

Student Engagement Faculty Fellow: Student Engagement Professional Learning Community

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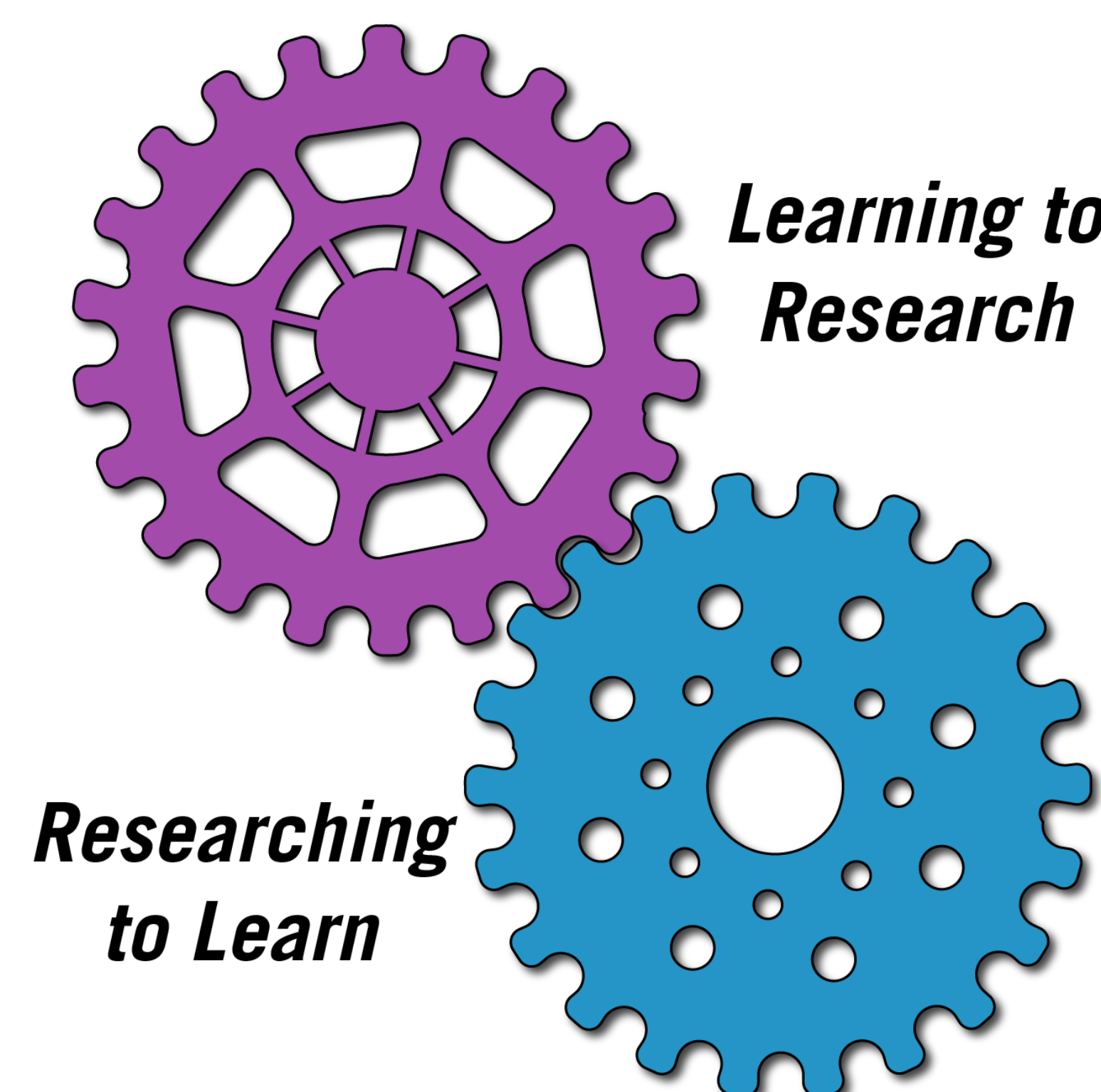
Purpose

- Align coursework with Lindenwood University's mission "Real Experience. Real Success."
- Engage students in authentic research and embed these research experiences as part of the curriculum (and scaffold across the curriculum)
- Cultivate an analytic mindset within our students
- Create a community where faculty and staff can support one another in designing these learning experiences and share resources

Project Ideas

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|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Interviews | • Field observations | • Grant writing |
| • Creation of marketing materials | • Software design | • Experimental design |
| • Surveys | • Documentaries | • Case studies |
| • Polls | • Conference proposals | • Analyzing authentic data |
| • Writing business proposals | • Podcasts/Vodcasts | |
| | • Exhibits | |

Real Experience. Real Success.



Spring 2019

Thirteen individuals including faculty and staff participated in two different PLC meetings. The first meeting introduced the outcomes for the PLC and the resources in the Canvas shell. Members also brainstormed around project ideas. The second meeting focused on refining project ideas and implementation. Work continued throughout the summer as faculty finalized the details of their projects.

Example projects:

- Students enrolled in an online, global education class will participate in a research project focused on exploring schooling in other countries.
- Student workers in the Office of Institutional Effectiveness will present and lead discussions on research articles during staff meetings.
- Students enrolled in Dr. Marilyn Patterson's Concepts of Sociology course engage in a learning assignment focused on exploring various aspects of the culture of Lindenwood University.

Student Research as a High Impact Practice

Nationwide, undergraduate research and scholarship is recognized as a high impact practice that increases student engagement and success (G. Kuh, "High-Impact Educational Practices: What They Are, Who Has Access to Them, and Why They Matter," Washington, DC: Association of American Colleges and Universities, 2008)

Student research has been shown to provide the skills employers are looking for: Communication, teamwork, analytical reasoning, and applying knowledge to real-world settings (Hart Research Associates, "Falling Short? College Learning and Career Success," Washington, DC: Association of American Colleges and Universities, 2015)

PLC Resources

Student Engagement PLC Project Design Worksheet Spring 2019	
Project Objective:	What do you want students to know? What do you want students to be able to do?
Research questions:	What research questions will drive the project? How will these questions be formulated? (i.e., instructor chosen, created in a class, student selected) (Hint: students often choose research questions that are too broad. Consider how you will help them narrow their questions)
Research design:	Will students design their own projects? Will you design these as a class? In small groups? Pairs? Etc.

PLC Canvas Shell

- Articles on integrating authentic research
- Sample assignments
- PPTs
- Discussion board
- Project design tools
- Digital archive of projects

Fall 2019

During the fall semester, we will continue our work as a PLC. New members are always welcome. We will focus on implementing projects that were designed in the spring and continue to develop projects for Spring 2020 implementation. We hope to generate projects for the Student Research Conference in April 2020!

Join Us!

In Fall 2019, we will continue to have PLC meetings. We will begin in September. Meeting dates and times will be posted on the Learning Academy website and in the digest. Feel free to email me, mwhitacre@lindenwood.edu for more information.

Learning Academy
LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY