

## CIT 2024 Pre-Conference Workshops

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

1:00 – 4:00 pm

### ***Better Courses and How to Build Them: Hands-on with OLI Torus***

Presenter: Tony DeFranco, (SUNY OER Services)

Open Educational Resources (OER) bring together openly licensed educational content with advanced analytics-based technology platforms, which lowers educational costs for students while improving learning outcomes. The SUNY OER Services partnership with Carnegie Mellon's Open Learning Initiative (OLI), provides high-quality, evidence-based courses at no cost to SUNY students and faculty. Now, OLI's next-generation platform, Torus, will transform how we build, customize, and improve courses. Torus is adaptive courseware informed by learning science that is designed to improve student learning and course completion rates while significantly lowering costs. Central to Torus is a unique approach to designing courses, focused around learning models and iterative improvement. This approach allows for improved data-collection, a learner-centered pedagogy, and courses that improve over time. Join us for a 3-hour introduction to OLI's innovative approach to course design and development. In this workshop you will: -Use Torus to design an OLI-style Learning Model -Rapidly author content, publish and deliver a Torus lesson -Adopt and customize existing OLI Materials -Review data to improve your course -Learn more about OLI courses on the SUNY Ready-to-Adopt catalog.

**Cost to Participate - \$30.00**

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### ***Going Gradeless Together: Exploring Alternative Grading in a Faculty Learning Community***

Presenter: Laurel McNall (SUNY Brockport), Kristin Blinne (SUNY Oneonta)

The purpose of this interactive workshop is to offer time to collaboratively explore alternative grading practices. As part of this workshop, the presenters will share their experiences with alternative grading, including research on student perceptions of ungrading, and invite participants to discuss their own practices. Additionally, this workshop will describe the development of a faculty learning community on ungrading at SUNY Brockport, with funding from a SUNY Innovative Instructional Technology Grant. Participants will be invited to ask questions and brainstorm ideas as they consider implementation or redesign of their own grading practices. Another aim of this workshop is to build a network of instructors interested in this mode of assessment with the goal of continuing the conversation about alternative grading beyond the workshop. After attending this workshop, it is our hope that audience members will be inspired to reflect on and reimagine their relationship with grades and grading.

Instructional Agenda:

Welcome & Introductions (15 minutes): Participants will introduce their background with and/or interest in alternative forms of grading.

Alternative Grading in Our Classrooms and Student Perceptions (45 min): We will share our own experiences with alternative grading from the perspective of someone with many years of experience to someone relatively new to this method, along with some initial research on student perceptions of ungrading.

SUNY Brockport Ungrading Faculty Learning Community (30 min): We will share the development of a faculty learning community (FLC) approach as well as lessons learned from a full-day workshop that was part of this FLC.

Alternative Grading Q&A (45 minutes): During the final portion of this workshop, participants will work in small groups to further develop and/ or refine alternative grading approaches at their institutions, and we will discuss ways the group can continue to support this work post-workshop.

**Cost to Participate - \$30.00**

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***Gateway to Excellence: Carolina Distance Learning's Platform with Hands-On Labs for Transformative Teaching Experiences***

Presenters: Sujatha Kadaba (SUNY Empire University), Kerry Balbirona, Carolina Biological

Immerse yourself in the dynamic capabilities of Carolina Distance Learning's Gateway platform through a hands-on lab with Dr. Sujatha Kadaba and Kerry Balbirona in our pre-conference workshop. As Visiting Assistant Professor and Coordinator for Distance Learning Laboratories at SUNY Empire State, Dr. Kadaba and Kerry Balbirona, Business Development Manager for Carolina Distance Learning will lead an interactive session highlighting practical applications and innovative teaching methodologies that leverage the platform to enhance student engagement.

Participate in a hands-on blood typing lab, showcasing the Carolina Gateway platform potential in a real-world scenario. By the end of this workshop, participants will acquire the ability to efficiently navigate and utilize the features of Carolina's Gateway platform, gain insights into adapting teaching strategies catering to different learning styles and will develop a heightened technological literacy, enabling them to confidently integrate advanced instructional technology into their teaching methodologies resulting in enhanced student engagement.

**There is no cost to participate in this workshop**