpected: Navigating Changes to Produce Innovative Results” (Click here to register to attend this virtual workshop). The Winter Mini-Term homepage below. Also, view our growing library of related resources by visiting our online learning & academic programs (OLAP) homepage.

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- Learn the professional and ethical guidelines outlined by NACE.
- Explore the role of faculty in helping students build connections within the college and their region.  As she puts it, “This was one of the best career decisions that I have ever made.  I love my UTK family and I am completely invested in making UTK a welcoming environment for faculty, staff, and students.”
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