



## ***Teaching & Learning Committee***

### *November 19, 2025*

#### *Meeting Notes*

**Present:** Marwah Al Tameemi, Dr. Aaron Bruce, Bri Brown, Taylor Fiehler-Roose, Cigdem Genc Yildiz, Jessica Murguia, Veronica Nieves, Scott Stambach, Amber Toland-Perry, and Stephen Weinert

**Absent:** Michelle Garcia, Karla Gutierrez, Joey Kim, Jessica Moore, and Esteban Vilatuna Ruiz

**Vacant:** Dean of Student Services, (1) Part-time Faculty, and (1) Full-time Faculty

**Guest:** N/A

**Resource:** N/A

**Recorder:** Stephanie Gutierrez

#### **Agenda Items:**

- 1. Introduction and Icebreaker:** The members responded to the icebreaker question, "If you could teleport anywhere in the world after we close this Zoom meeting, where would that be?" to kick off the meeting.
- 2. Approval of Meeting Notes:** The meeting [notes from 10-15-2025](#) were reviewed and approved by the committee members.
- 3. PD Pathways Graphic:**

**Discussion:** Scott announced that Dr. Bruce had created a map of PED (Professional Experience Development) opportunities and pathways at Cuyamaca College. Dr. Bruce presented a draft professional development map for faculty, outlining a pathway that starts with Vision Resource Center (VRC) compliance training and includes opportunities such as Thrive activities, communities of practice, EMTLI programs, Teaching Dialogues, and distance education initiatives. The map also highlights upcoming allyship workshops in Indigenous and disability areas, as well as resources for academic integrity and Open Educational Resources (OER). Scott and Bri B. discussed potential future additions to the map, including training for online teaching evaluators, while Dr. Bruce noted that the current version serves as a starting point for further development and could be enhanced with additional features, such as a calendar and testimonials.
- 4. [Goals Setting from 2025-26:](#)**

**Discussion:** The members reviewed the Teaching and Learning Committee Goals for 2025-26. The group discussed professional development initiatives at Cuyamaca College, focusing on creating a more structured approach for both faculty and classified staff. They explored developing a comprehensive professional development handbook and website to serve as a central resource for all employees. The discussion also covered the importance of mentorship programs and various professional development opportunities, such as

the Humanizing STEM and Strong Workforce initiatives.

The conversation ended with a review of the college's goals and the identification of potential action steps to advance these objectives.

### **5. Convocation Collaboration [SS]**

- Update on President 1:1
- President Robinson wants PD to explore: What does it look and feel like to truly move forward together? In other words, what is our vision for what it would look and feel like to no longer be siloed?
- This will be a springboard into sharing the Teaching & Learning Center Slide Show.
- Ideas for PD activity? What prompts would we want to pose to the community?

**Discussion:** With the upcoming spring 2026 convocation, Dr. Bruce shared that President Robinson wants to focus on unifying the campus and addressing employee recruitment and retention.

Dr. Bruce and Bri B. discussed strategies to foster community and support diversity initiatives on campus. They explored ideas such as affinity group leads, paid time for participation, and leveraging existing events, such as convocation, for community building. Dr. Bruce expressed interest in Bri B.'s proposal and agreed to discuss it further with President Robinson and Bri Hays. They also touched on the challenges of navigating workplace dynamics and the importance of persistence in pursuing initiatives.

The group discussed several key topics, including AI in education and its implications for teaching and grading. They agreed to make AI professional development and policy a major agenda item for the next meeting. Bri B. highlighted the need to build trust and community among students and colleagues, while Scott proposed a mindfulness course open to the entire campus to foster connections among students, faculty, and administrators.

Dr. Bruce expressed concerns about the complexity of implementing a Center for Teaching and Learning, highlighting the challenges of managing faculty expectations and securing necessary resources. He emphasized the importance of having clear funding and support in place before promoting the initiative to avoid disappointment and potential backlash. He also discussed navigating the campus political landscape, including the need to consult with various stakeholders and obtain approval from the Faculty Senate before moving forward. Bri B. offered support and acknowledged the tactical challenges of the role, while Dr. Bruce shared insights on the importance of learning to navigate complex systems and personalities in higher education. The group discussed creating a student-made documentary to showcase the Teaching and Learning Center, but Dr. Bruce warned against setting expectations too high without the necessary resources to deliver.

They agreed to pursue immediate actions that could transform the campus culture, such as activating employee resource groups, rather than waiting for the physical space to be ready. The members decided to meet on December 10th instead of December 17th to allow more time for brainstorming ideas before the end of the fall semester.

### **6. Thrive update and Fabiola Torres EMTLI session debrief: Meet Gogy.**

- Demo Gogy and share its value for syllabus tweaking and teaching philosophies.

**Discussion:** The members discussed the need to update and expand equity-minded training programs, with Dr. Bruce suggesting a conversation about integrating these THRIVE trainings into existing structures such as EMTLI.

**7. Recap Teaching Dialogues and Thrive Events [SS] - Tabled.**

- 11/18 4-5 pm: How Bilingual students may interpret information differently, hosted by Karla (facilitated remotely).

**8. CCCC Professional Learning and Flexible Calendar Regulatory Revisions - Tabled.**

**9. 2025-26 TLC Meeting Schedule [SS]**

- There were no updates.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 10, 2025, from 2-4 pm, via Zoom