

Questions for Discussion

- 1. Please review the data summarized on the slides below. Are they consistent with your experiences and perspectives as a teacher, in your department or college, at the university? What resonates with you as particularly important? What else would you like to know to better understand the current state?
- 2. Please review the proposed teaching center mission and vision. Do you feel they are consistent with institutional and faculty needs to support teaching excellence? What stands out to you as particularly important for us right now? What may be missing that we should consider?

UToledo Teaching Center Task Force Overview & Faculty Development Needs Assessment Summary

Spring 2021

"The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows"

Sydney J. Harris

UToledo Teaching Center Task Force

"One of the beauties of teaching is that there is no limit to one's growth as a teacher, just as there is no knowing beforehand how much your students can learn." — Herbert Kohl

Task Force Charge

- Review evidence-based best practices and peer institution models of teaching and learning centers and develop vision for UToledo center for teaching excellence that will position us well to advance faculty and student success
- Develop proposal for an integrative, innovative, high-impact teaching center and affiliated programs at the University of Toledo
- approved model

Note: Task force will transition into implementation of new center model

Committee Membership

- Denise Bartell (Provost) (Co-Chair)
- Christopher Martin (CAL)

Ting Li (CISP)

- Ashley Pryor (HON) (Co-Chair)
- Susanne Nonekowski (CPPS)
- Rachel Barnes (UT Online)
- James Oberlander (NUR)
- Malaika Bell (ODI)
 - Melissa Oddo (Provost)
- Carmen Cioc (ENG)
 - Kari Dilworth (CSC) Michael Prior (HHS)

Support implementation of

Kevin Egan (CAL)

Joan Duggan

(MED)

(MED)

(CAL)

David Sherman (Grad S; HHS)

standing advisory committee upon

- Jessica Swan (Grad David Giovannucci S, ED)
- **Heather Tessler** Jeanne Kusina (HHS)

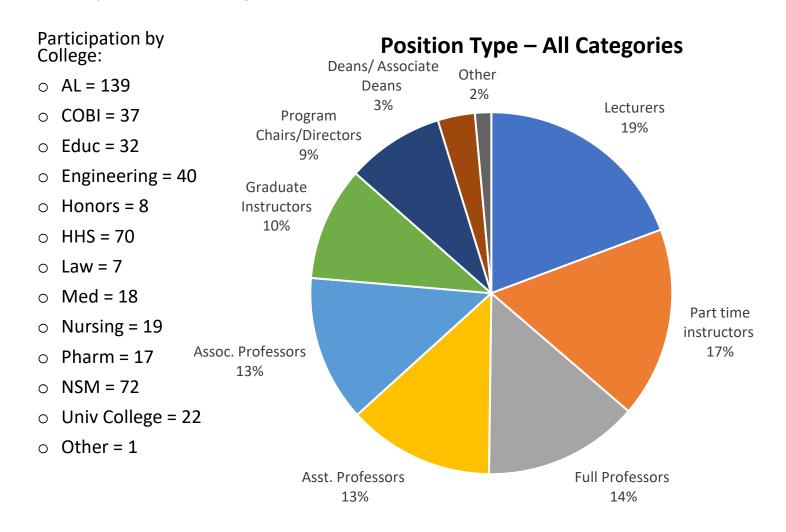
Spring 2021 Survey of Faculty Development Needs in Support of Teaching Excellence



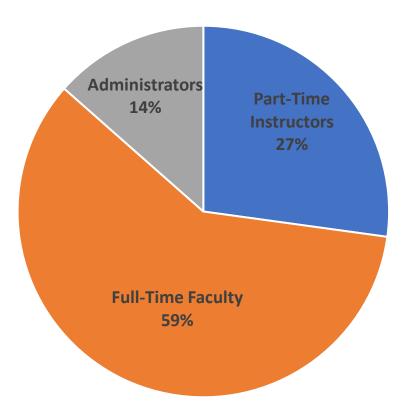
"Empowerment cannot happen if we refuse to be vulnerable while encouraging students to take risks." – bell hooks

