

Iowa Wesleyan University

Engage Newsletter

September 15, 2020



What to Expect Each Month

I hope everyone's fall semester is going great. I hope to send out a monthly reminder on the following to help out full time faculty, adjuncts, advisors, and staff who work with students academically:

1. Various advising tips and tricks
2. Faculty and staff development opportunities
3. A different active teaching strategy each month

August'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 teaching other faculty on how to use technology in the classroom, utilizing technology and active teaching within the classroom, helping with University wide projects, creative projects, and more.

Jeff Martinek has showcased all of the qualities above. He has been instrumental in teaching faculty how to use Padlet within the classroom, developing new ways to assist students during this unique semester, and making creative projects for students to demonstrate understanding of class objectives.

Many co-workers had positive words to share about Dr. Martinek. One colleague stated, "As division chair of Humanities, he has been extremely gracious in brainstorming ideas, and helping with new (and old) technology." Another colleague wrote, "He was available to help with various questions about new use of technology and took the time to make it easy to understand."

Thank you Dr. Martinek for all your exceptional work in the month of August. It is helping Iowa Wesleyan move forward.



September's ENGAGE Opportunities

Advising Tips and Tricks:

1. If moving a student up a catalog, please check all requirements in the general education, the major, and any minors. Also please inform the Registrar's office for future degree audits.
2. We have a new graduation page. Please check this out with any advisee that may have graduated in May/August 2020 or with students who are about to graduate in December 2020, May 2021, or August 2021. The website is <https://www.iw.edu/graduation/>



Faculty and Staff Development Opportunities:

1. Go to the professional development Google drive at Shared Drives> Professional Development for Faculty to review June and August presentations and videos.
2. An article about a few ideas on how to use Zoom and to personalize office or distance education hours.

Stone, Elizabeth. (2020, August 19th). *How to Overcome Classroom Zoom Fatigue*. Inside Higher Ed. <https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2020/08/19/advice-how-make-zoom-classes-energizing-and-community-building-opinion>

Active Learning Strategy of the Month:

1. Jigsaw Discussions: This activity will involve two rounds of group discussions. This could be used in writing discussions or through verbal discussions. You can purposely group face to face, hybrid, and/or distance students together or apart.

First Round: Divide students into groups and give each group a different text or topic to read/discuss.

Second Round: One student from each group forms a new group, so now all topics and articles are represented in one group.

Examples:

	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3
Round 1	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3
	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3
	Topic 1	Topic 1	Topic 1
Round 2	Topic 2	Topic 2	Topic 2
	Topic 3	Topic 3	Topic 3

Coming Soon:

Options to learn more about more technology applications, like Padlet or Zoom.

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 and they might be displayed in next month's newsletter.

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