Institute Schedule

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.  Check-in & Continental Breakfast
2nd Floor Lobby

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  Welcome and Plenary Address: ISU Principles of Community Café
Rooms 220/230/240
Jen Leptien, Interim Director of Learning Communities
Martino Harmon, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs
Reginald Stewart, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion
Jonathan Sturm, President of Faculty Senate and Professor of Music

Join us for an engaging dialogue around how to intentionally incorporate the ISU Principles of Community (POC) into our Learning Community programs. Through dynamic café-style conversations, we will explore how to create a more inclusive campus at ISU.

10:00 – 10:10 a.m.  Break
2nd Floor Lobby

10:10 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  Concurrent Sessions A
Session A1—Room 204-208
Assessment 101: The Basics
Matt Pistilli, Director, Student Affairs Assessment & Research
This presentation will help you better understand the basics of assessment. After this session, participants will be able to define common assessment terms and describe parts of the assessment cycle. Attendees will be able to compare and contrast different forms and methods of assessment and be able to articulate the context of assessment within Learning Communities.

Session A2—260
Understanding Generational Theory to Enhance Student Learning
Keith Robinder, Interim Dean of Students, Dean of Students Office
Millennials move over; here comes Generation Z! This session will present a brief overview of Generational Theory, with a focus on how today’s college students engage in the process of learning. This interactive session will explore how generational shifts impact the teaching and learning process. Today’s students have very different expectations of content relevance in their daily lives, use of technology inside and out of the classroom, among other considerations that impact their learning and engagement. We will share stories and examples to better understand our own generational perspectives and embrace the changes today’s students provide to us as educators.

Session A3—Room 252
Incorporating ISU’s Principles of Community into Your Inclusive Classroom
Laura Bestler, Program Coordinator, Center for Excellence in Learning & Teaching
This session will go a step farther with ISU’s Principles of Community Café and share ways to incorporate these core values into teaching inclusively. In addition, we will provide an overview of how the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching’s (CELT) Inclusive Classroom initiative moved from gathering stake holder input to the development of a multi-pronged approach to build positive student learning experiences. This approach includes pre-workshop online learning modules, supporting resources, and ongoing training opportunities for faculty and staff who teach. Finally, we invite you to
participate in our Inclusive Classroom Faculty Development Workshop for Learning Community Coordinators and Advisers on Thursday, May 11 (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., 198 Parks Library).

Session A4—Room 250
Lessons from a Graduate Student Learning Community: Habits of Mind
Suzanne Hendrich, University Professor, Food Science & Human Nutrition
Food Science and Human Nutrition has used a seminar course required for all graduate students every semester as an opportunity to learn in community. We will share the themes and accountability mechanisms for this learning. Participants will engage in developing their own action plans to advance “thinking about thinking”, a key habit of mind relevant to all roles in learning communities, while also exploring and using a framework for teamwork.

11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions B
Session B1—Room 204-208
Assessing Student Learning
Matt Pistilli, Director, Student Affairs Assessment & Research
At this introductory session, participants will learn how to differentiate between program and process outcomes and student learning objectives. Additionally, attendees will be able to define student learning objectives, define program and process outcomes, and write measurable learning objectives.

Session B2—Room 252
Evidence-Based Approaches to Improving Academic Learning Skills: Learn about PSYCH 131
Chris Meissner, Professor, Psychology; Leif Olsen, Program Coordinator, Academic Success Center; Kaitlyn Burke, Instructor, and Nellie Moualeu, Instructor, Psychology
Come to our session to experience PSYCH 131 and learn why it is the perfect fit for your LC students. PSYCH 131 is a one credit (hybrid) team-based class that meets for 50 minutes once per week. Instructors facilitate discussion and activities focused on critical topics including time management, note-taking, test preparation, team development, and much more. Help your students develop key academic learning skills while strengthening relationships with LC peers.

Session B3—Room 250
New Inspiration and Innovations for Your Transfer Learning Community
Amber Kargol, Academic Adviser, Food Science & Human Nutrition; and Alicia Edwards, Academic Adviser, School of Education
This round table discussion will allow you to brainstorm ideas, problem solve, and enhance your transfer learning community. Come gather with other coordinators, discuss best practices, and gather new ideas to improve upon the great work you are already doing to assist this growing population students.

Session B4—Room 260
What Happens When a Gen X’er and a Millennial Decide to Tackle Gen Z?
Erica Fischer, Senior Assistant Director of Marketing and Campus Visits; and Cameron Aisenbrey, Communications Specialist, Office of Admissions
Well, Cameron might come out looking like the “flushed face” emoji because he really doesn’t like to present and would rather be doing research, and Erica might come out looking like the “smiling face with open mouth” emoji because she’s always happy and talking. Either way, with more than 20 years of combined experience in marketing and higher education, these two balance each other out and have a passion for staying ahead of the curve and learning how to speak to the next generation.
1:00 – 1:50 p.m. Concurrent Sessions C
Session C1—Room 250
A Collaborative Approach to Leadership and Service-Learning
Amber Manning-Ouellette, Lecturer, Psychology; Ashley Dorris, Program Coordinator, Leadership & Service; Allie Parrott, Assistant Director, and Rachael Barnes, Peer Mentor, Women in Science & Engineering
Over the past three years, LISU, WiSE, and EXCEL learning communities have collaborated to develop a high-impact leadership experience for first-year students. During this presentation, Dr. Amber Manning-Ouellette will share significant findings from the Civic Attitudes and Skills Questionnaire (CASQ), which assesses students’ attitudes and skills related to service-learning. Presenters will also discuss the course structure, community partnerships, and peer mentor involvement.

Session C2—Room 204-208
I Bias, You Bias, We All Bias (Unconsciously!)
Sriram Sundararajan, Associate Dean, College of Engineering and Professor of Mechanical Engineering
Our efforts to foster inclusion will better move forward if, as individuals, we recognize that we are all biased and that unconscious bias is a normal component of our psychological makeup (and it’s not anyone’s fault). By acknowledging and understanding our own unconscious bias we can identify ways of learning how to reduce its' effect. We will explore some examples and activities to illustrate how unconscious bias may impact what we do and some ways to counteract the often unintended impacts.

Session C3—Room 260
Innovative Ideas for Your Learning Community
Join us as we share ideas for enhancing the learning community experience. Topics and presenters include: Strategies for Adapting LCs with Increasing Enrollment with Ebby Luvaga, Senior Lecturer, and Amy Brandau, Academic Adviser in Agricultural Economics; First-Year Research Initiatives with Emily Bowers, Academic Adviser in Civil & Construction Engineering; and the OnStage! Performing Arts Series mini-grant program with Paul Ferrone, Development Manager, and Sara Compton, Outreach Manager, Iowa State Center.

Session C4—Room 252
Student Development Theory Meets Learning Communities
Kelsey Smyth, Program Coordinator, Center for Excellence in Learning & Teaching
Are you a LC Coordinator who wants a refresher on Student Development Theory? Are you a peer mentor who wants to know why we hire you to do what you do? Come to this session for an overview of several of the most-used classic student development theories. This session will include time to discuss the topic using case studies to apply student development theories to Learning Communities.

2:00 – 2:50 p.m. Concurrent Sessions D
Session D1—Room 250
Helping Peer Mentors Serve Underrepresented Populations
Janessa Boley, Academic Adviser, Chemical and Biological Engineering; Tabatha Cruz, Program
Coordinator, Multicultural Student Affairs; and Kathy Weaver, Academic Adviser, Business Undergraduate Program

At this session, a panel of peer mentor supervisors will share tips and resources for assisting peer mentors to serve underrepresented student populations—specifically first-generation, international and transfer students. We will discuss in class activities, training, and ongoing support for the peer mentors through this process. In addition to sharing these resources, you are invited to ask our panel of coordinators for feedback on any burning peer mentor questions you need answered during this interactive session.

Session D2—Room 204-208

Increasing International Student Involvement in Learning Communities
Suzanne Härle, International Student Support Adviser, Kabongwe (K.B.) Gwebu, International Student Support Adviser, Liberal Arts & Sciences; and Karen Couves, Masters Student, School of Education

This interactive session will share information about international student involvement in Learning Communities at Iowa State University. This information will be used as the foundation of a conversation focused on why we want to recruit more international students into our learning communities and how to use that "why" as a foundation of the marketing/outreach to prospective international students. One focus of the conversation will be in creating inclusive spaces in our learning communities for all students.

Session D3—Room 260

Learning Communities and Student Wellness Unite!
Mark Rowe-Barth, Director, and Brian Vanderheyden, Manager of Student Wellness

Join Student Wellness (SW) staff members Brian Vanderheyden and Mark Rowe-Barth to learn what SW has in store for the 17-18 academic year. We will provide a brief update on planned initiatives and opportunities. The remainder of our time together will be reserved for a round-table format discussion. We will answer questions and can utilize the opportunity to brainstorm and share further ideas and potential for partnerships between the Learning Communities and SW.

Session D4—Room 252

Simple and Effective Assessments to Improve Your Learning Community
Kyle Holtman, Academic Adviser, and Lisa Phillips, Academic Adviser, Kinesiology

Join us to learn how we have included simple yet effective assessments throughout the academic year for both students and Peer Mentors in our Learning Community. We will focus on practical suggestions for implementing feedback and how you can use the results before, during, and after each school year. Examples of how our results have been applied to positive changes within the learning community will be discussed, including: Peer Mentor training and development, student interactions and involvement, classroom topics and ideas, and structure changes. Participants will be encouraged to share challenges, best practices, and will leave with ideas to implement in their own learning community settings in the future.

2:50– 3:30 p.m.   Awards and Dessert
Rooms 220/230/240

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Schedule at a Glance

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2nd Floor Lobby

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Rooms 220/230/240

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Session A3  Incorporating ISU’s Principles of Community into Your Inclusive Classroom  Room 252
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11:10 – 12:00 p.m.  Concurrent Sessions B

Session B1  Assessing Student Learning  Room 204-028
Session B2  Evidence-Based Approaches to Improving Academic Learning Skills: Learn about PSYCH 131  Room 252
Session B3  New Inspiration and Innovations for Your Transfer Learning Community  Room 250
Session B4  What Happens When a Gen X’er and a Millennial Decide to Tackle Gen Z?  Room 260

12:00 – 12:50 p.m.  Lunch and Next Steps for Principles of Community
Rooms 220/230/240

Lunch and Next Steps for Principles of Community
Laura Doering, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success

1:00 – 1:50 p.m.  Concurrent Sessions C

Session C1  A Collaborative Approach to Leadership and Service-Learning  Room 250
Session C2  I Bias, You Bias, We All Bias (Unconsciously!)  Room 204-208
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