

To: CPP Faculty

From: Marisela R. Chávez

Subject: Faculty Day, AI Institutes & Summer Opportunities Inside

Date: Mon, Apr 20, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

As the semester is starting to wind down, this also means that you are probably getting busier and busier and there a lot of demands for your time. In a recent episode of the Teaching in Higher Ed podcast, the topic was "[Being Kind to Our Future Selves](#)." The guest on the podcast, Matthew Mahavongtrakul from UC Irvine, said something that I learned when I was a department chair, "Not everything that comes your way is an emergency. Not everything that comes your way has to demand your immediate attention." If you have the inclination, check out the podcast episode for some interesting tips on managing things that come your way.

All the best,

Marisela

In this email:

- [Wall of COOL & Faculty Day!](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)
 - CAFE's Canvas in Practice Series (last session)
 - CAFE's Summer Institute – AI Retrofit – Waiting List
 - Inclusive Teaching for First-Gen Students Summer Institute (Chancellor's Office)
 - Summer Online Course Services Opportunities (Chancellor's Office)
 - Teaching with GenAI: What Faculty are Learning (Chancellor's Office)
 - CAFE Multimedia Learning Objects
 - California Center for Inclusive College – Designing for Belonging: Inclusive Practices in Higher Education
- [Canvas News](#)
- [Faculty Career Growth](#)
 - Faculty Mentoring
 - Parenting Faculty Lunch
 - Center for Community Engagement's 2026-2027 Faculty Fellows Program
 - Exploring the Open Frontier: AI and Emerging Technologies in OER
- [Friends of CAFE](#)
 - Career Champions 2026-27 Faculty Cohort
 - Learning Resource Center Survey
 - Bronco Career Works Hiring Expo

Wall of COOL & Faculty Day

Thursday April 23, 11:30 am – 1 pm, Centerpointe Dining Hall

Join us for this long-standing CAFE tradition, now featuring the 2026 Wall of COOL Awards! Along with enjoying lunch and connecting with colleagues, we'll be revealing the winners and celebrating four faculty members whose work showcases creativity, innovation, and impact.

Wall of COOL Awards will be held from 12 -1 pm

All CPP faculty—full-time, part-time, and retired—are invited to enjoy lunch and time with colleagues. Come when you can and leave when you need to.

We will be gathering in rooms **107, 108** and **110**.

We hope to see you there!

Thank you to the [Pace Setters](#) group for helping to sponsor Faculty Day 2026!

[RSVP for Faculty Day](#)

Teaching and Learning

- CAFE's Canvas in Practice Series (last session)

Descriptions for the session can be found on [CAFE's Upcoming Programs & Events Page](#).

- [Calculating Final Grades, April 28, 12 – 1 pm](#)

- [CAFE's Summer Institute – AI Retrofit – Waitlist](#)

We have reached capacity, we have opened a [waitlist](#).

CAFE's Summer Institute, AI Retrofit, will be a three-day in-person intensive institute from May 26 – 27, and May 29 that will offer faculty the tools, time, and space to thoughtfully examine the impact of AI on teaching and learning. With guidance from experienced facilitators and evidence-based practices, you'll explore key questions about AI's role in your instruction, while ultimately making your own informed decisions.

- Inclusive Teaching for First-Generation Student Success (Chancellor's Office)

Faculty across the CSU are invited to apply for the 2026 Online Faculty Professional Learning Institute: **Inclusive Teaching for First-Generation Student Success**.

This institute, developed and facilitated by Dr. Rebecca Gutierrez Keeton and Dr. Maritza Lozano, faculty in the Department of Education Leadership in the College of Education at CSU Fullerton, focuses on evidence-based strategies for teaching and interacting that draw on the strengths of first-generation college students (FGCS). The institute models inclusive, accessible, and intentional teaching in digitally enhanced and fully online environments, with an emphasis on building student-instructor relationships and engaging students across modalities to enrich the learning experience.

- Participation in this opportunity involves a commitment that begins with a five-week online professional learning institute in Summer 2026 that meets from June 2 to July 3, and continues in Fall 2026, when participants will reflect on their practice as they implement new strategies.

- Those who complete all activities and assignments for both the summer and fall segments will be eligible to receive a \$500 professional development stipend.
- Current CSU faculty (of any rank or appointment type) who have previously taught at least one course and plan to teach in fall 2026 may apply.

To apply, [complete this form](#) by Tuesday, April 28th.

