



WAUBONSEE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Faculty Development and Engagement



ACUE

Student Success
Through Exceptional
Teaching

Association of College and University Educators Yearbook

Waubonsee Community College, Class of 2022

About ACUE

Founded in 2014 by forefront leaders in higher education, ACUE supports faculty to meet the needs of the evolving 21st century classroom through their **Course in Effective Teaching Practices®** developed in collaboration with hundreds of college educators and leading experts. Featuring over 50 award-winning college educators and two dozen experts, this course utilizes research specializing in college instruction, adult learning, and the cognitive sciences. Each ACUE module offers research based strategies for both face-to-face and online instruction, specifically: Designing an Effective Course, Establishing a Productive Learning Environment, Using Active Learning Strategies, Promoting Higher Order Thinking, Assessing to Inform Instruction & Promote Learning (https://acue.org/?acue_courses=acues-effective-practice-framework, accessed 08.10.20). Faculty who complete the course receive a **Certificate in Effective College Instruction** that is endorsed by the American Council on Education (ACE).

ACUE's Mission

The Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) mission is to ensure student success through quality instruction. ACUE believes that every faculty member deserves the support and preparation needed to teach well, so that every student receives an extraordinary education. ACUE believes that faculty members play an indispensable role in the academic and personal achievement of their students.

Waubonsee and ACUE

Waubonsee Community College provided the faculty participating in the certificate program the option to enroll in the **ACE Graduate Credit Course, *The Fundamentals of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education***. The faculty who pursued this option engaged in additional graduate-level coursework, including the development of First Day and Interactive Class Session Plans, Peer Review of Class Session Plans, a Comprehensive Syllabus Assignment, Teaching Philosophy, and Teaching ePortfolio. Completion of these assignments with a B or better provided course takers with three graduate credits transcribed by ACE. For full-time faculty, Waubonsee approved these graduate credits for application towards columnar advancement.

Waubonsee's Resilient Third Cohort

Dear Members of the Waubonsee ACUE Class of 2022,

Kudos to each and every one of you for this exemplary achievement! As newly ACUE-certified individuals, you have now been promoted to [ACUE Rock Star](#) status for your demonstrated knowledge and application of effective, research-based teaching practices. Waubonsee's ACUE Rock Stars are modeling the way to holistic faculty and student success through inclusive teaching and learning excellence.

Faculty who practice quality teaching inspire intellectual curiosity and give each student voice in the learning community. Built upon respect for self and others, these gifted faculty create brave spaces for shared teaching and learning where each person feels heard, valued, and has a sense of belonging. This combination of purpose, contribution, and belonging enhances the students' capacity for learning and success.

This year's cohort faced a variety of transitions that required nimbleness, patience, and flexibility. Not knowing if the fall semester would mean virtual or in-person learning meant being prepared for either scenario. Knowing that many students, as well as instructors, would be returning to campus for the first time and need to comply with the new COVID protocols, added anxiety for many. Ensuring safety in the classroom, office, and other areas on campus was also a concern for all. Then, spring semester began with remote teaching and learning, and quickly transitioned to in-person learning just weeks later.

The reactions of this year's cohort extolled the virtues of best practices and instructional design methods based on inclusiveness and equitable learning. Retention became the focus for instructors as many students continued to struggle with the impact of the pandemic. Finding ways to motivate students, leading students to mental health resources, and accommodating student needs were at the forefront. Above all, this year's cohort was persistent, innovative, and courageous in their journey towards completion!

The heart of student success is their experience in their classroom with their faculty members and classmates, regardless of whether that space is physical or virtual, synchronous or asynchronous. Quality teaching optimizes the shared teaching and learning experience by providing both the faculty and students with the knowledge, tools, skills, and mindset to work and lead in a global environment.

Waubonsee's ongoing partnership with ACUE affirms, demonstrates, and celebrates our collective belief that quality teaching, through connection, community, and learning in the classroom, is the cornerstone of equitable outcomes and holistic faculty and student success!

Congratulations, distinguished ACUE-certified colleagues, on this remarkable professional accomplishment! We look forward to your continued engagement and advocacy!

Best wishes on your on-going journey to teaching excellence!

