



This Week on the Ohlone eCampus

Week of October 19, 2020

Focus Topic: Checking In AND Checking Out (Mentally)

How's class going?

Have you checked in with your students lately? Midway through the semester is a great time to take the pulse on how the technology and techniques you're using in class are working for your students. Try this three question [KSS survey](#) –

- **Keep** – what's working and can be confidently continued
- **Stop** - what's not working and can be discontinued or revised
- **Start** – what's one thing we can try for the rest of the semester

We often wait until the end of the semester to ask for student feedback. Unfortunately, that is too late to implement changes for the group making improvement suggestions. What if you ask for feedback and take action now?

How are your students?

Being online may be getting more familiar for you, but it may not be getting any easier for your students. Are you checking in with them every week and providing them a chance to share verbally or in writing how they are doing, both academically AND emotionally? In [Building Relationships: How to Connect from a Distance](#), Crystal Wong shares three approaches to connections that you can try: curricular, pedagogical, and social.

How are you?

We hope you are taking time to completely log off and do a full system shutdown. It's good for you to log off from time to time. It is good for your technology, too! Logging out of Zoom and Canvas allows the technology to reset and optimize your experience when you power back up.

That shut down is important for you as well. Zoom Fatigue is real. [In this post](#), Marlene Mahue shares tips for mitigating Zoom fatigue before, during, and after Zoom meetings. And here are 5 tips in [this Albert Team video](#) to get you started on your teaching self-care kit. eCampus team is here to support you as well. Please let us know how we can assist you. Send us a note or stop by our virtual office hours - opening back up this week.

Professional Development

Upcoming professional development courses:

- *Humanizing Online Teaching and Learning* - November 2 through November 21 - [Register](#)
- *Ohlone Online Teaching Capstone* - November 30 – January 8 - [Register](#)

eCampus Inspirations – Continue to Learn With Us



Creating Engaging Discussion Boards

Day	Date	Time	Facilitator	Zoom Link
Wednesday	10/21	12:00 – 1:00 pm	eCampus	Meeting Link

General Office Hours



Photo by [Tim Mossholder](#) on [Unsplash](#)

The eCampus [Virtual Office](#) is open again. You'll find us on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:00 pm October 20 through November 24. You may also schedule one-on-one support with someone from the eCampus by [submitting](#) a Canvas IT ticket. Be sure to include the following information: a few days/times you are available, and specific tasks/questions you would like assistance with. Your success is our primary concern!

Minimum Qualifications Training (MQT) – November 9,10, and 12

All faculty members teaching online in spring 2021 must complete the six- hour MQT course. The next session is scheduled for **November 9, 10, & 12 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm**. Please consult with your Dean if you have any questions about this requirement. [REGISTER HERE](#).

Distance Education Addendum Update

You've done a tremendous job getting those DE addenda in place. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication. If you still need to add the DE addendum, no worries. **Additional Approval proposals** can still meet the approval deadline if submitted by **November 2**. Ask your Dean if you have any questions about the status of your courses.

DE Addendum Workshop

Hands-on workshop where you will create the Additional Approval proposal and complete the DE Addendum.

- Tuesday, October 20 – 9:00 – 10:30 am [Meeting Link](#)
- Thursday, October 22 – 3:30 – 5:00 pm [Meeting Link](#)

All approvals for Distance Education for Spring 2021 courses must be in place by December 20, 2020.

Equity Corner

One of the silver linings of this pandemic of which you may not be aware is the increasing visibility and availability of OER. **Open Educational Resources** used to be time consuming and difficult to locate, with questionable quality and limited viability for most courses. That may no longer be the case. For many of the more common Biology, Psychology, Sociology, Statistics, and English courses, there are well-reviewed FREE textbooks that can easily replace expensive commercial textbooks. Plymouth State University has put together a [wonderful resource](#) that explores the benefits of adopting an OER textbook and how this can be a powerful way to address student equity. And there is a side benefit! You might also improve enrollment in your course since use of free or low-cost textbooks is included in the comments section of the class schedule so students are aware of this benefit. It's a Win-Win.

Notes from Mary

I just attended CanvasCon where LeVar Burton (Reading Rainbow host) opened with a keynote highlighting the power of storytelling. Who doesn't appreciate a good story! And a story that is from an expert in the field (that's you) can motivate students and connect them with the content. Try adding stories to your discussion prompts, your assignments, and your assessments. Create a podcast, a video, or a VoiceThread to capture your story. Ohlone's Gary Kauf and Arnie Loleng are available to provide video and recording guidance. [Check out what they can offer.](#)

Read more about [storytelling benefits](#) and [storytelling strategies](#) in higher education. Give it a try and tell us how it goes.

Signing off – enjoy the weekend.

Mary