

Iowa Wesleyan University

# Engage Newsletter

October 5, 2020

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Welcome everyone to ENGAGE's October newsletter. At the beginning of this month, we are finishing up new faculty workshops and ending this month with winter 2020 and spring 2021 registration. Please read below about last month's outstanding teacher, advising tips and tricks, many professional development opportunities, an active learning strategy and some stress-free faculty and staff events.

## September's Outstanding Teacher of the Month

Each month for the Fall 2020 semester, the faculty and staff will nominate an outstanding instructor of the month based on how to employ technology in the classroom, utilizing technology and active learning within the classroom, helping with University wide projects, and more.

Shawna Hudson has showcased all of the qualities above and more. She has been teaching faculty how to use Screencastify within the classroom throughout Spring 2020, Summer 2020, and Fall 2020. Please see Shawna's Screencastify video she created in the professional

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development section below. She has also been a new faculty mentor for many years and has been a leader that many of us go to for teaching advice and strategies.

Many co-workers had positive words to share about Dr. Hudson. One colleague stated, “Shawna has been a tremendous resource in helping faculty with creating Screencastify programs for our Canvas teaching platform and has done some creative outreach to her educational program students. In response to COVID-19 adaptations and the need for physical space for teaching one of her classes in the evening, she met with one of her classes on the campus lawn around a tree and had everyone bring their lawn chair for their class time. They had a great time!” This is an example of her flexibility and creativity in action.

Thank you Dr. Hudson for all your exceptional work in the month of September.



## October's ENGAGE Opportunities

### Advising Tips and Tricks:

1. October is the big month to register students for the winter 2020 and spring 2021 classes.
  - October 27th: Seniors and Veterans
  - October 29th: Juniors
  - November 2nd: Sophomores
  - November 4th: Freshmen
  - November 13th: Must be registered for Spring 2021, to be put in drawing for free textbooks

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2. Online Spring A classes start a week before regular 15 week classes in the Spring semester. Please remind students of this when signing up for these classes.

- January 11th: Spring 2021 Online A classes start date
- January 19th: Spring 2021 15 week traditional classes

Video from the Online Team showcasing how to be a successful online student:



3. Winter Term classes: Students can sign up for Self-Paced classes (SPI) or internship credits for the winter term. Please see the [flier](#) for due dates and the [website](#) for tips on SPI courses and the sign up [form](#).

4. Student needing a tutor? Have them check out the OASIS tutoring [poster](#).

### **Faculty and Staff Development Opportunities:**

1. Thank you to Jeff Martinek and Shawna Hudson for making us some professional development technology videos.

- How to Use Padlet in the Media Lab Classroom



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- Screencastify



2. Want to learn more about speedgrader and the gradebook through Canvas? Join the online team on October 14th at 12 PM (CT) through [zoom](#). The online team will send out the password as it gets closer to the 14th.

3. An article about how instructional designs of the classroom can affect your online teaching strategies.

Slattery, Darina M., PH.D. (2020, September 16th). [Implementing Instructional Design Approaches to Inform Your Online Teaching Strategies](#). Faculty Focus.

4. Academic Impressions Webinar: Fostering Student Belonging to Support Retention Despite the Global Pandemic, October 19th [Webinar](#)

We have a university wide subscription to Academic Impressions. If you need a username and password please contact Meg Richtman.

### **Active Learning Strategy of the Month:**

Sorting Ideas: This activity involves students sorting out ideas, objectives, timelines, vocabulary, and more. They will take your chosen topics that you choose before hand and individually (or in groups) sort the topics however they see fit. Then you discuss as a class or in small groups why they sorted the topics in their specific groups.

The topics can be put up on the board, a Padlet, on small slips of paper, a Google document, a discussion post, or more. Depending on where you put the topics, the students can use a kinetic

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learning style to move their topics, auditory learning style to talk and listen about sorting topics, or a visual learning style by writing and seeing the topics.

**Stress Free Activities for Faculty and Staff brought to you by Iowa Wesleyan University:**

***TIGER  
SPIRIT  
DRESS UP  
DAYS***

*October 19<sup>th</sup> through October 23<sup>rd</sup>*

*Stop by tent outside the Howe Building to  
get Tiger Bucks for dressing up each day from  
10:30AM to 12:30PM*

*Monday: Tenacious  
Dress up like a superhero*

*Tuesday: Inspired  
Dress up as someone who inspires you*

*Wednesday: Global  
Where something to represent your culture*

*Thursday: Engaged  
Engage with your graduating class, wear  
your class color  
Freshmen: Orange  
Sophomores: Red  
Juniors: Green  
Seniors: Black  
Faculty/Staff: Blue*

*Friday: Respect  
Respect the purple and white. Wear as much  
purple and white as possible.*

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**November Thankful Turkeys:**

- It's this year's Secret Santa, but it is happening in November.
- Deadline to sign up is October 23<sup>rd</sup>. See link below.
- How it works?
  - One small gift (\$1-3) and a positive note the week of Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> and Nov 9<sup>th</sup>
  - Reveal and main gift (\$10-15) on Nov 18<sup>th</sup> at noon in Social Hall
  - Great way to meet new faculty and staff



Thankful Turkey sign up [link](#).

## **FACULTY APPRECIATION AFTERNOON**

**OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup> 3PM TO 5PM  
AIRPORT WINERY**

- **3PM TO 3:30PM- APPETIZERS, RAFFLE PRIZES, AND DRINKS**
- **3:30PM TO 4:30PM- COMEDY BY SCOTT LONG**
- **4:30PM TO 5:00PM- TRIVIA AND PRIZES**

**RSVP TO PATTY CARSON BY OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>**

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If you have a great active teaching strategy, news article, or professional development idea, please send your idea to Megan Hills at [megan.hills@iw.edu](mailto:megan.hills@iw.edu) and they might be displayed in next month's newsletter.

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