Sample Characteristics

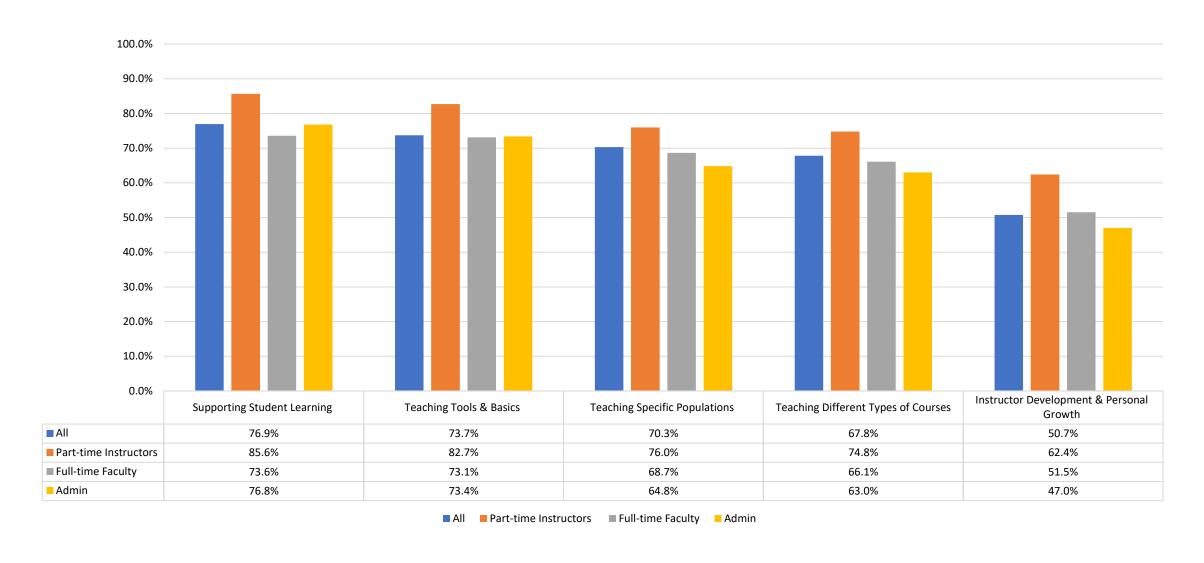
N=482 responses (41.2% response rate)



