

Learning Communities Monthly



Welcome to 2021-2022!

Hello to all Learning Community Coordinators, peer mentors and students, and welcome to the fall semester!

We are so excited to share in all the amazing work that is happening in our Learning Communities across campus. Thank you all for doing this work and supporting each other as we navigate the new normal together: coming back to campus safely; recalibrating to new course loads and workloads; managing anxiety, stress, and uncertainty, etc.

The Learning Community Program hosted Peer Mentor training on August 23-24 via Zoom this year, in addition to six custom training sessions for those LCs that had programming needs ahead of training. We are excited to support 200 PMs from the 37 Learning Communities across campus.

Welcome to our NEW Learning Communities for 2021:

- African American Studies/Black Student Matters 2 LC
- Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies LC
- Sustainability LC

The LC Program staff are here for YOU! We are hosting monthly LC Coordinator meetings and monthly Peer Mentor professional development sessions. We created a new form on the Peer Mentor Canvas page for peer mentors to report issues and challenges they and/or their students are facing on campus so that we can provide custom support as needed. The LC Program is representing all LCs at the Fall Open House resource fair on Saturday, October 9. We are also hosting an LC Program tent at WSU Homecoming Tailgate on Saturday, October 9 starting at 3 pm. We are developing additional opportunities for connection and support throughout the semester and coming year, based on suggestions from PMs and LC Coordinators. Stay tuned for additional information. We hope you will encourage your LC students to join us at upcoming events, and we are looking forward to seeing you all at these events as well! Please let us know if you have ideas, suggestions, or challenges that we can help with.

Woohoo! Let's do this!

-Amy Cooper

Manager of the Learning Community Program

LC Program Staff Highlight

Amy Novotny



Time at WSU: 3 years professionally, but I've been a Warrior since 2012

How did you get involved with the Learning Community Program?

When I was a rising sophomore at WSU, I became an orientation leader, where I met Amy Cooper. At the end of my junior year, Amy C was looking for a new student assistant and I worked with her for a year before I left for graduate school. My OL job had shifted my career path to pursuing a master's in higher education. While I attended Florida State University, I worked for a living-learning community program serving just over a hundred first-year, exploratory students. The experience I got in Florida led me back to WSU when this project coordinator position was created in the LC Program.

What is your favorite event you have hosted or participated in?

My favorite WSU event is the Learning While Leading Conference each February. It is a great opportunity to showcase all the amazing students doing important work on this campus. As part of that conference, I have mentored student presenters and it always fills me with pride watching their full presentations come together after working with them.

What goals do you have for the Learning Community Program for this year?

One of my interests is building student leadership, which makes working with the peer mentors so rewarding. This year, I would like to build more community among the mentors so they are able to lean on one another across LCs. Long-term, I would love to build off of our IPTPC certification to create a true leadership program for our mentors (and maybe other student leaders) to engage in.

October 2021

Save the Date!

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

Important Dates:

10/9- Fall Open House

10/9- Homecoming Tailgate 3 pm
Matthaei Parking Lot

10/19- PM Professional Development
[Zoom Link](#) (Meeting ID: 926 1926 7886)
Passcode: PM2021

10/21-22- National Learning Community
Conference

10/25 at 1 pm & **10/28** at 11 am-
October LC Coordinator Meetings
[Zoom Link](#) (Meeting ID: 918 0253 2735)
Passcode: LCCoord21)

11/5- WSU Peer Mentor Conference
Additional details coming soon!

Other Resources

Check out the upcoming Student Success
Workshops from the Academic Success
Center [here!](#)

The Virtual Career Fair this week,
October 4th-8th. More than 290 employers
are registered to recruit. Instructions on
how to sign up for employer sessions can
be found at
[https://careerservices.wayne.edu/handshake
virtualcareerfairinstructions](https://careerservices.wayne.edu/handshakevirtualcareerfairinstructions)

National Learning Community Conference: October 21-22, 2021

The 2021 National Learning Community Conference is being held virtually on Thursday, October 21st and Friday, October 22nd. This year's conference theme is set as "Cruzando Fronteras/Creating Communities", which is an invitation to discover innovative approaches and to address the complexities of learning in a twenty-first century context.

Four WSU learning communities will be featured at this year's conference. Proposals for concurrent sessions were accepted from our Med-Direct, PwC MPREP Scholars, School of Medicine: Physicians in Training, and Theatre & Dance learning communities. Abstracts for each of these presentations will be highlighted in a future LC Program newsletter.

Want to attend NLCC? Registration is still open. Early registration (before October 3rd) is \$129 and late registration (October 4th or later) is \$229.

Additional details on the conference and registration can be found at <http://nlcc.tamucc.edu/>



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