



Summer
2024

FacDev Chatter

The FacDev Chatter is the monthly (or so) newsletter about faculty development opportunities coming up at Knox College. These include planned workshops and funding opportunities, both internal and external to Knox College.

First Notes from the ADFA



As I start my tenure as the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, I find myself contemplating the path that led me here. I am following in the footsteps of giants. This position would not exist were it not for Mike Schneider. He laid the foundation that Mary Armon and Danielle Fatkin built upon. Without the mansion they built, this position would be utterly overwhelming. And so, I want my first official words to be words of thanks to these three individuals.

In this role, I'll be overseeing faculty matters, fostering collaboration, and ensuring academic excellence for ourselves and (by extension) for our students. Challenges await, but so does growth — both for me for the faculty I will serve.

I am grateful for this opportunity. As such, I look forward to supporting you and advancing our institution's mission. I know you have my back and will be supporting me for the upcoming four years. I want you to know I have yours, too.

~ Ole

The Fac Dev Calendar

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August Events

As we move beyond summer advising, I am pleased to announce the events scheduled for this August. From book clubs to workshops on handling AI, there is something for everyone.

The Summer AI Reading Group

When: Wednesdays from July 17 until August 21 at 2:00pm

Where: Abolition Lab in Seymour Library

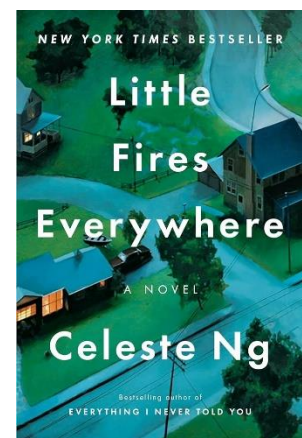
This reading group was put together by Hilary Lehmann to give us more insight into generative AI programs like ChatGPT, Ollama, Copilot, and their ilk. What do they mean? How can we use them? How can we explain their uses (and abuses) to our students as we prepare them for life-long learning? For more information, please contact Hilary at hjlehmann@knox.edu.

Book Club: Celeste Ng's *Little Fires Everywhere*

When: August 6 (Tuesday) from 10:00am until 2:00pm

Where: Alumni Room in Old Main (OM 100)

This year, the common reading is the Celeste Ng book, *Little Fires Everywhere*. Come join the FP faculty to know what your first-year students will be talking about next year. Copies of the book are available in my office (OM 105A).



Course Development Workshop

When: August 8 (Thursday) from 10:00am until 2:00pm

Where: Alumni Room in Old Main (OM 100)

From conception to syllabus, putting a new class together (or revising an old one) can seem daunting. This workshop is offered to help you make sure that you are ready to go on the first day of class.

Effective Assignment Design Workshop

When: August 15 (Thursday) from 9:00am until 12-noon

Where: Alumni Room in Old Main (OM 100)

The research is in: Students engage with assignments more deeply when they know why they are doing them and what you expect them to do. Come to this workshop with an assignment you plan to use in Fall term, and we will make sure that it is ready for student eyes!

Teaching Writing Workshop

When: August 16 (Friday) from 8:30am until 3:00pm

← Changed!!

Where: Trustees Room (ALUM 302)

From FP to Capstone, we all read and respond to student writing. But how can we do this as efficiently and as effectively as possible? This all-day workshop (lunch provided) will help you feel ready to take on this task. While focused on FP, this workshop is for everyone who teaches writing (which is all of us).



Other Upcoming Calendar Happenings

New Faculty Orientation

August 28–30


First Faculty Meeting and Faculty Conversation

September 3

First Day of Classes and Fall Convocation

September 9

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Ongoing Development Items

Preparing for Program and Department Review

Several of you will be working on department and program reviews this academic year. The Office of Faculty Development is here to support you with useful information, helpful schedules, and accountability. For information about assessing your academic program, rather as part of



"Education is not the filling of a pail,
but rather the lighting of a fire."

William Butler Yeats



regular ongoing assessment activities or part of a program review, please visit the [Departmental Assessment Tools](#) page or the [Academic Schedule for program reviews](#).

- <https://www.knox.edu/offices/faculty-affairs/departmental-assessment-tools>
- <https://www.knox.edu/offices/faculty-affairs/program-review-academic-schedule>

Financial Support for Your Research and Creative Work

Whether you are looking for seed money for a new project or just need a bit of help finishing something already under way, the Committee on Faculty Resources (CoFR) can help. We support your professional work at all stages of development.

Support for Research, Creative Work, and Conference Travel

CoFR has funds to support your professional work in the upcoming months, and we encourage you to apply! The committee reviews requests for funding support on a regular basis. You can learn more about internal funding opportunities on the [Faculty Grants website](#). Please be aware of [the reimbursement procedures](#).

- <https://www.knox.edu/offices/faculty-affairs/research>
- <https://www.knox.edu/offices/faculty-affairs/research/reimbursement-procedures>

Upcoming deadline: *September 27*

- Research & Creative work, use this form:
 - https://knox.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dpzxil6xLgPspPo
- Conference Travel Allotment, use this form:
 - https://knox.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5ps5egTUKf7e9Ui

Apply for a Conference Travel Allotment (CTA) to support your travel to a professional conference. You can apply now via the portal for the 2024-25 academic year (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025). Funding varies based on your role at the conference and the conference location. The college does its best to support as many faculty members as possible going to at least one conference a year.

The Faculty Resource Committee, which combines the work previously undertaken by the Cultural Events Committee (CEC) and the Committee on Faculty Resources (CoFR), regularly reviews applications to support faculty research and creative work and makes recommendations to the Provost regarding support for the applications.

For more information or to apply, visit the [Scholarship & Creative Work page](#). If you are not sure where your application belongs or if you have other questions, please just [send me an email \(facultydevelopment@knox.edu\)](mailto:facultydevelopment@knox.edu). I love talking to you about your work!

- <https://www.knox.edu/offices/faculty-affairs/>
- <https://www.knox.edu/offices/faculty-affairs/research>