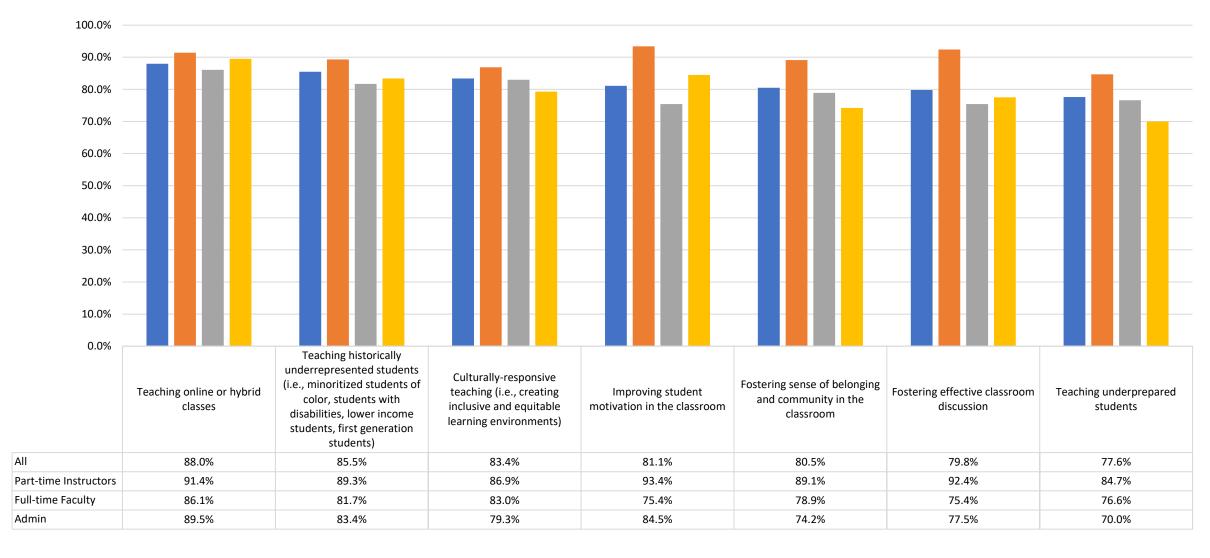
Position Type - Consolidated Categories



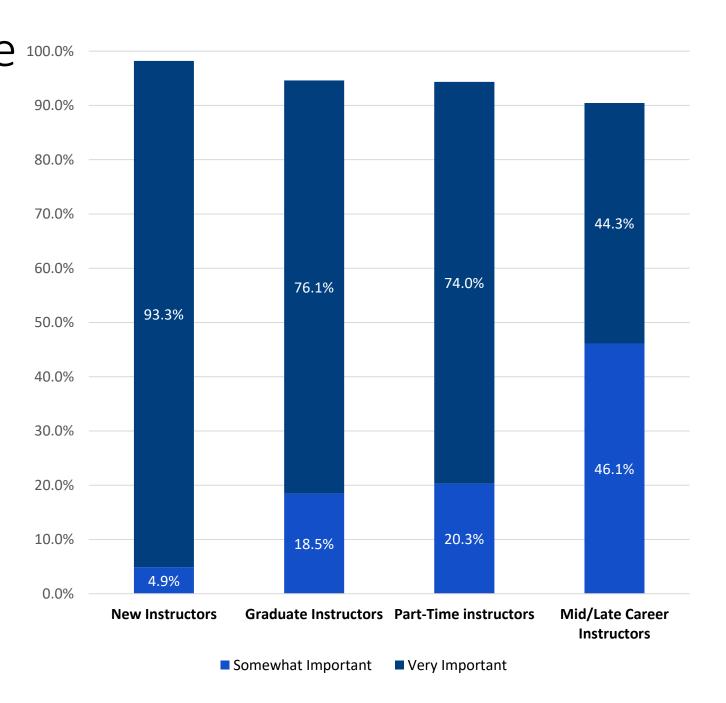
Resource Interest by Broad Categories



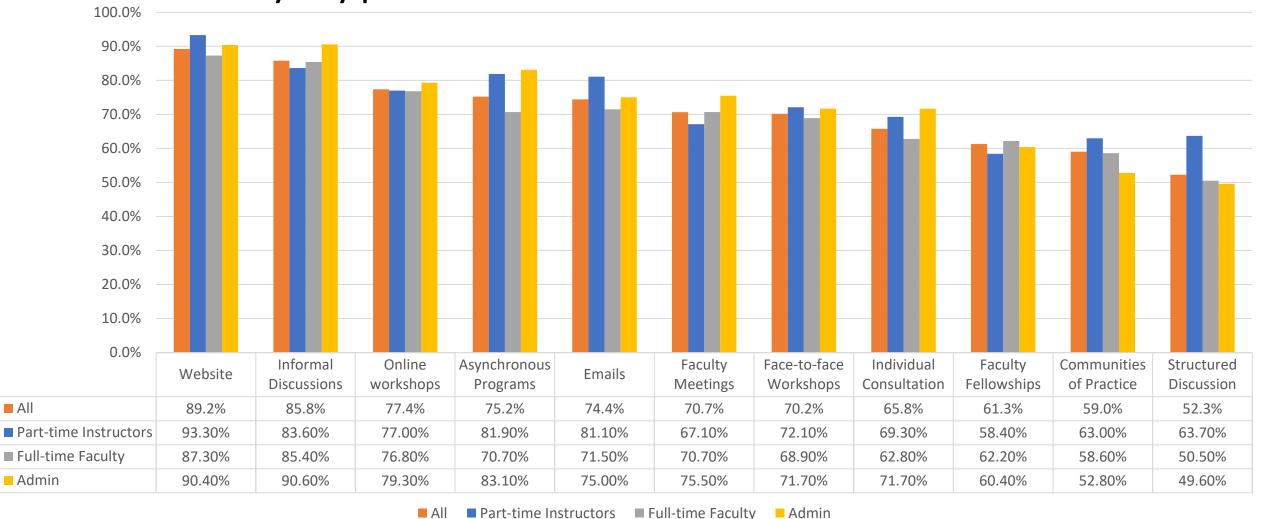
Topics of Greatest Interest Across Categories



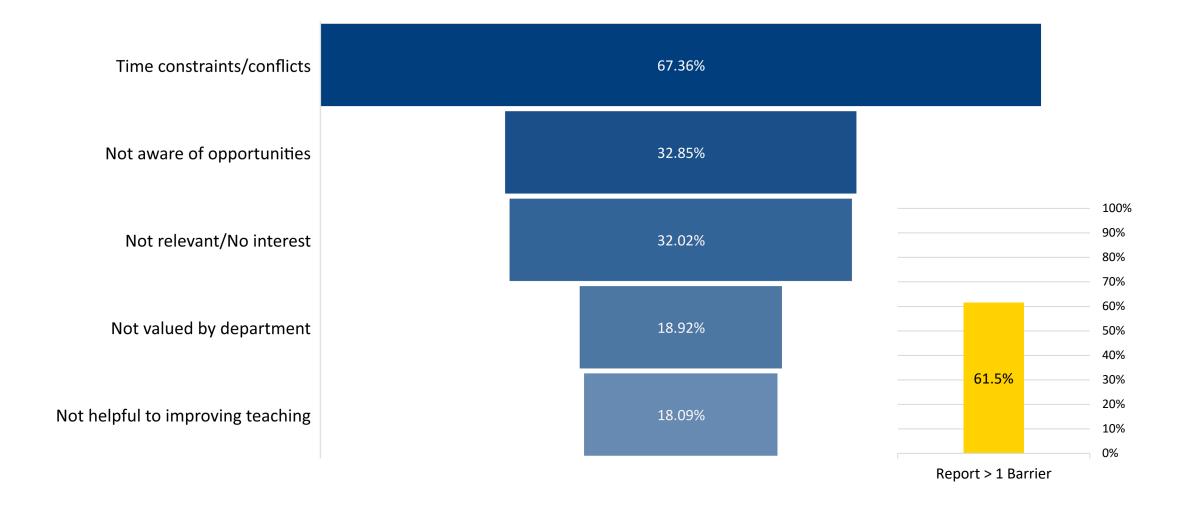
Perceived Importance 100.0% of Support for 90.0% Instructors at Bifferent Career 70.0% Stages



