

Iowa Wesleyan University

Engage Newsletter

March 1st, 2021



Welcome everyone to ENGAGE's March newsletter. March starts us off with the advising update meeting for Fall 2021 and ends with Fall and Summer 2021 registration. Please review important dates, 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.

February's Outstanding Teacher of the Month

Each month for the Spring 2021 semester, the faculty and staff will nominate an outstanding instructor of the month based on utilizing technology and active learning within the classroom, helping with University wide projects, advising, and more.

Katie Aranda has showcased all of the qualities above and more. Katie Aranda has aided with the new student leader initiative in general education classes, creates new hybrid assignment ideas, and is always willing to help with new projects. Katie continues to meet with students,

staff, and faculty to provide assistance in any way she can with student supports and academics.

Many co-workers had positive words to share about Katie Aranda. One colleague stated, “Katie is seemingly "on call" 24/7. She handles so many different issues related to student success-- regardless if they are one of her regular students or not. She is positive, encouraging, and offers great advice to students, graduate students, and her faculty colleagues. She is extremely involved across campus. If anyone is deserving of this award, it would be she.” This is an example of her participation in student success and advising.

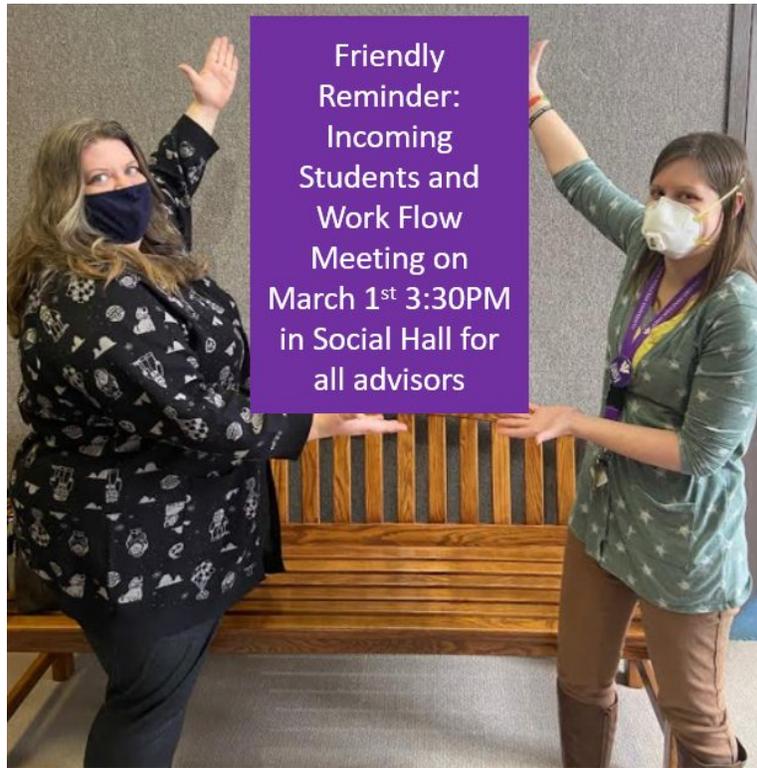
Thank you Katie Aranda for all of your hard work and congratulations on winning February's Outstanding Teacher of the Month.



February's ENGAGE Opportunities

Advising Tips and Tricks:

1. The incoming student and work flow meeting is on **March 1st at 3:30 PM in the Social Hall**. This is a very important meeting to understand new initiatives and processes to help advise and register new students for Summer and Fall 2021.



2. Important dates to watch out for in March:

- a. March 1st: All Summer 2021 and Fall 2021 classes are due to the registrar's office
- b. March 8th: All eight week B term classes start
- c. March 10th: Last day to add a B term class
- d. March 12th: Midterm grades are due to the registrar's office by 5PM through faculty portal
- e. March 14th: Last day to drop a B term class
- f. March 15th through March 26th: Input textbooks adoptions for Summer and Fall 2021 classes
- g. March 19th: Last day to withdraw from a 15 week class
- h. March 22nd: Registration for summer and fall classes begins

3. Please watch the drop and withdraw dates for the B term and 15 week classes. Due to our unique spring schedule this year, due dates will be a little different. Students will need to think about adding a term B class earlier within the semester than normal.

Faculty and Staff Development Opportunities:

1. Lightning Round: Practical Ideas to Enhance Student Engagement

March 15th: 4pm through Zoom

2. Article about how to show support in an in-person or online classroom that can generate equity among students:

Estefan, Michel. (2021, February 3rd). [Show Them You Care](#). Inside Higher Ed.

3. ICCOC (the online consortium with SCC and other community colleges) is having a free virtual conference on **March 30th through March 31st**. If you want to attend or present at this conference, please see more information [here](#)

4. Do you want to notify your students about more assignments or due dates on Canvas? Click [here](#) to watch a video on setting Canvas notifications.

5. ICCOC will be on Iowa Wesleyan's Campus on **March 4th**. There will be professional development sessions in the afternoon. Please watch out for emails on more details from Academic Affairs in the next few days.

Active Learning Strategy of the Month:

Three Step Interview:

Step 1: The teacher provides the interview topic and states the duration of the interview

Step 2: Provide time for students to collect their thoughts and write down key points

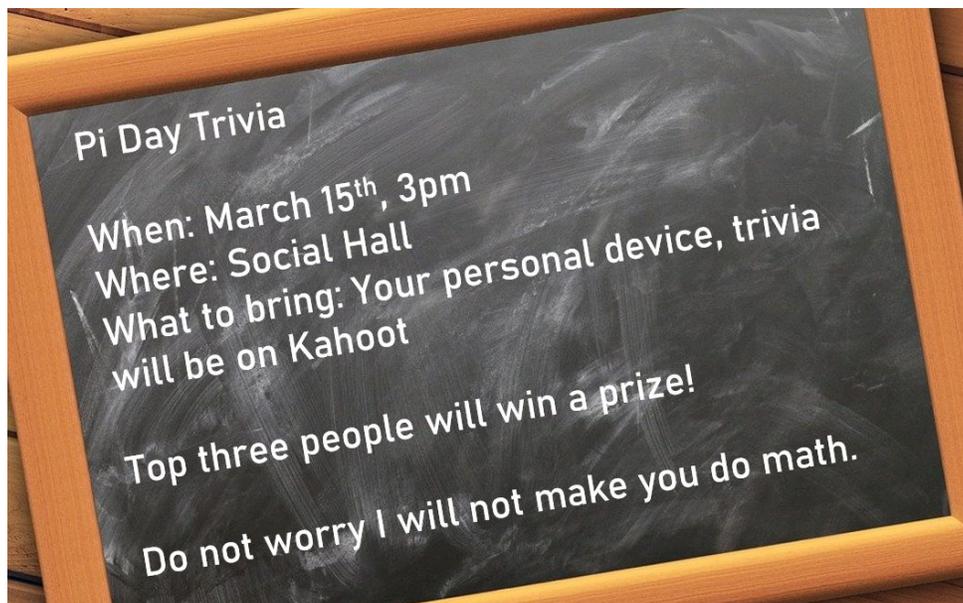
Step 3: Pair up students. Student A interviews Student B.

Step 4: Switch roles: Student B interviews Student A

Step 5: Group two pairs of students to review what they learned.

This active teaching strategy could work through small Zoom groups or with face to face groups. Topics could include beginning subjects to see what students initially know about a subject or a great review topic to see if the student understands all aspects of a certain topic.

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



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.

Want to see past ENGAGE newsletters? Go to the L Drive under Registrar.

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