Amy Chaaban and Sara Gregory, Ed.D., ACUE Faculty Facilitators
Laura E. Ortiz, Ed.D., ACUE Campus Lead

Letter from President Christine J. Sobek, Ed.D.

Dear Faculty Colleagues:

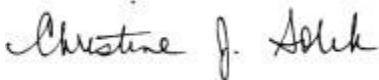
Congratulations on earning your Certificate in Effective College Instruction through the Association of College and University Educators (ACUE). You join an exclusive group of colleagues who are leading the way in Waubonsee's commitment to providing "exceptional learning through accessible, equitable, and innovative education."

I want to express my appreciation and gratitude for your dedication, extra efforts and commitment to your professional development. This accomplishment is even more impressive when combined with the added challenges we have continued to face during the ongoing shifts and changes associated with the global pandemic.

Based on feedback from our previous cohorts, I am confident that the network, resources, and strategies developed within the ACUE program will be an excellent source of knowledge and inspiration throughout your teaching career. Your devotion to promoting student equity and success and the pursuit of excellence is recognized and appreciated.

Again, congratulations ACUE Class of 2022 and best wishes for continued success!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Christine J. Sobek". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine J. Sobek, Ed.D.
President

Letter from Vice President of Educational Affairs

Diane Nyhammer, Ph.D.

Colleagues,

Congratulations on being part of Waubonsee Community College's Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) Class of 2022!

I am so excited that you have joined others at Waubonsee in learning about and using ACUE's Effective Teaching Practices. We know that faculty have a significant influence on student success, and your completion of all 25 of the course modules, which comprise ACUE's Effective Practice Framework, is clear indication of your commitment to excellence in teaching and your own professional development.

Now that you are part of the ever-growing cohort of ACUE-certified Waubonsee faculty, you are helping the college advance the Strategic Plan and Educational Affairs Plan goals that "promote student equity and provide quality learning experiences and personal growth for all students." Just as you are designing and supporting the learning of the students in your classes, you are also helping to create a faculty learning community dedicated to helping students reach their goals.

I commend all of you for earning ACUE's Certificate in Effective College Instruction, and I extend special recognition to those of you who also successfully completed the companion graduate course, The Fundamentals of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, both endorsed by the American Council on Education.

I encourage you to continue your professional development by engaging in other ACUE and Quality Matters learning opportunities provided by Waubonsee to further support your students' success.

Sincerely,



Diane Nyhammer, Ph.D.
Vice President of Educational Affairs

ACUE 2022 Honorees

Certificates in Effective College Instruction

The following individuals have earned ACUE's Certificate in Effective College Instruction, endorsed by the American Council on Education:

Jeanne Anderson, Adjunct Faculty, English

Vicky Archos, Assistant Professor of Communications

Tim Bizoukas, Director of Employee Development

Cindy Bowman, Adjunct Faculty, College Topics

Shawn Clements, Adjunct Faculty, EMT-Paramedic

Garry Daly, Adjunct Faculty, Computer Science

Quentin Dover, Adjunct Faculty, Music

Debbie Gardner, Adjunct Faculty, Psychology

Emily Heller, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology and Health Education

Hoitung Terry Leung, Instructional Designer/Technologist

Ryan Maloney, Instructional Technology and Media Specialist

Lisa Matich, Adjunct Faculty, Paralegal

Eamon Newman, Assistant Dean for Online Learning and Flexible Delivery

Rebecah Palazzola, Employee Development Trainer

Tammy Schiesl, Technology Trainer

Nora Silvia, Assistant Dean for Health Professions and Public Service

Richard Swiech, Adjunct Faculty, Biology

Janet Trowbridge, Adjunct Faculty, English

ACUE 2022

Graduate Credit Recipients

The following individuals have earned three graduate credit hours for successfully completing
The Fundamentals of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education:

Jeanne Anderson, Adjunct Faculty, English

Vicky Archos, Assistant Professor of Communications

Quentin Dover, Adjunct Faculty, Music

Debbie Gardner, Adjunct Faculty, Psychology

Ryan Maloney, Instructional Technology and Media Specialist

Janet Trowbridge, Adjunct Faculty, English

Yearbook Photos & Testimonials



Jeanne Anderson

"Having the course spread out over two semesters allowed me time to focus on applying what I learned in both my face-to-face and online classes. The syllabus recon and graphic syllabus assignments have revolutionized how I approach the first day of class."