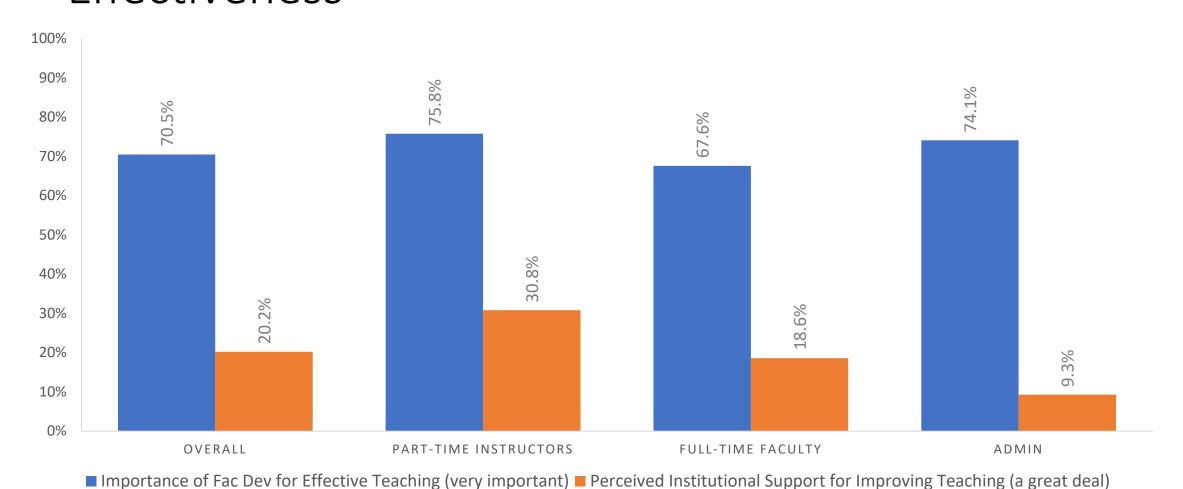
Reported Likelihood of Using Resources by Modality Type



Barriers to Past Participation in Faculty Development Opportunities



Gap Between Perceived Importance of and Institutional Support for Faculty Dev of Teaching Effectiveness



How Best to Foster a Culture of Teaching Excellence at UToledo

50% of responses recommended improvements to institutional policies and programs. 25% specifically addressed the need to revise institutional rewards/incentives and/or the need to improve allocation of institutional resources to support teaching excellence.

"Prioritize mentorship opportunities for faculty of all ranks and offer continuous opportunities for feedback from faculty about their needs and proposed solutions."

24% of responses addressed a perceived inconsistency between institutional rhetoric about the importance of teaching excellence and campus policies and practices.

"Chairs and Deans need to recognize and encourage excellence in teaching by treating it with as much validity as excellence in research. The University needs to find its identity. If excellence in teaching (outstanding learning experiences, more broadly) is part of what UToledo identifies as a core value and part of the institutional mission, then it also needs to ensure that instruction is excellent through both professional development as well as ongoing evaluation at multiple levels, including individual instructors regarding less of rank or title."

N=95 total responses

19% of responses specifically addressed tenure and promotion criteria, noting that tenure and promotion decisions don't adequately value excellent teaching and that development of teaching should carry more weight in workload and compensation.

"If we counted teaching more than at the most minimal level for tenure and promotion, that would go a long way toward making folks attend to their teaching."