- Summer Online Course Services Professional Development Opportunities

The summer CSU OCS training courses are open for registration. The program provides professional development training opportunities for FREE to prepare faculty, lecturers, and staff to design quality online and hybrid courses and use Artificial Intelligence in innovative ways. All the courses are 3 weeks in length and in an asynchronous format. Registration is restricted to enrollment in one course over the summer to accommodate as many interested CSU faculty, lecturers, and staff.

Courses to design and deliver online and hybrid courses include:

- [Introduction to Teaching Online \(Register\)](#)
- [Advanced Course in Teaching Online \(Register\)](#)

Courses to use Artificial Intelligence in innovative ways include:

- [AI Tools for Teaching & Learning for Faculty/Lecturers \(Register\)](#)
- [AI Tools for Higher Ed. Professionals/Staff \(Register\)](#)

Below are the summer cycles

- **Summer Session 1:** May 26 - June 15, 2026
- **Summer Session 2:** June 22 - July 19, 2026
- **Summer Session 3:** July 27 - August 16, 2026

- Teaching with GenAI: What Faculty Are Learning

Thursdays in April, 12-1pm

[Register Now](#)

Learn how CSU faculty are investigating the implications of generative AI for teaching and student learning through a range of applied projects.

Each session features two Artificial Intelligence Educational Innovations Challenge projects:

- April 23: Learn by Doing with Agentic Design (San Luis Obispo) + Critical Thinking with and about AI: Student Reflection on Use (San Luis Obispo)
- April 30: AI Across the Writing Curriculum (Sacramento) + Critical Engagement with AI in General Education (East Bay)

CSU authentication is required to register and attend.

Recordings will be available for later viewing.

- **Multimedia Learning Objects**

If your students constantly struggle to grasp specific concepts, a [Multimedia Learning Object \(MLO\)](#) may be a good way to enhance their understanding. CAFE can work with you to create interactive multimedia learning objects to help your students work through challenging concepts.

Submit a request for an MLO of your own: We will guide you through the design process, help refine your concept, and produce and implement the final multimedia learning object.

Presentation on MLOs: Learn more on what MLOs are and how to use them in your courses to help students with abstract concepts. Presentation will be on Zoom on April 24, from 12 -1 pm.

[Submit a project request](#)

[Register for MLO presentation](#)

- **California Center for Inclusive College – Designing for Belonging: Inclusive Practices in Higher Education**

The California Center for Inclusive College is hosting a professional learning webinar series focused on supporting students with disabilities in college programs.

April 24, 2026: Disability Awareness

Diana Pastora Carson, faculty at San Diego State and Beyond Awareness Podcaster, will address the importance of disability awareness and creating the conditions for supporting neurodiverse students.

May 8, 2026: Inclusive Instructional Practices

Dive into simple and inclusive game-changing instructional practices with CA Resource Lead, Open Access.

[Learn More](#)

[Register](#)

Canvas News

- **General Info:**

- CAFE hours: Monday–Friday, 8 am–5 pm
- Studio 6 phone: 909-869-3099
- Canvas help: Email canvas@cpp.edu, call the number above, or submit a [Canvas Request Form](#)
- For consultations on accessibility, instructional design, multimedia development, or learning technologies, visit [CAFE's Request Services Page](#)

- Please note that CAFE and Studio 6 utilize IT's ticketing system. All responses to emails sent to canvas@cpp.edu or studio6@cpp.edu, as well as any requests submitted using the forms linked above, will be sent from the CPP Service Desk

Faculty Career Growth

- Faculty Mentoring

Work with a CAFE mentor for confidential consultations and coaching on career development and planning, grant proposal guidance, navigating CPP, RTP, teaching and learning, leadership and service, and/or work-life integration.

- Professor Emerita Lisa Kessler, “Everybody’s Mentor” and CAFE faculty associate. Lisa retired as Interim Dean of Agriculture. Email Lisa directly to set up an appointment. Lisa can also provide guidance on AI Course Integration Proposals.
- Professor Emeritus Martin Sancho-Madriz, CAFE faculty associate. Martin served in many capacities at CPP, including AVP for Faculty Affairs, Dean of the Huntley College of Agriculture, and Associate Dean of ENV. Email Martin directly to set up an appointment.