Vicky Archos

"The ACUE Program was engaging and useful. I especially liked writing reflections about my teaching as a means for improvement."



Tim Bizoukas

"This course reinforces practices that I am using or have used, as well as introducing me to new approaches to create a better learning experience for all of the individuals I instruct."



Cindy Bowman

"ACUE has really taught me new ways of approaching teaching my course material. I am excited to continue to learn and modify my classes each and every term!"



Shawn Clements

"My educational and professional background is not in educational theory or instruction. As a seasoned adjunct instructor, I was seeking new skills to increase my ability to bring current professional experience into the class room. The ACUE experience not only provide me instruction in current educational theory, it also provided tools to increase my interpersonal skills in and out of the class room. ACUE demonstrated how learning can be an enjoyable life long, self-directed, meaningful activity"



Garry Daly

"The ACUE course provided an in-depth approach to effective teaching practices which promotes deeper learning and obtaining course outcomes by engaging the learner."



Quentin Dover

"The knowledge and experiences I've gained while participating in the ACUE course helped me to greatly improve how I approach to teaching, engage with my students, and organize my course designs."



Debbie Gardner

"Taking the ACUE class has inspired and challenged me to continuously monitor and evolve my instruction so that I can be a better teacher. It has inspired and challenged me to focus the learning experience on the student, focusing on enrichment while keeping student's engaged and making learning enjoyable."



Emily Heller

"This ACUE course offered me tools to refine my teaching and further promote a student-centered learning environment in the classes I teach. Specific activities I learned through the course have helped me to promote deeper learning of the course content for students and taught me additional strategies to enhance active engagement.

I am grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with fellow colleagues throughout this graduate course."



Hoitung Terry Leung

"The course provides pedagogical practices that are helpful for enhancing communication and building bridges with students."



Ryan Maloney

"This was an excellent program for professional development. I was introduced to best practices and principles in bite-size chunks, and I had the opportunity to explore and apply those principles and reflect on the process in a sustainable way in a collaborative environment."



Lisa Matich

"I was not sure how this course was going to impact my teaching. I hoped to learn from my colleagues and share best practices. But what I really learned was more about myself - I am thinking more deeply about my andragogy and I feel empowered to try new approaches. I believe my students will benefit from this time I have spent with ACUE's Class of 2022. And for that, I am thankful to all of you."



Eamon Newman

"This was one of the most well-crafted educational experiences I have participated in; ACUE's Effective Teaching Practices course offers a wealth of practical and ready to use ideas! "



Rebekah Palazzola

"I truly enjoyed being a part of the ACUE class this past year.

The course was a great refresher of valuable teaching methods and allowed for stimulating conversations with our peers."



Tammy Schiesl

"Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this ACUE program! The cohort's discussions after each section were enlightening and a great way to share our ideas about each topic. I have already utilized many of the learned techniques to improve our New Employee Orientation classes, documentation, and presentations."



Nora Silvia

"As an administrator this course assisted with preparing faculty for difficult situations in learning. Guiding the faculty with some of the concepts helped our students improve their learning."



Richard Swiech

"From ACUE I learned to make my future courses more interactive by using group work, class projects, and discussions. Greater participation fosters increased learning in the classroom."



Janet Trowbridge

"I gained many ideas for content and skills to better teach an engaging course that benefits my students."



Amy Chaaban

ACUE Faculty Facilitator



Sara Gregory

ACUE Faculty Facilitator



Laura Ortiz

ACUE Campus Lead

Special Thanks

Christine J. Sobek, Ed.D.

President of Waubonsee Community College

Diane Nyhammer, Ph.D.

Vice President of Educational Affairs

Academic Lead

Carmen Macharaschwili, Ph.D.

Academic Strategist, Association of College and University Educators

Campus Lead and Graduate Course Grader

Laura E. Ortiz, Ed.D.

Dean for Faculty Development and Engagement

Faculty Facilitators

Sara Gregory, Ed.D.

Adjunct Faculty Development Coordinator

Amy Chaaban

Faculty Development Coordinator

Faculty Development and Engagement

Angelia Williams

Administrative Coordinator for the Office of Faculty Development & Engagement

This program is funded through Waubonsee's Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions Grant from the U.S. Department of Education.