"It needs to be aligned--genuinely--with promotion. It also needs to be cultural, meaning that programs as collectives embrace the concept and probably designate a leader for that aspect of their program." Almost no responses addressed the need to improve equity of learning outcomes for historically underserved student populations, despite the visible presence of this issue in ongoing national conversations about teaching and the sizable and persistent equity gaps on our campus.

This oversight may demonstrate the importance centering equity in our work to support teaching excellence moving forward.

Preliminary Center Proposal

UToledo Center for the Advancement of Teaching & Learning (CATL)

Mission Statement:

In support of the educational mission of the university, CATL is a catalyst for the advancement of evidence-based, equity-minded, student-centered teaching and learning at the University of Toledo. We create and nurture collaborative spaces for all members of the campus teaching community to utilize highimpact pedagogical techniques, engage in thoughtful conversations about teaching and learning, and pursue a scholarly approach to teaching excellence. CATL partners with all our constituencies to foster a culture that values and rewards teaching excellence, respects and supports individual differences, and creates learning environments where diverse students and instructors can excel.

The New Center will:

- Play an integral role in institutional efforts to improve student success and equity through excellence in teaching and learning
- Encourage the use of innovative, evidence-based, equitable and student-centered approaches to teaching and learning
- Build partnerships with academic units and colleges to encourage collaboration and increase the scope of our impact on teaching and learning
- Inspire the increased use and valuing of the scholarship of teaching and learning
- Provide resources to support excellence in all aspects of teaching and learning
- Create a collaborative, engaged, and committed community of learners dedicated to excellence in teaching and learning
- Develop a campus network of leaders supporting excellence in teaching and learning at the University of Toledo
- Become regional leaders on excellence in teaching and learning

Preliminary Model

Advisory Committee

Center Director

College Fellows

High Impact Professional Development for Teaching

- Competitive grants
- Multiple levels of engagement & diverse modalities
- Individual, department, & college-level support
 - Annual UT Conference

Enhanced Location with Resource Library and Collaborative Workspace

Dialogue & Next Steps

Questions for Discussion





Do you feel the proposed mission and vision are consistent with institutional and faculty needs to support teaching excellence?

What stands out to you as particularly important for us right now? What may be missing that we should consider?

What are your initial reactions to the proposed model? Are there specific elements that you think will be particularly helpful in supporting teaching excellence at UToledo? What additional elements do you think we should consider?

For More Information

Please go to:

https://www.utoledo.edu/offices/provost/utc/teaching -center-task-force/

Or contact our Task Force Co-Chairs:

- Denise Bartell (<u>Denise.Bartell@UToledo.edu</u>)
- Ashley Pryor (<u>Ashley.Pryor@UToledo.edu</u>)

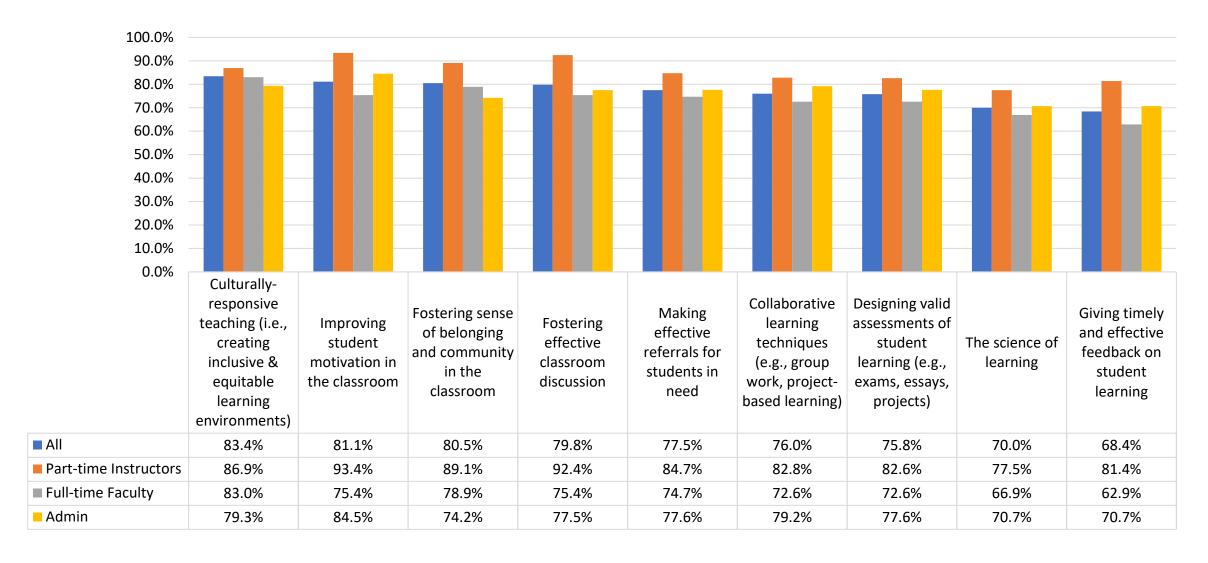
You can share feedback anonymously <u>here</u>