- Parenting Faculty Lunch
Thursday, April 30, 2026

Centerpointe Dining Hall, Building 72, Room 110

Lunch 11:30am-1:00pm (come when you can and leave when you need to)

Join as we build community! Parenting faculty, Sunny Lie Owens, Associate Professor, Communications Dept. will lead a discussion on “Building resilient and emotionally intelligent children”. This group is open to all lecturers and tenure-line faculty who are parents or parents-to-be -- with "parenting" defined expansively. If you consider yourself a parent, you are one! Please invite other faculty parents you may know, tenure-line or lecturer. Like always, children are welcome. Spouses are also welcome but must pay at the door as our funding only covers faculty and children. Space is limited to 30 participants. For questions, please contact Julie Shen (jshen@cpp.edu), Lisa Kessler (lakessler@cpp.edu), Giselle E Navarro-Cruz (gnavarroacruz@cpp.edu), Sally Romero (sallyromero@cpp.edu), or Sunny Lie Owens (slie@cpp.edu).

[Register for the Parenting Faculty Lunch](#)

- Center for Community Engagement's 2026-2027 Faculty Fellows Program

- **About the Program:**

The Faculty Fellows Program selects 3-5 faculty members—including tenured, tenure-track, and lecturers—to join a cohort focused on "Learning By Doing Good." We are looking for faculty who are enthusiastic about integrating meaningful community service with instruction and reflection, thereby enriching the learning experience, teaching civic responsibility, and strengthening communities.

- **Fellows Benefits:**

- \$1,500 Honorarium/Stipend for participation.

- \$1,500 Materials Allowance (Impact Grant) to support community-based service-learning projects.
 - Professional Development: Participation in six workshops held throughout the Academic Year.
 - Recognition: Inclusion in an end-of-year Holiday Appreciation & Impact Celebration, with invitations extended to college deans.
- [Apply for the CCE's 2026-27 Faculty Fellows Program](#)
 - *Please note: Applications are open through **April 24, 2026**. Application MUST include [an email of support from the applicant's Department Chair](#).
- Call for Proposals - Exploring the Open Frontier: AI and Emerging Technologies in OER

The Cal OER Organizing Committee invites presentations for its sixth annual [Cal OER Conference](#), held virtually on July 29-31, 2026. This event is open to everyone. The theme for the 2026 conference is ***Exploring the Open Frontier: AI and Emerging Technologies in OER***.

Presentation tracks include:

1. Student Explorers: Leading the Way in Open Education
2. Settling the Frontier: Launching and Sustaining OER Programs
3. Pushing Into the Unknown: Creative and Tech-Driven Approaches to Open Education
4. Charting the Impact: Evidence, Equity, and the Promise of Open Education

[2026 Cal OER Conference: Presentation Proposal Submission Form](#)

Proposals are due **Monday, May 18, 2026, by 5:00 PM**.

The planning committee will deliver decisions by Monday, June 1, 2026.

Friends of CAFE

- Career Champions: 2026-27 Faculty Cohort (Career Center)

Join the Career Champions 2026–2027 Faculty Cohort, a valuable opportunity to gain hands-on support, explore practical strategies, and help students connect their classroom learning to meaningful career pathways. Faculty participants will become part of a community of colleagues dedicated to student success while building tools, ideas, and approaches they can bring directly into their teaching.

[Register for Career Champions](#) by April 24, 2026.

For questions, please contact Lydia Chen Shah at lydiachen@cpp.edu.
- CPP Learning Resource Center Survey

Over the past year, we have been engaged in a comprehensive effort to reimagine the Learning Resource Center (LRC) to better support student learning, retention, and success at Cal Poly

Pomona. Through a program review, we identified key strengths and areas for growth, including the need to strengthen partnerships with faculty to better align LRC services with course and instructional needs.

As we move into the next phase of this work, your input is essential. We invite you to complete a short faculty survey designed to help us better understand your experiences, needs, and ideas for collaboration. Your feedback will directly inform how the LRC evolves to support your teaching and our students' success.

The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete. Here's the link to it: https://cpp.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2i7QuEicV8ozjaS. Please complete the survey by April 27, 2026.

Your perspective will help ensure that the LRC is responsive, relevant, and impactful for both faculty and students. Thank you in advance for your time and partnership in this important work.

- Bronco CareerWorks: Hiring Expo

Thursday, April 30 / 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. / SSB Building 121, Room 1969

The Bronco Career Center invites students and alumni to connect with local employers actively hiring for full-time roles. Encourage your students to attend, where they can network with recruiters, explore career paths, and participate in brief on-site interviews. For more information and to register, students can [visit the event page](#).