Please share and discuss the data and proposed model with your constituencies and ask them to provide feedback and participate in upcoming campus listening sessions

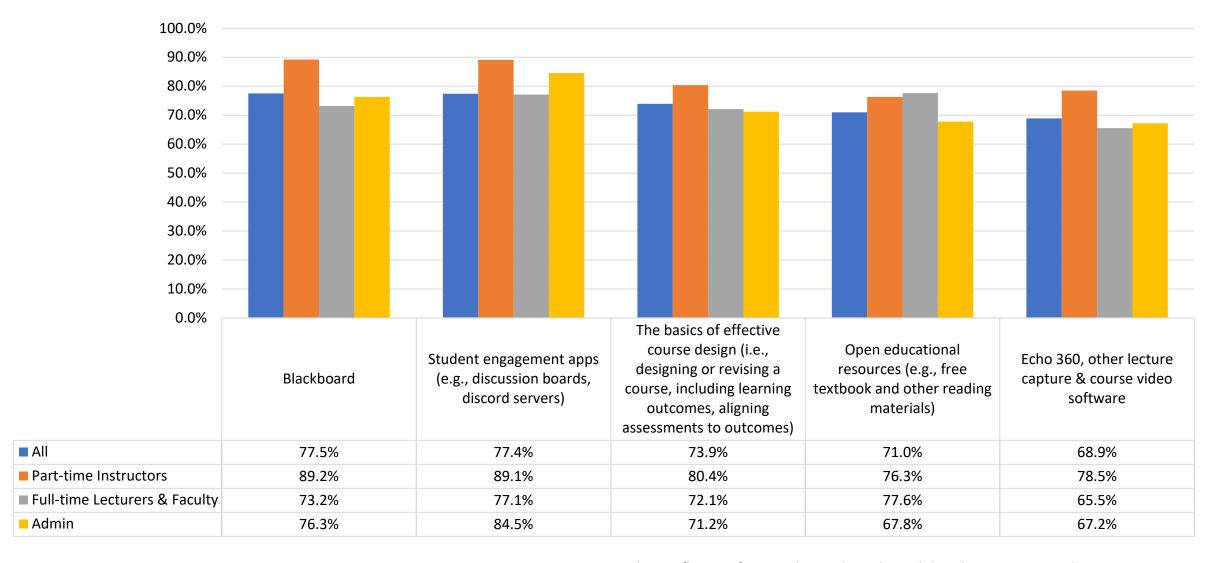
Appendix

Additional results from Spring 2021 Faculty Development Needs Assessment Survey

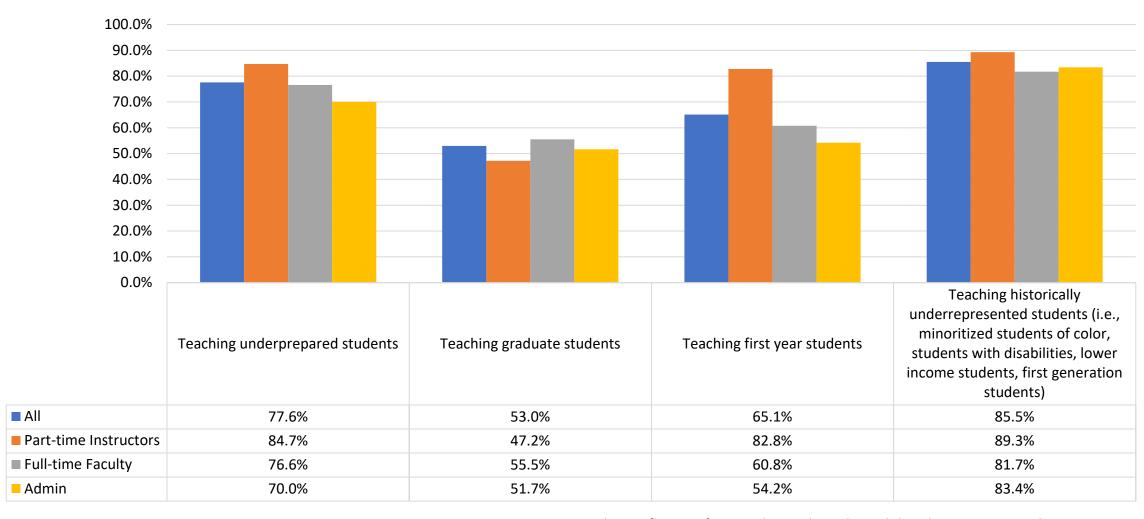
Interest in Resources on Supporting Student Learning



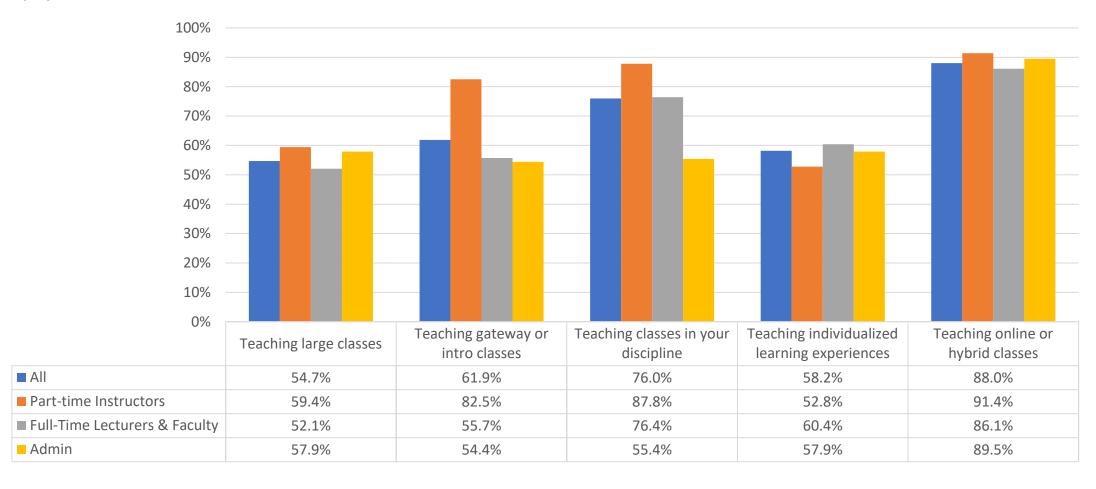
Interest in Resources on Teaching Tools & Basics



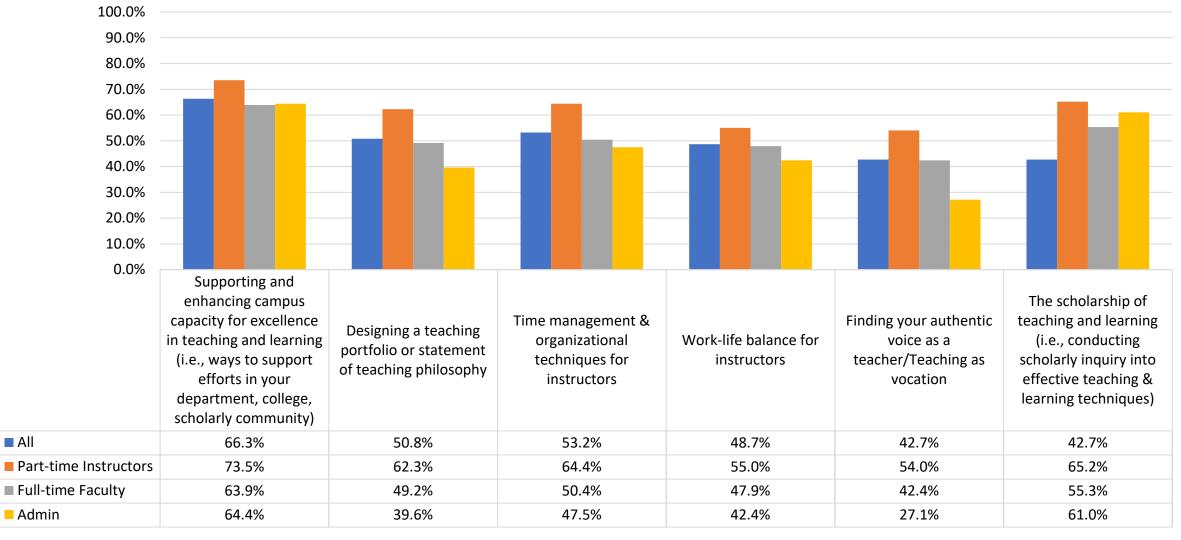
Interest in Resources on Teaching Specific Populations



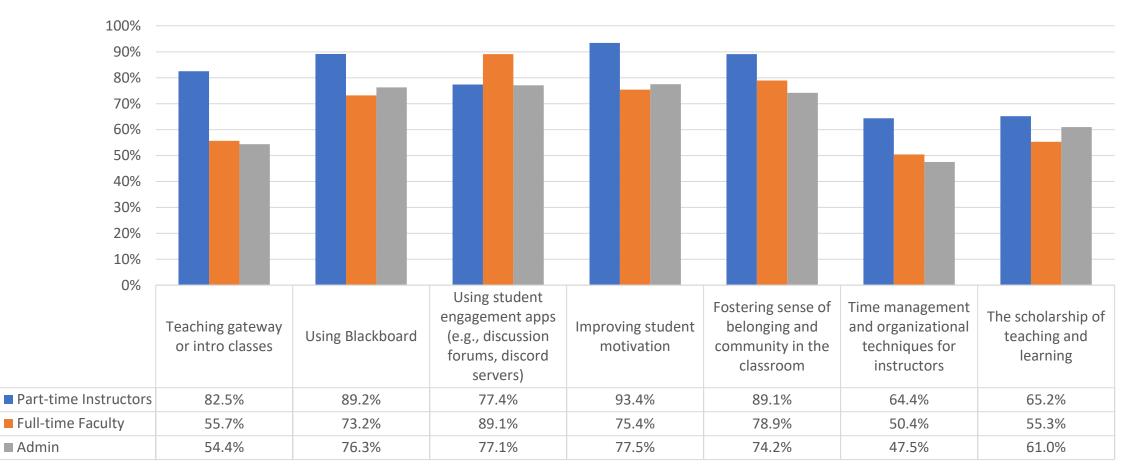
Interest in Resources on Teaching Different Types of Courses



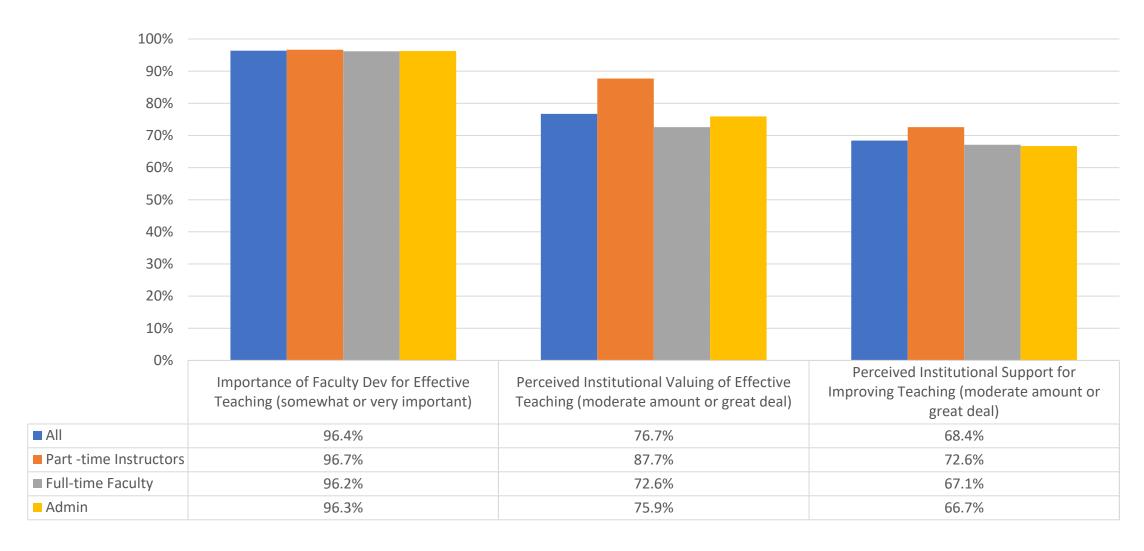
Interest in Resources on Instructor Development & Personal Growth



Differences in Topics of Interest by Instructor Type



Perceived Importance, Institutional Value, and Support for Effective Teaching



4 Dimensions of Teaching & Learning Centers









Hub

Makes connections between people on campus who would otherwise not be connected; has a unique view of university that is used to support initiatives and work towards culture change

Incubator

Fosters growth and engagement, cultivates individuals and communities, nurtures relationships, promotes transformation, and creates a sense of belonging

Temple

Provides legitimacy, credibility, authority and recognition for instructors through support of teaching, learning and educational development

Provides a space where people can find community, hope and inspiration on teaching and learning, and an institutionally-sanctioned space for exploring pedagogy

Sieve

Vets information and resources to support evidence-based pedagogical practice for instructors and the institution

Source: POD Network, 2018